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Griffith Park Advisory Board

"Citizen Stewards of L.A.'s Premiere Urban Wilderness and Park"

Department of Recreation and Parks, Los Angeles
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May 3, 2018

Stefanie Smith
Principal Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
Department of Recreation and Parks

Dear Stefanie.

Fern Dell is a jewel in the crown of Griffith Park and is suffering greatly from lack of water. The tree coverage for picnickers and hikers has been reduced significantly due to the loss of many trees. Fern Dell has experienced the loss of Sycamores and groves of mature Black Walnuts, and younger Redwood trees due to the drought and insect infestation. This infestation is made worse when the trees are stressed from the drought.

There is an irrigation system in place that needs to be manually turned on and off. Since around 2011 there has been little watering - due to lack of Maintenance Crew and knowledge about the system.

The need of automatic watering in Fern Dell is of extreme importance. We support Recreation & Parks in updating and converting the current manual system into an automatic system. Please let us know what GPAB can do to make this happen!

Thank you for considering this issue.

Sincerely,

Lucinda Phillips Griffith Park Advisory Board

cc: Joe Salaices, Ron Deutsch, Lucinda Phillips