



ericGARCETTI

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

District 13 • 200 N. Spring St. Room 470 • Los Angeles • CA 90012



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GARCETTI, KIDS CUT RIBBON ON GREEN DREAMS COME TRUE

Councilmember Eric Garcetti cut the ribbon Saturday on Madison West Park, a \$1.2 million, 1/3-acre neighborhood park in an East Hollywood neighborhood long deprived of adequate green spaces. The park was constructed with funds from voter-approved Proposition K. It is the 388th park in the City of Los Angeles, and the eleventh park that Councilmember Garcetti has opened in the 13th District since taking office in 2001. (The twelfth was opened today.)

“Los Angeles has failed for too many years to provide enough parks for its residents,” said Councilmember Garcetti. “While 5 acres of green space per resident is the national recommendation, Los Angeles has a paltry two-fifths of an acre per resident. With Madison West, we’re making it a little bit better today. We’ve got a long way to go.”

Additional funds came from Mayor Hahn’s Neighborhood Block Grant Program to support the purchase of playground equipment. The money was apparently well spent, because more than 25 neighborhood children ran about the park during the ribbon cutting. Two local children, Valerie Lopez and Modesto Espinoza, led the Pledge of Allegiance to kick off the event.

Community members were vital in the realization of the park. Nearby residents Carmen Parada and Joe Linton told attendees how they drove through their neighborhood searching for a parcel that could be turned into a park. “This park may look small, but it’s big for our neighborhood,” said Linton. “And it couldn’t have been done without the work of dozens of community members and city staffers working together.”

From identifying the unused parcel as a potential park site to democratically choosing a design that could be used by the youth of the community, community members participated at every step of the process. “This park isn’t just a boon for the community,” said Garcetti, “it’s a gift from the community.”

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