

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney
411 W. Ocean Boulevard, 9th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

1 RESOLUTION NO. RES-22-0050
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3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH IN SUPPORT OF THE FORMATION
5 OF AND INCLUSION IN THE LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER
6 RECREATION AND PARKS DISTRICT
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8 WHEREAS, in September of 2016, California Senate Bill 1374, sponsored by
9 Senator Ricardo Lara, was signed into law authorizing the formation of the Lower Los
10 Angeles River Recreation and Parks District (District); and

11 WHEREAS, the Lower Los Angeles River flows through many disadvantaged
12 communities, where residents are disproportionately impacted by poor air quality from local
13 heavy industry and congested transportation corridors, and suffer from a severe lack of
14 access to recreational opportunities and outdoor park space; and

15 WHEREAS, parks have many beneficial impacts on communities,
16 encouraging physical activity, improving health and fitness, reducing urban heating effects
17 and air pollution, reducing greenhouse gas emissions through trees and greenery, and
18 providing important economic benefits; and

19 WHEREAS, many communities along the Lower Los Angeles River
20 represent low income communities which are some of the most park-poor areas in Los
21 Angeles County, lacking the resources to fund, develop, maintain and operate the parks
22 and recreational opportunities that their residents need; and

23 WHEREAS, with numerous recent developments, including the creation of a
24 Lower Los Angeles River Working Group to develop a revitalization plan, the City's Los
25 Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, and multiple conversations about a new vision
26 for the river, there is a growing local interest in transformation of the river; and

27 WHEREAS, development and maintenance of a safe, attractive and vibrant
28 recreation zone along the Lower Los Angeles River will require coordination of activities,

1 maintenance, public safety and planning across multiple jurisdictions and is beyond the
2 capabilities of any one city; and

3 WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach has significant interest in the continued
4 development of recreational opportunities for all residents, including facilities and activities
5 which utilize and enhance this important resource and which improves access to the Lower
6 Los Angeles River for everyone; and

7 WHEREAS, the proposed annexation is categorically exempt from the
8 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section
9 20, as a change in the organization of local agencies, and the Categorical Exemption was
10 adopted by the City of South Gate, as lead agency, on March 26, 2019.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
12 follows:

13 Section 1. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
14 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

15 Section 2. This resolution is hereby adopted and approved by the City of
16 Long Beach in support the City of South Gate's application for formation of the Lower Los
17 Angeles River Recreation and Parks District as authorized and in the manner provided by
18 the Cortese-Know-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.

19 Section 3. The City of Long Beach will cooperate with the formation of the
20 District and is requesting to be included within the District as outlined in Senate Bill 1374
21 and as indicated on the finalized District Boundary Map

22 Section 4. The City Clerk of the City of Long Beach is hereby authorized
23 and directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the Executive Officer of the Local
24 Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council
of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of April 5, 2022, by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Zendejas, Allen, Price, Supernaw,
Mungo, Uranga, Austin, Richardson.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

