



LINDA VISTA ~ ANNANDALE ASSOCIATION

To All Friends and Supporters of the Linda Vista Park:

THE LINDA VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD PARK IS SCHEDULED TO CLOSE ON JUNE 22, 2012. THE PUSD HAS SENT THE REQUIRED 9 MONTH LEGAL NOTICE UNDER THE PARK MOU/LEASE TO THE CITY TO VACATE THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PORTION OF THE LINDA VISTA SCHOOL SITE. (WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE LINDA VISTA CHILDREN'S CENTER WILL BE SENT A SIMILAR NOTICE SHORTLY.)

THE PUSD PLANS TO SCHEDULE A VOTE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD TO DECLARE THE ENTIRE SCHOOL SITE "SURPLUS" WITH THE GOAL OF LEASING THE ENTIRE SITE AFTER IT IS VACATED, INCLUDING THE PARK AND THE CHILDREN'S CENTER LOCATIONS, TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ON A LONG-TERM BASIS. ONCE THE ENTIRE SITE IS DECLARED "SURPLUS", IT IS PROBABLE THAT THE CITY AND OUR COMMUNITY WILL LOOSE CONTROL INDEFINITELY OF THE PARK AND THE ENTIRE SITE TO AN OUTSIDE PARTY.

The Bowl area of the old Linda Vista School has been a vibrant, successful Neighborhood Park open for public use for the last 3-1/2 years, thanks to the efforts of the City, community and school district working together to benefit all. With the cooperation of former PUSD Superintendent Diaz, as well as the active support of the City of Pasadena, the park was opened in 2008 to a crowd of 600 neighbors.

We understand that the school district needs money. The School Board has directed the PUSD administration to raise funds by selling or leasing a number of school sites now deemed "Surplus", including the former Linda Vista School site. As of June 30, 2010, CB Richard Ellis valued potential annual lease revenues from the Linda Vista School site at \$510,000, an amount which we believe was unrealistic then due to numerous constraints which were not considered, and is even more unrealistic now, considering current economic conditions.

Before the PUSD Board can take action on the "Surplus" declaration and start the lease disposition process, the matter will be considered first by the PUSD Board Facilities Committee chaired by Board Member Tom Selinske. The Facilities Committee will make recommendations to the whole PUSD Board regarding the "Surplus" decision and the lease disposition. The Friends of the Linda Vista Park, City (including Councilmember Madison), Children's Center and LVAA are working together at the Facilities Committee level to develop a feasible strategy to meet the needs of all parties involved. Our plan includes seeking a 120 day delay of any action by the Facilities Committee so that all parties can consider strategic options, including obtaining an up-to-date full Appraisal of potential Lease revenues, and, pursuing a Master Lease between the City and the PUSD with enough income to cover Master Lease payments to the PUSD from tenants on site, such as the Children's Center and perhaps a new private school. We want the City to control the entire site and protect the Neighborhood Park.

**We also need your help. The Linda Vista Neighborhood Park has become a true community asset, and we are in imminent danger of losing the Park. We need you to contact Michael Beck, our City Manager, and Steve Madison, our Councilmember, to let them know how much we all value the Park and urge them to work with us to save the Linda Vista Neighborhood Park. Here are their email contacts: mbeck@cityofpasadena.net
smadison@cityofpasadena.net**

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Also, please plan to attend Steve Madison's Town Hall meeting to express your concerns and support saving the Linda Vista Neighborhood Park. City Manager Michael Beck will be in attendance. The Town Hall is Wednesday, November 30th, 6:30-8pm, Rose Bowl Media Center.

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