



# West Hills Neighborhood Council

*"It's our neighborhood.  
Let's build a community."*

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To: Ramon Barajas

Assistant General Manager of Planning, Maintenance & Construction  
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation & Parks

Re: West Hills Neighborhood Council Survey and Board Resolution  
on the Fence at Lazy J Ranch Park

January 12, 2017

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## **Introduction:**

At the October 2016 meeting of the WHNC's Beautification Committee, a representative of Councilmember Mitchell Englander's office notified the committee that the original fencing surrounding Lazy J Ranch Park in West Hills has rusted and deteriorated beyond repair and would need to be replaced.

Presented with two fencing considerations by the councilmember's office with cost-estimates, and an additional option that was discussed at the October meeting of the WHNC Beautification Committee, the committee conducted an online survey that asked the public to register its choices among the three options.

Survey respondents made additional recommendations of fencing alternatives to the three options already on the survey. Members of the Beautification Committee also learned that the Department of Recreation & Parks was in the process of securing bids for the removal and replacement of the existing fence.

According to a representative from the councilmember's office, cost restrictions had led to the decision to replace the fence with vinyl-clad chain-link fencing, citing that the installation of a wrought-iron fence\* would cost twice as much as the vinyl chain-link – funds that are unavailable from the city. The following are the results of the poll.

\* The fencing referred to as "wrought-iron" is comprised of square-tube steel bars in a parallel vertical arrangement.

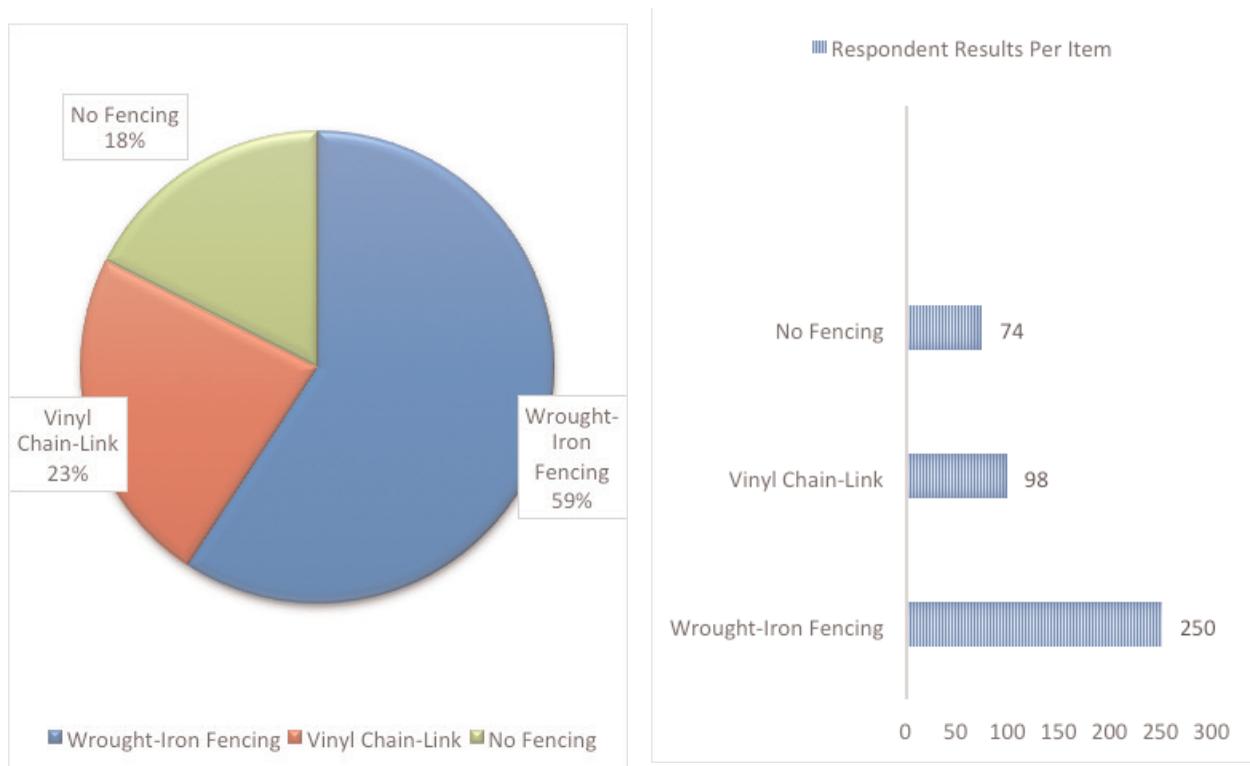


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**Survey Results:**

The WHNC received replies from a total of 422 respondents, who voted for the following options:



**Additional Results of the Survey:**

Recommendations from survey respondents included:

- Installing “split-rail” vinyl fencing instead of the options presented above.
- Adding shade covers over the playground.
- Adding California-native and drought-tolerant plants and gravel jogging paths.
- Adding public restrooms.
- Adding fencing around the playground.
- Adding lights.

**Recommendation of the West Hills Neighborhood Council:**

The West Hills Neighborhood Council requests that the Department of Recreation & Parks and the office of Councilmember Mitchell Englander consider the following:

1. Repair rather than replace the existing metal fence.
2. Not removing the existing fence until the Department of Recreation & Parks is able to install a replacement fence.
3. Any replacement fence must be no taller than the existing metal fence.
4. Not installing vinyl chain-link fencing.
5. Investigate and consider using Prop. K funds previously earmarked for restrooms to contribute to the cost of a repaired or replaced like-kind fence.

**Resolution Approved: Jan. 5, 2017**