

ATTACHMENT A

2023 DEC 13 PM 5:43
CITY CLERK DEPT.

Rogers Ranch Residents Committee

C/O Vision Community Management
16625 S. Desert Foothills Parkway
Phoenix, AZ 85044

December 13, 2023

To: City of Phoenix, Mayor Gallego, Vice Mayor Ansari and City Council
Parks & Recreation Board and Staff

Re: 1. Our Prior Petitions Have Been Ignored
2. Our December 13, 2023 Petition

After we Petitioned City Council during earlier meetings, we were advised by a member of the City Manager's Staff that the City Council would not act upon our Petition. It is claimed that only the Parks & Recreation Board has jurisdiction over issues of ownership of Park lands.

The Phoenix City Charter provides only for filing Citizen Petitions by submitting them in writing during a General Session of the City Council. It is not possible to submit a Charter authorized Petition to the Parks & Recreation Board. Therefore it is not possible to require the City to respond within 15 days to that Petition. We believe that the prior Petitions were validly filed. We insist that they be considered and addressed as required by the Charter.

Second, we Petition the City to adopt a new ordinance addressing the acquisition or sale of any properties designated or intended for use as a Park when that Park property will be adjacent to a public school.

Background: From 1990 to 2006 the City of Phoenix at least six acquired properties designated for use as a Park which are immediately adjacent to District school properties all of which remain dormant and have never been developed as Parks. Those dormant Park properties are concentrated in Districts 7 (Rogers Ranch Park property) and District 8 (at least five and possibly six properties).

Vacant Park lots are a blight on the communities that they are supposed to serve. They present both health hazards and fire hazards. Vacant Park properties adjacent to schools are intended to be used in conjunction with the school

properties for the benefit of the schools and the communities. When the City cannot appropriate funds needed to build those Parks, the schools and the communities they serve suffer.

The City should adopt an ordinance providing as follows:

Dormant Parks Properties Ordinance

“1. If at any time the City owns any property designated for use as a Park which it has failed to develop into a Park within 5 years of taking title to the land, the City shall cease acquiring any further Park properties until all Land designated for use as a Park has been developed as a Park.

2. If at any time a City owned Property designated for use as a Park has not been used to construct a functioning Park within 10 years of taking title to or possession of the land, the City shall immediately deed that land back to the former property owner (or its assignee).

3. In consideration of the transfer of ownership of the land, the City shall be paid for the fair value of the Land. Since the Land can be used only as a Park and has limited value, the City shall be paid \$1 per acre for the land so transferred.”

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the residents who serve as Rogers Ranch Residents Committee.

Jerry Carlton, Phoenix Resident and Committee Chair

Cc: Rogers Ranch 2 Board and HOA Mgmt. Representative, Shawn Nurse