

November 23, 2019

Dear Professor Aribas-Bel,

It is my pleasure to submit the attached manuscript, "Modeling the impacts of park access on health outcomes: a utility-based accessibility approach" for review and consideration in *Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science*.

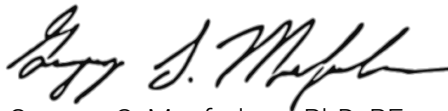
Your journal reviewed and declined a previous version of this manuscript (EPB-2019-0051). We are very grateful to the two anonymous reviewers who identified numerous places in which our arguments were incomplete or unclear, or where our analysis was lacking. Though an exhaustive response to the review comments is not warranted, we highlight three key improvements:

- An entirely rewritten introduction and literature review more clearly identifies the need for utility-based accessibility calculations in park and health analysis
- An improved estimation data set allows us to demonstrate how other attributes of a park including ball fields and trails affects a park's perceived utility
- Transferred utility parameters from previous studies replace asserted parameters in the accessibility score calculations

In spite of the valuable comments we received from the previous reviewers, we feel that the paper would benefit from new referees. We have recommended three possible referees in the manuscript submission portal.

In spite of these significant edits, the overall findings of the study remain unchanged: that is, utility-based accessibility measures are able to more precisely identify the impact of parks on public health compared with more commonly used measures. We hope these findings and our methods to reach them will be of interest to the readers of your journal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg S. Macfarlane".

Gregory S. Macfarlane, PhD, PE