

Please send copies of this to all the RPV parents who are concerned about the lack of playing fields in our city. Let the RPV City Council know where the votes come from at cc@rpv.com. The City Council meeting next Tuesday, June 29th will offer a chance for the current City Council to make good on their campaign promises to support our children. Please plan to attend.

The following appeared in the Palos Verdes Peninsula News, Letters section and is reprinted with the permission of Erin LaMonte.

Make Children a Priority

Residents of Rancho Palos Verdes pay attention. It's time to invest in the future of our children; their future could be at stake. The City Council meeting next Tuesday, June 29th will offer a chance for the current City Council to make good on their campaign promises to support our children. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes is home to more than 7,500 children, more than 2/3rds of our entire peninsula school aged children. The Peninsula Youth Recreation Sports Council has worked for over five years to encourage the City to invest in our children. It is long overdue!

The City Council of Rancho Palos Verdes will listen to and accept a report from the Open Space Planning and Recreation and Parks Task Force, which has spent over two years and \$100,000 documenting existing facilities. A significant fact that this report will contain is that our cities open space or urban green space exceeds the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) guideline by well over 200%, while the community playfields are only at about 13% of the guideline based on our cities population. The City Council will also discuss and consider the approval of a city site for the development of new youth recreation playing fields. The first in over twenty years!!!!

As an example, the Palos Verdes AYSO (youth soccer) will register over 3,000 kids for the upcoming fall season. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes will only provide one (1) soccer field for the kids to play and practice upon. The over-burdened PVP Unified School District and the kid-friendly city of Rolling Hills Estates will provide the other 36 fields needed to play youth soccer on the Peninsula.

The City Council will no doubt hear from neighborhoods that will argue to leave the City land just the way it is today. Wouldn't we all enjoy an open field next to our home! However, it is City land, for all of the City residents. Hopefully, our City Council will keep in mind that decisions need to be made for the entire 41,000 plus residents of this city, including the ones under 18.

The time has come to invest in our children. Write to the City Council at cc@rpv.com and ask them to make the children of Rancho Palos Verdes a priority.

Sincerely,
Erin LaMonte