

From: [Nick Turner](#)
To: [Community Development ABRsecretary](#)
Subject: Dwight Murphy Field update
Date: Saturday, August 13, 2022 12:09:30 PM

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EXTERNAL

Please add my email address to the interested party list.

We overlook the park from our apartment at the corner of Orilla Del Mar.

The numbers of homeless people living in their cars and vans on the edge of the park, and in the parking lots, has recently gotten out of control; with an endless line of vans, and associated trash and other waste. While some of these folks are unfortunately down on their luck and generally peaceful and friendly, there are a handful with severe mental illnesses and addictions who have occasionally been aggressive and out of control. There are also people selling and doing drugs in some vehicles, that we can see literally below our windows, and the Police are unwilling or unable to make arrests, given the direction that they have been given. It is occasionally frightening to be out after dark and in the daytime, given this activity. I do not like my wife to take the dogs for walks after dark.

With visitors coming from all over the state, US and the world to visit East beach, parking around the park and with various hotel buildings around the park, this shows Santa Barbara in the worst possible light.

I look forward to hearing about the new plans.

Thank you.

From: [Mission Lacrosse Club](#)
To: [Community Development ABRsecretary](#)
Cc: [Ellen Kokinda](#); [Krystal Vaughn](#); [William Russell](#)
Subject: RE: ABR Agenda of August 22, 2022 posted
Date: Thursday, August 18, 2022 4:43:04 PM

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EXTERNAL

Hi Kira & Everyone,

Thank you for the opportunity to see the documents. It looks quite well planned out. My only request is to include girls lacrosse sport lines on the turf. These can be in a subdued color like grey or black as they are at Santa Barbara High School. Soccer lines in white and girls lacrosse in a subdued color and everyone will only notice the lines for their sport but it will add flexibility in programming. Every turf company has the girls lacrosse lines down in their cut & sew system so it would be easy too.

Thank you,

Paul Ramsey

[Paul Ramsey](#)
[Mission Lacrosse Club](#)
<http://www.missionlacrosse.com>
(805) 636-6772 Mobile

**Lois and Laura Capps
2029 Chino St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

Subject: Support for the Community Project for Gwendolyn's Playground at Dwight Murphy Field

Dear Architectural Board of Review:

We are both committed to inclusive education and experiences for children. Outdoor spaces and playgrounds are vital public spaces for community connection and social development. We are thrilled by the prospect that soon Santa Barbara will have its first inclusive playground, a place that will help kids develop a true understanding of the world, encourage appreciation of the differences between people, and build a more compassionate society.

We are writing in support of the construction of Gwendolyn's Playground at Dwight Murphy Field. The City, in partnership with the Gwendolyn Strong Foundation, has designed a phenomenal addition to our community.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service.

Warmly,

Lois and Laura Capps
Contact: Laura@lauracapps.com

NEUROLOGY ASSOCIATES OF SANTA BARBARA

David G.N. Frecker, M.D. Robert D. Harbaugh, M.D. Philip R. Delio, M.D.
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(805) 682-8153 • Fax: (805) 682-5585

Dear Architectural Board of Review:

I would like to take this opportunity to offer a brief word of support for The Gwendolyn's Playground initiative currently up for review. As a neurologist who has spent the past 20 years caring for disabled children and adults in this community, the city of Santa Barbara is in dire need of a recreational setting that is inclusive of individuals with disabilities. Physical fitness and exercise is a critical element in the medical health of all individuals. It has been shown to reduce the risk of dementia, lowers the risk of stroke and cardiac disease, and improves emotional well-being. Regrettably, most of my patients with neurologic disease (birth and developmental disabilities, stroke, traumatic brain injury) struggle to find any venue where they can actively participate in exercise and community activities. Gwendolyn's Playground offers a unique and forward-thinking solution, by providing a comprehensive recreational area that serves ALL members of the community, regardless of physical or mental disabilities. The creation of a facility such as this promises to make Santa Barbara and California stand out as a leader in how cities address public health needs and the importance of exercise and physical health amongst its community members. I applaud the manner in which our community has already dedicated time and energy to the development of bike paths, fitness areas, and safe places to exercise. I believe Gwendolyn's Playground to be an effective and logical continuation of those efforts to ensure the equitable health of all community members.

I appreciate your taking the time to read this letter and consider the Gwendolyn's Playground initiative. It will mean a great deal to many people if the project is realized.

Respectfully,

Philip R. Delio, MD

Director of Stroke Services: Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital
Immediate Past Chief of Staff: Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital
Adjunct Professor Dept. of Psychology: University of California at Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara Neuroscience Institute
Neurology Associates of Santa Barbara

Dear ABR:

I am writing in support of the construction of Gwendolyn's Playground at Dwight Murphy Field. The city, in partnership with the Gwendolyn Strong Foundation, has designed a playground that will greatly impact our community for generations to come. Gwendolyn's Playground is continuing the work that will make Santa Barbara a place where people don't just think they belong, but they KNOW they do. As the Director of Education at the Santa Barbara Zoo and the Co-founder of Autism Embrace, I am lucky that I have seen first-hand the impact of inclusion and access work and how meaningful strategic planning impacts our community and guests. It's not just a nice thing to offer, it's a vital part of making our future generations more aware, comfortable, planned for, and included.

When becoming pregnant with my first son Milo, I didn't think that playing, having friends, or the possibility of never hearing him call me mama or say I love you was an option. That comes from someone who watched true inclusion at its best for decades growing up. My mom taught special education for 30 plus years, and I watched her fight for her students to access every opportunity and every extracurricular. I knew disability. I was a special education teacher as well but when we received my son's diagnosis, a label of uncertainty and unknown, I was broken and lost. I had no idea how to advocate for my perfect little guy. I knew no one who was walking in my shoes, I felt alone, and I need a place like Gwendolyn's Playground. I needed to see that we were welcome, that many before me had risen to the occasion, that I wasn't the only one wondering where my road map was. I needed to see kids that were happy and see a range of abilities playing together. I needed hope that I wouldn't be alone, and more importantly that my son wouldn't be.

My family tried playgrounds when my sons were little, we researched and had many trials and many more errors. We found which ones were fenced in and not near busy streets. Ones that didn't have a creek or water nearby, and all the ones with swings, it needed swings. Swings not because my child demanded them, whined for them, cried for them but because the swing was his place where he truly connected. It's only when we tried speech therapy in a swing that he started to talk and its one of the few places he can re-regulate himself still to this day at almost ten years old.

Play is therapy, play is learning, building confidence, and growing stronger. Play is fun and is vital. Play is even more important when we know that everyone has that opportunity. We didn't have a lot "safe spaces" to play when my son Milo was younger - so we created them, but we longed for a space like the one that is being built in Santa Barbara.

Gwendolyn's Playground is consulting with families, with disability advocates and intentionally planning to create a space for all. Please help this vision because every child deserves to play.

With Gratitude,

J.J. McLeod, M.Ed
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