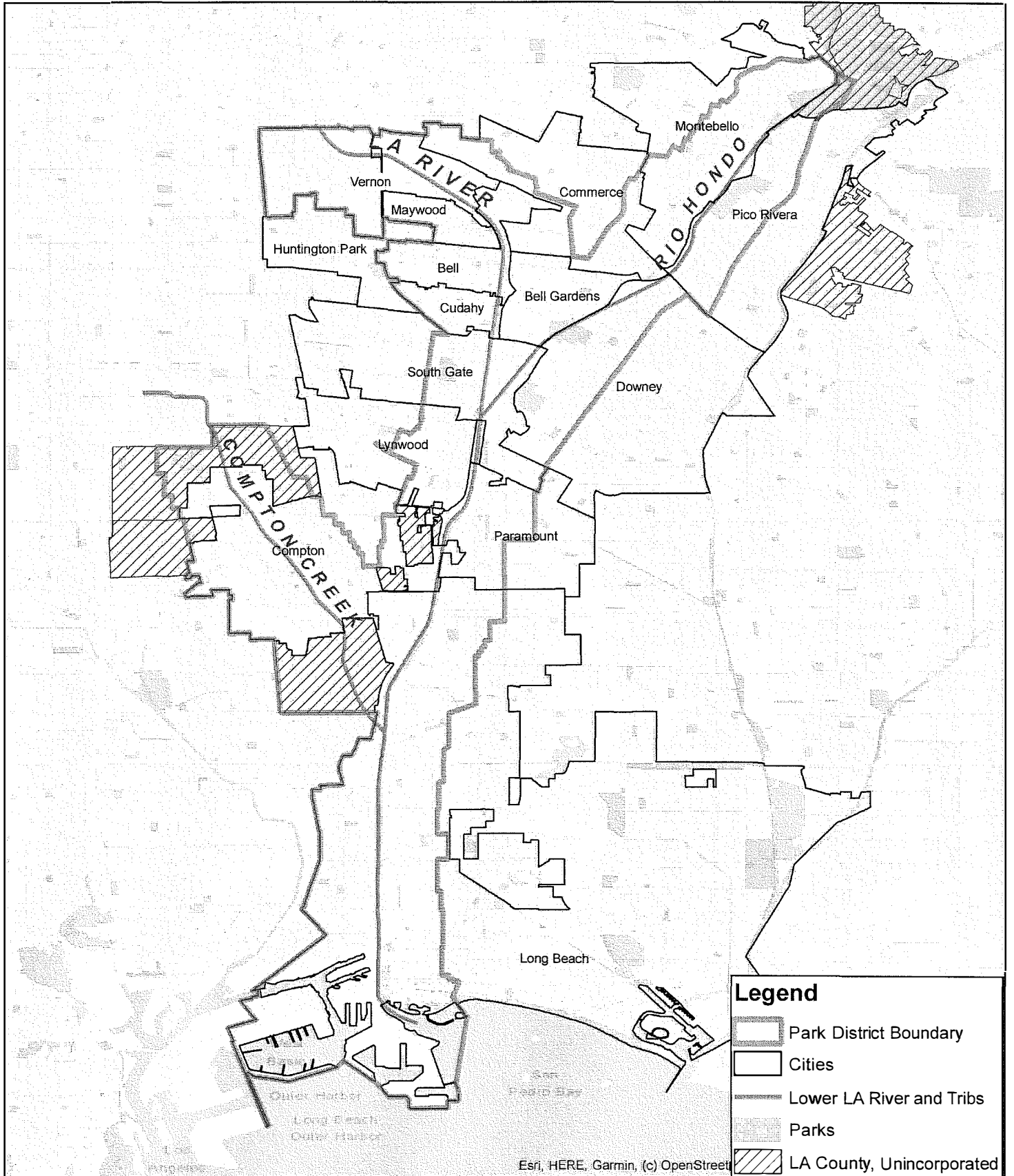
Absent: Councilmembers: None.

Recusal(s): Councilmembers: Saro.



City Clerk

FORMATION NO. 2019-06 OF THE LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT

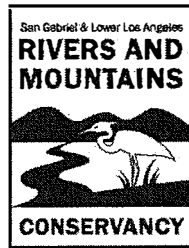


DRAFT
12/11/19

Attachment A

0 1.25 2.5 5 Miles





SB1374 Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District

FAQ

1) What is the purpose of SB1374 Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District?

The purpose of this bill is to create a special district to help facilitate the construction, improvement, and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities along the Lower Los Angeles River. This bill establishes in statute the structure of the district, but will still require formation through the local LAFCO, thereby preserving local control.

2) What is the biggest barrier to new parks development?

The single biggest barrier to development of new parks is a lack of funding. California voters approved a state “water bond” (Proposition 1) in 2014 and a state “park bond” (Proposition 68) in 2018 to provide funding opportunities for the revitalization of the Lower Los Angeles River watershed, including \$87.5m in grant in direct allocations and \$19m in FY 18/19 State Budget funds to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) through both bonds for urban creek restoration and park and open space development. But those funds are limited to acquisition and development of facilities with some allocations for planning, technical assistance, and community access programming, and cannot be used for operation or maintenance of park facilities. A lack of local resources often means that parks cannot be developed, or if they are, they cannot be properly maintained.

