

COUNCILWOMAN

NB-20

LENA GONZALEZ

Date: July 19, 2016

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FR: Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, District 1 *LG*
Councilmember Dee Andrews, District 6 *DA*
Councilmember Al Austin, District 8 *AA*

Subject: Support for Senate Bill 1374 – Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District

Background¹:

The Lower LA River flows through many disadvantaged communities, where residents are disproportionately impacted by poor air quality from local heavy industry and congested transportation corridors, and suffer from a severe lack of access to recreational opportunities and outdoor park space.

While the Lower LA River serves an important purpose as a flood protection and control channel, it also presents a unique opportunity for open space, urban greening, and as a recreational resource for the region. With numerous recent developments, including the creation of a Lower Los Angeles River Working Group to develop a revitalization plan, the City's Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, and multiple conversations about a new vision for the river, there is a growing local interest in transformation of the river.

Through the formation of the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District, working in collaboration with the Working Group and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), SB 1374 will help to promote the development of open space and parks for the benefit of communities along the Lower LA River.

SB 1374 would do the following:

1. Creates the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District to promote the development of open space and parks along the Lower Los Angeles River.
2. Establishes the Board of Directors of the district, made up of two public members, appointed by the Los Angeles County board of Supervisors, and one representative appointed by each of the following cities: City of Vernon, City of Maywood, City of Bell, City of Bell Gardens, City of Cudahy, City of Lynwood, City of Compton, City of Paramount, City of Long Beach.

¹SB 1374 Fact Sheet provided by Senator Ricardo Lara's Office

Recommendation:

Request the City Manager to send a letter of support for SB 1374 on behalf of the City of Long Beach.

Timing Consideration:

City Council action is requested on July 19, 2016, to enable sufficient time to add Long Beach's voice to the final push for SB 1374 before the Legislative Session ends on August 31, 2016.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact.



City of Long Beach Memorandum
Working Together to Serve

REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

Date: July 19, 2016

To: Maria De Luz Garcia, City Clerk

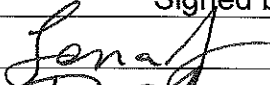


From: Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, District 1
Councilmember Dee Andrews, District 6
Councilmember Al Austin, District 8

Subject: Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda for **July 19, 2016**

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda under New Business via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

Support for Senate Bill 1374 – Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District

| Council District | Authorizing Councilmember | Signed by |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1 | Lena Gonzalez |  |
| 6 | Dee Andrews |  |
| 8 | Al Austin |  |