

**Summary of Written Public Comments  
Submitted for Development Review Committee Meeting – July 19, 2023**

<b><i>Comments Received AFTER Development Review Committee Agenda Publication</i></b>			
<b>Public Comment #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Comment Summary or Full Comment if brief</b>
#1	Brian Yamaguchi	AR-2	Email from resident in opposition of having the Development Review Committee review and approve the exemptions pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Recreation Park renovation project. Given that the DRC is composed of five employees of the City, he is concerned about a potential conflict of interest since the City of Monrovia is both the applicant and employer of those charged to approve the determination. He recommends having the determination reviewed by the Planning Commission instead.

**Summary of Written Public Comments  
Submitted for Development Review Committee Meeting – July 19, 2023**

**April Kea**

---

**From:** Brian Yamaguchi - [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 7:08 AM  
**To:** planning  
**Cc:** Brian.Yamaguchi  
**Subject:** Public Comment – Development Review Committee 7/19/2023 - Agenda Item AR-2 for Major Determination MAJD2023-0005 at 620 South Shamrock Avenue

**Categories:** Sheri, April

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Committee Members,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns regarding agenda item AR-2 for Major Determination at 620 South Shamrock Avenue, specifically pertaining to the Recreation Park renovation project. While I understand the importance of improving access, usability, and recreational facilities for the community, I kindly request that the Development Review Committee (DRC) carefully considers the process and potential conflicts of interest surrounding this agenda item.

The applicant, the City of Monrovia, is seeking a Major Determination and approval of an exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Recreation Park renovation project. This project entails the renovation, rehabilitation, and construction of small structures throughout the park. I acknowledge the significance of the improvements in meeting the recreation needs of our community and welcome them wholeheartedly. I also agree that the project should be considered categorically exempt from CEQA.

However, given that the DRC is composed of five employees of the City of Monrovia, I am concerned about the potential conflict of interest in approving this agenda item where the City of Monrovia is both the applicant and employer of those charged to approve the determination. To maintain transparency and uphold public trust, I respectfully suggest that this item, despite just being a routine pro forma CEQA determination, and any future item where the City of Monrovia is the applicant be sent to the Monrovia Planning Commission for their review and approval.

By involving the Planning Commission in the approval process, we can ensure an objective evaluation of the project and eliminate any perception of bias or impropriety. The Planning Commission consists of members independent of the City of Monrovia, thus safeguarding the integrity of the decision-making process.



**Summary of Written Public Comments  
Submitted for Development Review Committee Meeting – July 19, 2023**

While I understand that streamlining the review process is important, it is equally vital to demonstrate transparency and accountability to the community. Sending this agenda item to the Planning Commission would not only address potential conflicts of interest but also reinforce public confidence in the decision-making process.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and urge the DRC to consider my suggestion. It is crucial to uphold the principles of fairness and transparency in our city's development review processes. By involving the Planning Commission, we can ensure an unbiased evaluation and uphold the integrity of decision-making related to the Recreation Park renovation project.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that you will take my concerns into account and make an informed decision that benefits the community of Monrovia.

Sincerely,

Brian Yamaguchi