



City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: MAY 8, 2018

FROM: MAYOR BAILEY AND COUNCILMEMBER MAC ARTHUR WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: MAYOR BAILEY AND COUNCILMEMBER MAC ARTHUR RECOMMEND THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 68, THE CLEAN WATER AND SAFE PARKS ACT

ISSUE:

Adopt a resolution in support of Proposition 68, the Clean Water and Safe Parks Act.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council adopt a resolution in support of Proposition 68, recognizing the importance of Proposition 68 to the City of Riverside.

BACKGROUND:

Proposition 68 (2018), the Clean Water and Safe Parks Act, will be considered by the voters of California on the June 5, 2018 ballot. It would authorize the state to issue approximately \$4.1 billion in general obligation bonds for natural resource conservation, state and local parks, flood protection, and a variety of water-related projects. This total includes \$4 billion in new bonds, and a redirection of \$100 million in unsold bonds that voters previously approved for specific natural resources uses.

Projects and programs that provide and enhance flood protection, water quality, and water supply would receive approximately \$1.27 billion in bond funding (30 percent of the total bond proceeds). Projects and programs that facilitate park creation and maintenance, conserve natural habitats, improve coastal, river, and other ecosystems, and increase the resiliency of the environment to withstand the effects of climate change (i.e. sea level rise, droughts and forest fires) would receive \$2.83 billion in funding (70 percent of total bond proceeds).

Local jurisdictions would benefit from most of the funding provided through Proposition 68. It should be noted that for several of the programs proposed to be funded through this bond, a local match (20 percent) would be required. The City would be eligible for several of these funding opportunities as would the California Citrus State Historic Park and the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program.

Key funding opportunities outlined in Proposition 68 include:

- \$725 million for competitive grants intended for the development of safe neighborhood parks in park poor neighborhoods. Of this amount, \$48 million would be specifically available to the Central Valley and Inland Empire, as well as for gateway, rural and desert communities in order to correct historic underinvestment in these regions.
- \$200 million for per capita grants to cities, counties and parks districts for local park rehabilitation, creation and improvement. According to estimates prepared by the League of California Cities, the City of Riverside would receive approximately \$213,841 through this funding allocation.
- \$30 million for competitive grants to regional park districts, counties and regional open space districts, joint powers authorities and eligible nonprofit organizations to create, expand, improve, rehabilitate, or restore parks and parks facilities. Of this amount, \$5 million shall be available for projects in units of the state parks system that are managed by nonprofit organizations that have entered into operating agreements with the Department of Parks and Recreation (i.e. California Citrus State Historic Park).
- \$40 million for per capita grants to local agencies that have obtained voter approval for revenue enhancement measures aimed at improving and enhancing local or regional park infrastructure between November 2012 and November 2018. Under this funding allocation, eligible local agencies would at least \$250,000.
- \$218 million for the restoration, preservation, and protection of existing state park facilities. Eligible projects would include those that: (1) seek to protect natural resources to provide climate resilience, water supply and provide water quality benefits; (2) enhance access to state park facilities, including protecting and improving lands adjacent to state park facilities to improve access or management efficiency; (3) provide for low-cost overnight accommodations in ways to enhance access and recreational opportunities; and (4) address the backlog of deferred maintenance. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall use best efforts to expend at least \$10 million in the Inland Empire.
- \$16 million shall be made available to the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program. To the extent possible, funding would be distributed equitably geographically along the Santa Ana River.
- \$30 million would be made available to the Salton Sea Authority for capital outlay projects that provide air quality and habitat benefits, and implement the Natural Resource's Agency's Salton Sea Management Program.
- \$80 million for competitive grants for projects for treatment and remediation activities that prevent or reduce the contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water.
- \$100 million for competitive grants for the purposes of multibenefit projects in urbanized areas to address flooding. Eligible projects shall include, but are not limited to, stormwater capture and reuse, planning and implementation of low-impact

development, restoration of urban streams and watersheds, and increasing permeable surfaces to help reduce flooding.

- \$290 million for competitive grants and loans intended for drought and groundwater investments to achieve regional sustainability. Eligible projects could include groundwater recharge, stormwater, recycled water and other conjunctive use projects.

If approved by voters, the general obligation bonds would be sold to investors who would be repaid, over time, through the state's General Fund. The Legislative Analyst's Office fiscal analysis of Proposition 68 notes that the cost to taxpayers to repay this bond would be approximately \$7.8 billion. This total includes payment of the principal (\$4.0 billion) and the projected interest (\$3.8 billion). This would result in average repayment costs of about \$200 million annually over the next 40 years. This amount is about one-fifth of one percent of the state's current General Fund budget.

Proposition 21 (2010) – The State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010

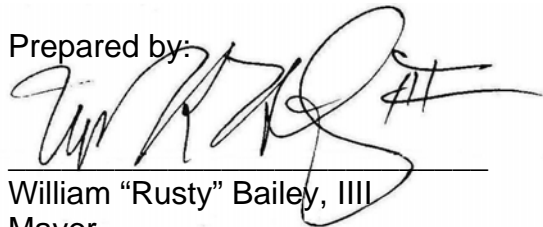
On August 24, 2010 the City Council adopted a resolution in support of Proposition 21, the State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010. Proposition 21 provided funding for the state park system, for wildlife conservation and for increased and equitable access to those resources. The state park system sought funding to assist financing operations, maintenance, and repair of facilities throughout the state including the California Citrus State Historic Park.

Proposition 21 was not approved by the voters of California (Yes – 42.7%; No – 57.3%).


FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with adoption of this resolution.

Prepared by:



William "Rusty" Bailey, III
Mayor



Chris Mac Arthur
Councilmember – Ward 5

Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Resolution in Support of Proposition 68
2. Proposition 68
3. Legislative Analyst's Office Analysis of Proposition 68