



**Parks and Recreation Department**

Park and Recreation Board

January 19, 2023

Subject: **RE: Community Plan Updates**

Dear Ms. Heidi Vonblum,

Thank you so much for all you and your team's work on the City's past and future Community Plan Updates (CPUs). I am sure we agree that CPUs are vital to the well-planned future of the City of San Diego. I am also sure we agree that these community plans in the climate of our homelessness crisis need to be completed with expediency. The "Homes for All of Us" is an important initiative but included with importance is the transportation and park infrastructure necessary to make these homes truly livable.

In keeping with the need for efficient review, the Park and Recreation Board (PRB) would like to respectfully request to be involved earlier in your CPU process. With the Mira Mesa CPU, the PRB received input from the Mira Mesa Community Planning Group specifically about the park component only on the day of our Action Item. This hardly gives the PRB time to do quality oversight of the process.

Again, we all agree that housing is a critical infrastructure need but adequate parks should not be taken for granted and the PRB oversight is a vital component to a truly great City of San Diego's future. So, the PRB asks:

- In its first information item to the PRB, please come early in the CPU life cycle, perhaps early in the public process.
- To have the planning department involve the PRB in communications associated with workshops, major milestones reached, etc. via email updates.
- To keep the PRB apprised of major park changes after they are added to the CPU .
- To give the PRB more time to review the CPU, especially if any controversy exists among stakeholders.
- And finally, to give the PRB a report of all stakeholder input as a second information item before the we consider it as an Action Item in future CPUs.

Thank you for all the work you and your department do for the city.

Sincerely,

*Marcella Bothwell, MD*

Marcella Bothwell, MD, MBA  
Chair, Park and Recreation Board