



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- October 5, 2018
Councilmember Englander Breaks Ground on the New 50 Acre Bloom Park

LOS ANGELES - Councilmember Mitchell Englander broke ground today on the new 50 acre Bloom Park in Porter Ranch. In addition to panoramic views of the San Fernando Valley and surrounding mountains, Bloom Park will feature modern amenities including a splash pad, hiking trails, tennis and basketball courts, a bocci ball field, an outdoor classroom, and an outdoor stage and event space for community events.

"This day has been over a decade in the making," Councilmember Englander said. "Parks are an essential part of any community and the people of Porter Ranch can now look forward to the day when they can enjoy the best park Los Angeles has to offer in their own backyard."

Toll Brothers will perform construction of the park and suggested naming the park after Councilmember Englander. The Councilmember instead suggested the park be named for two San Fernando Valley residents Linda & Natalie Bloom whose struggles were representative of many women.

Linda "Honey" Bloom was a single mom of three children who struggled financially. When she lost her home she relied on public parks to provide a safe place for her children. Despite the difficulties she faced she continued to volunteer throughout the community. She passed away at the young age of 50.

Natalie Bloom, also known as "the Tulip Fairy", was Linda's first child. She loved the outdoors though she often struggled with severe asthma due to poor air quality in the basin. She became a Head Start teacher with a passion for music and outdoor events. She passed away at the age of 40 due to complications from asthma.

They are survived by Linda's two sons, and Natalie's younger brothers, Andrew Bloom, Councilmember Mitchell Englander, and their families. The park and event pavilion will be a lasting dedication to them and a place where folks can check their troubles at the door and enjoy outdoor recreation and events with their families and friends.

"My mother and sister loved parks," Councilmember Englander said. "They were two extraordinary women who never let adversity dampen their joyous spirit. Dedicating this park in their name is not only a personal honor, it is a tribute to all women who form the bedrock of loving communities."

In lieu of naming the park after the Councilmember, the amphitheater will be called Englander Pavilion. The park and event space is expected to take approximately a year to construct and will open no later than 2020.

Flyover Rendering: <https://youtu.be/w6evf4dwNHw>

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