

**Community Impact Statement**  
from Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council  
**Supporting CF 20-0190**

**Statement:** Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council emphatically supports passing and implementing CF 20-0190.

**Dangers:** Because Los Angeles City Park Rangers are not allowed to carry firearms, they are vulnerable to death and injury from the proliferation of firearms among any criminal elements they encounter while patrolling the city's 420 parks.

Nor can they adequately protect the public. "Nearly 75% of children and 43% of adult residents visited park facilities in the last 12 months," according to a 2017 article about Los Angeles city parks published by The Trust for Public Land.

Although LA Port Police, Airport Police, LAPD and Park Rangers attend the same full LAPD Academy, only Park Rangers cannot carry a firearm on duty, due to a city charter that hasn't been updated in decades.

VIDEO: Suspect with semiautomatic threatens Rangers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5Grphnu3l8>

VIDEO: Stats, recovered firearms, and interviews with rangers and public (English, Spanish):  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KPIVrUOLP74>

**The Remedy:** In February 2020, Councilmembers Joe Buscaño and Gil Cedillo moved and seconded City Council motion CF 20-0190 to allow Los Angeles Park Rangers to carry firearms while on duty. Since January 2021, this motion lies buried and inactive in two committees: Arts, Parks, Health, Education, and Neighborhoods (Chair Nithya Raman), and Public Safety Committee (Chair Monica Rodríguez). Raman and Rodríguez are ignoring the motion.

Along with REQUIRING FIREARM TRAINING and DEVELOPMENT OF USE-OF-FORCE PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES, CF 20-0190 requests:

"For the protection of the public and for the safety of all law enforcement officers in the City, it is necessary to amend LAMC section 63.41, to allow park rangers to be armed while on duty, as authorized by **CPC §830.31 (b)** which states, '**a person designated by a local agency as a park ranger, who is regularly employed and paid in that capacity, and whose primary duty is the protection of parks, may be armed by their employing agency.**'

Park rangers should have the full ability to utilize all law enforcement tools and equipment **to ensure the safety and security of the public under all circumstances.**"

Note that CF 20-0190 only implements and echoes provisions of the 2013 California State law CPC §830, which it quotes verbatim.

Submitted by

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Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Region 3 Representative

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