

July 13, 2021
Board of Directors
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
P.O. Box 4998 Whittier, CA 90607-4998
Via email: info@lacsd.org

RE: Support for the Puente Hills Landfill Park

Dear Honorable Board Members:

Nature for All is an environmental and social justice coalition of 9 organizations working to ensure that everyone in the Los Angeles region – especially our underserved communities – has equitable access to nature's benefits. We are best known as the leading community group that built support for designation of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in 2014. For more than a decade, Nature for All has provided programs which connect our communities to public lands, build more parks, advance policies to protect our local mountains and rivers, and grow the next generation of diverse environmental leaders.

On behalf of Nature for All, I am writing to ask that you bring the Puente Hills Landfill Park to fruition by supporting the first phase of the Puente Hills Landfill Park Master Plan. The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation completed the Master Plan in 2016 with widespread support from stakeholders and local organizations. However, the Sanitation Districts has not fulfilled their commitment to fund the park and has subsequently prevented the buildout of the Master Plan from moving forward.

The Puente Hills landfill was once the country's largest landfill and is located in the densest urbanized area in the United States. The Sanitation Districts have been able to benefit from the revenues generated by the landfill for nearly 60 years while nearby neighborhoods have suffered the brunt of the impacts. Eight years after its closure, the Puente Hills Landfill remains as is, offering no benefits to the nearby community. The Sanitation Districts have the opportunity to create a greener and healthier future for residents in the San Gabriel Valley by honoring the funding commitments codified in state law and allowing the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation to build and operate a basic park.

Help us address this ongoing environmental injustice and act on behalf of the communities you serve to set aside the funds to make the Puente Hills Landfill Park a reality for our children, families, seniors and beyond! Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Belen Bernal Executive Director