



**ERIC
GARCETTI**
President, Los Angeles City Council
COUNCIL DISTRICT 13



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GARCETTI BREAKS GROUND AT NEW HOLLYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

18th PARK OPENED IN COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S DISTRICT SINCE 2001

Council President Eric Garcetti was joined by the Department of Recreation and Parks' general manager John Mukri and community members from the Santa Monica/Western Residents Group to break ground at the future site of Lexington Pocket Park II. The park, located on Lexington Avenue between Wilton Place and Van Ness Avenue, will house a small playground, a basketball court, and grassy areas where children and families can play. It is two blocks from another pocket park on Lexington Avenue.

"As Los Angeles continues to transform its urban environment, having accessible open space for families is one of the top priorities for strengthening our communities," said Garcetti. "The second Lexington Pocket Park will advance our goal of creating a park within walking distance of every child in this city."

Having entered office to only thirteen parks in his district, Garcetti set out to double the number of green spaces by the end of his first term. Lexington Pocket Park II represents the eighteenth park opened in the Thirteenth District since that time, giving the dense, urban district that runs from Hollywood to Echo Park and across the Los Angeles River a total of thirty-one green spaces.

"The Department is proud to work with Council President Garcetti and the local community to put together a park that will serve residents," said Jon Kirk Mukri, general manager of Recreation and Parks. "Pocket parks can transform neighborhoods and strengthen communities."

"This park will bring many positive things to our neighborhood," said Patrick Agerkop, a member of the Residents Group. "Some neighborhood kids jump the fence to play basketball at the local school. With the basketball court at this park, they won't have to climb fences. Our group has worked on this project for a long time. We couldn't have done it without Councilmember Garcetti and the support of Rec and Parks."

For photos, go to <http://flickr.com/photos/councilmemberegarcetti/tags/lexingtonpark/>. Higher-resolution photos are available upon request.

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