

The Final Public Comment opportunity on the Mayor's proposed budget cuts to the Park Rangers will be Friday May 16th, 2008 at 10am in City Council chambers. *First-hand public comment has the most impact*, so please attend if possible.

Even if you speak in person on May 16, please file your public comment electronically with the City Council Clerks: Maria.Kostrencich@lacity.org Brian.Walters@lacity.org Sharon.Gin@lacity.org *Use the format below.*

Also send a copy to your City Councilmember directly as well as Mayor Villaraigosa: mayor@lacity.org
Finally, send a copy of your comments to the important City officials on the CityContactInfo.pdf document.

If one of your community groups or organizations has taken a position on the Rangers in the past, this would be excellent information to include. Sample talking points and information are on another PDF for your ease of use. Pick and choose, or use your own.

Thank you for your dedication to the safety of parks users everywhere.

(a sample)

**PUBLIC COMMENT for
THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL'S
CONSIDERATION OF THE MAYOR'S 2008-09 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Council File 08-0600 (very important)

Your Name Representing: (group or self)
123456 Pine Street
Los Angeles, CA 91111
Phone number

Position: OPPOSED (to the Mayor's proposed budget for the Department of Recreation and Parks).

May 16, 2008

Honorable Councilmembers,

The Mayor's proposed budget for the Department of Recreation and Parks cuts 50% of the Park Ranger positions including the Chief Ranger position.

Los Angeles City Park Rangers are on the front line of public safety in our parks. They're first responders, providing a large number of vital services in the twelve large Los Angeles City regional parks. These services include writing citations for municipal ordinance violations and detaining/arresting for criminal behavior, firefighting and fire safety actions, carrying out search and rescue operations, actively engaging in community policing activities, as well as educate the public on wildlife issues.

These services are critical factors in assuring public safety for the thousands of people who use City parks on a daily basis.

Park Rangers responded to more than 26,000 calls for service in 2007 alone. This huge cut will result in a catastrophic loss of these **public safety services** in our parks.

(On behalf of Organization X), please restore all Park Ranger positions and funding including the Chief Ranger position to the 2008-09 Department of Recreation and Parks budget.

Thank you.
(signed)