3) What is the benefit of creating the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District?

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.

This District will help to promote the development of open space and parks for the benefit of communities along the Lower LA River. 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 development of the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan, the City's Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, the County's Los Angeles River Master Plan update, and multiple conversations about a new vision for the river, there is a growing local interest and opportunity to transform the river.

Furthermore, The River Ranger Program (AB1158) can be implemented within the District, to better foster connections between communities, agencies, and resources to promote safe, equitable usage and stewardship of the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. And it can serve as a model for the formation of the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District (SB693).

4) How will the newly formed District be able to identify funding to fulfill the District's mission?

One of the unique powers a special district has is the ability to leverage funding by fee assessment to fund new parks, conduct a property tax transfer upon approval of the members, the ability to acquire and improve property, and the ability to operate and maintain parks.

Funding for these purposes is currently from limited sources such as bonds (i.e. Proposition 1), and often includes limitations – funds cannot be spent to improve or maintain existing resources. Public Private partnerships and other resources can be explored for additional funds to operate and maintain parks.

5) How does the county calculate the property tax transfer percentage to the district? And will it be taken from the existing pool?

No funding will come from the LA County's open space district fund. The property tax transfer percentage will be determined if and when the cities enters negotiation to contribute some of their property tax revenues to the district.

6) What is RMC's role in the formation of the Lower LA River Recreation and Park District?

According to SB1372, if the Park District is formed, then it must coordinate with the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to fulfill the duties established by this bill.

RMC will commit to funding a staff position and provide administrative support for 3 years. The staff member will report directly to RMC. The named cities in SB 1374 are encouraged to commit additional funding, or in-kind contributions, to support the duties and goals of the Lower LA River Recreation and Park District.

7) Who determines the boundaries for the District's jurisdiction?

SB 1374 (Lara) establishes the Board of Directors of the district, made up of three public members, appointed by the Los Angeles County board of Supervisors, 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 South Gate, City of Lynwood, City of Compton, City of Paramount, City of Long Beach. Previously, one representative would jointly be appointed by the cities of Commerce, Downey, Montebello, and Pico Rivera. The SB268 (Archuleta) amendment would allow one representative to be appointed by each of the following cities: City of Commerce, City of Downey, City of Montebello, and City of Pico Rivera.

The bill allows the board, made up of representatives from the Los Angeles County and each of the cities to determine the districts mission.

8) Will cities along the Lower LA River have local control over their respective project?

Yes, the cities will continue to have local control over their projects in the Lower LA River. This also includes projects voted by the Board of Directors of the District. The final decision will be made by the local authority.

9) The size and proportion of the LA River in each city vary, so how will funding be allocated?

The board of directors will make the decisions once the board is formed.

10) How will private land be impacted by the Lower LA River Recreation and Park District?

The Park District do not have additional rights over private land. The private sector partner \ will have to be a willing partner, including for the acquisition of land.

11) What will the Board of Director function?

Once the District is formed, the Board of Director shall consist of no more than 17 members as follow:

The city council of each of the following cities may appoint one representative:

- (1) The City of Vernon.
- (2) The City of Maywood.

- (3) The City of Bell.
- (4) The City of Bell Gardens.
- (5) The City of Cudahy.
- (6) The City of South Gate.
- (7) The City of Lynwood.
- (8) The City of Compton.
- (9) The City of Paramount.
- (10) The City of Long Beach.
- (11) The City of Commerce.
- (12) The City of Downey.
- (13) The City of Montebello.
- (14) The City of Pico Rivera.

(b) The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors may appoint three public members. One of those members shall be a representative of a nonprofit organization serving the Lower Los Angeles River region.

(c) Except as provided in subdivision (d), a person appointed to the board of directors shall serve at the pleasure of the city council or county board of supervisors that made the appointment.

The representative appointed pursuant to this subdivision shall serve for a two-year term.

Once the Board of Directors are established, they can determine the function of the Park District by developing by-laws.