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Arts Parks, Health, Aging and River Committee Attn. Maria Espinoza, Legislative Assistant City Hall, Room 350 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

February 9, 2014

Re: CF #12-0899-S1 Park Rangers

Honorable Committee Members

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, representing 42 associations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains, strongly supports increased presence of Park Rangers in the city's regional parks. Park Rangers have traditionally had a broad range of duties from putting out fires to finding lost children. Their intimate knowledge of the parks' terrain and issues has made them ideally suited to protect both parks and park visitors. The Federation strongly supports CF #12-0899-S1 at the optimal level of staffing and service.

Park Rangers are the best investment in the entire city budget. They perform a multiplicity of tasks. Depending on the situation they play the role of LAFD, LAPD, Animal Services, teacher, tour guide, biologist.

Without the insightful supervision provided by Park Rangers, our regional parks will rapidly deteriorate. Instead of being a peaceful place where people can escape from the stress of the city, they will become a place where the criminal element can operate undisturbed. Instead of a beautiful place to learn about and enjoy nature, they will become a place full of litter and graffiti. This is not what anyone wants to see in our parks. We urge you to support our Park Rangers to the fullest extent.

Sincerely,

Marian Dodge

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