



Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District

City Council Meeting – April 5, 2022

Background

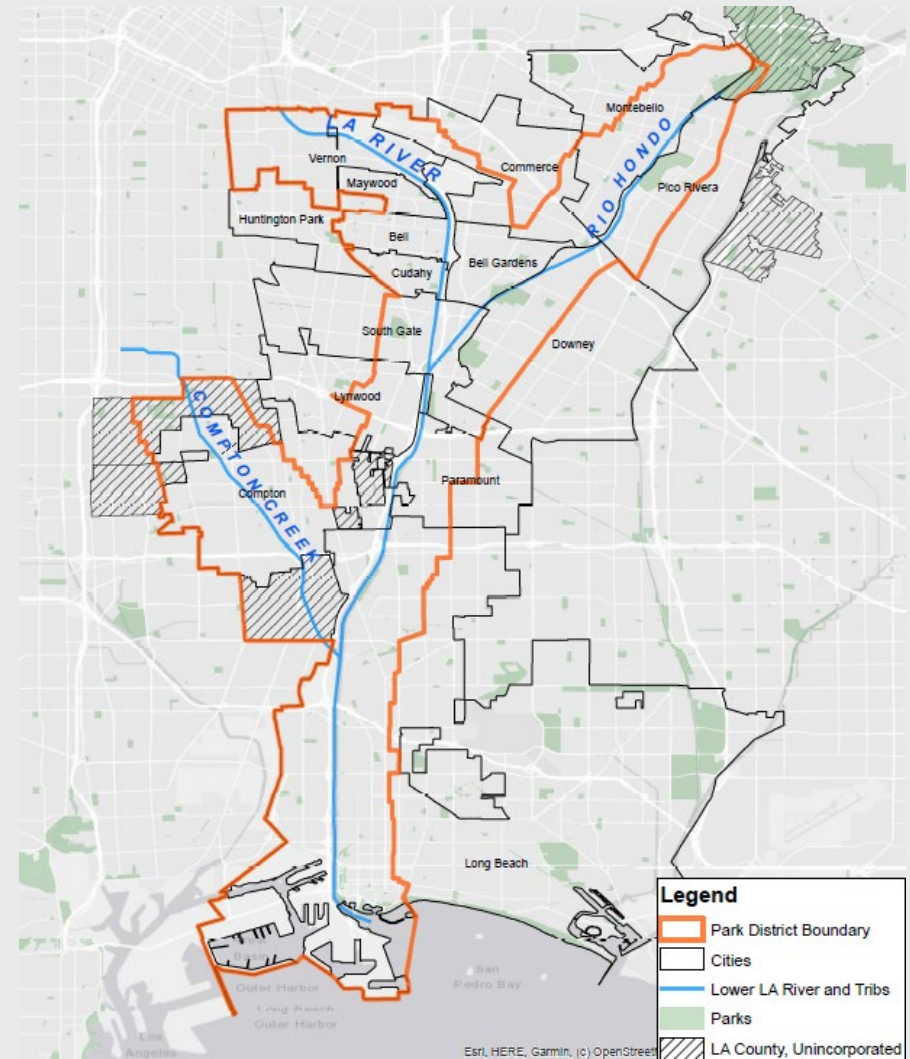
- **Challenge:** Lack of coordination and resources to expand access to park space and programming along the Lower Los Angeles River.
- **Solution:** State legislation enacted to authorize the formation of the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District.
- **Purpose:** Coordinate park development projects, programming, and funding across City boundaries.
- **Process:** The Rivers & Mountains Conservancy is coordinating the effort to form the District through the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) process, within the next few months.

District Board Representation and Territory

17 Board Members

3 Members of the public appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

14 Member Cities with jurisdiction along the Lower Los Angeles River and Rio Hondo



Potential Advantages of the District

- Improved interjurisdictional coordination and programming (e.g., the River Ranger Program)
- Strengthen regional partnerships
- Funding opportunities for operations and maintenance, in addition to acquisition and park development:
 - Joint grant applications
 - Philanthropy
 - Public-private partnerships
 - Tax or fee transfer



Next Steps

- The RMC committed funding and administrative support to form the District through LAFCO and setup the initial Governing Board.
- The fiscal model of the District will be determined by the Governing Board, once established, and will likely involve funding and minimal staffing impacts for member entities.
- Cities will ultimately retain local control over their projects along the Lower Los Angeles River and will have final decisionmaking authority.
- Long Beach will have one vote on the Board, despite representing nearly one-third of the geographic area of the District, and should advocate to have a weighted vote like other regional Board models.

Staff Recommendation

- Approve Resolution supporting the formation of the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District through the LAFCO process.
- Recommend further advocating for more equitable Board representation for Long Beach based on population and geographic territory, especially for fiscal policy decisions made by the Board.
- If approved, the Resolution will be filed with the Local Agency Formation Commission.

A nighttime photograph of the Long Beach skyline, featuring several illuminated high-rise buildings and palm trees. The lights from the buildings and streetlights are reflected in a body of water in the foreground. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "Thank you!".

Thank you!