URGE GLENDALE TO COMPLETE THE NATURE CENTER IN DEUKMEJIAN WILDERNESS PARK

OUR OWN HISTORICAL WILDERNESS PRESERVE AT THE TOP OF NEW YORK AVENUE, 3429 MARKRIDGE ROAD, LA CRESCENTA

This park is unique, unlike any other in the city. A tremendous amount of work has been done since the city acquired the property in 1988 and people from all over the region enjoy the current facilities. In June 2015, the city approved plans for the Le Mesnager barn to allow the public to finally make use of the historic structure. At the March 29, 2016 Glendale City Council, meeting the final \$500,000 necessary for the project was removed from the list of Development Impact Fee (DIF) projects and the previously approximately \$2.5 million already allocated threatened.

Plans include an ADA compliant bathroom building on the property, installation of heating and air-conditioning, a new glass storefront entry for the barn and a new floor to replace the current dirt. Completion of the project would allow the barn and the park to serve the community as a natural history museum and nature center. Movable displays would allow for community meetings and events.

We, the undersigned, encourage the Glendale City Council to maintain the current budgeted funding and provide the additional \$500,000 necessary to complete the project, whether from additional DIF funds or from Capital Improvement Funds (CIF) or some other source. The Foothill community has been very patient in waiting almost 30 years for this project to be completed and feel it is a vitally important component for recreational facility and for the entire region.

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