Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title:	CONSIDER RESOLUTION 20-057 SUPPORTING AB 2103 (O'DONNELL) EXPANDING THE TERRITORY OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (CITY COUNCIL)				
Sponsors:					
Indexes:					
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Attachments:	1. Exhibit 1 Resolution No. 20-057, 2. Exhibit 2 Dominguez Channel & LA Harbor Watersheds Map				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/17/2020	1	City Council		

Report to Mayor and City Council

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Consent

SUBJECT:

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 20-057 SUPPORTING AB 2103 (O'DONNELL) EXPANDING THE TERRITORY OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (CITY COUNCIL)

I. SUMMARY

AB 2103 expands the territory of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) to include the Dominguez Channel watershed and Santa Catalina Island. This action could directly benefit the City of Carson as it may make the City eligible for more grant and bond funding for open space projects. This bill was first proposed in 2019 as AB 1694 and the City Council approved a resolution endorsing it, but the bill did not advance. It is once again before Committee in the Assembly as AB 2103.

II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

1. WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 20-057 “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING AB 2103

(O'DONNELL), EXPANDING THE TERRITORY OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY TO INCLUDE THE DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL WATERSHED AND SANTA CATALINA ISLAND"

2. REQUEST that staff forward a copy of executed Resolution 20-057 to Assembly Member Patrick O'Donnell's Office.

1.

III. ALTERNATIVES

DO NOT support Resolution 20-057.

IV. BACKGROUND

The RMC is one of 10 conservancies created by the Legislature with the mission of preserving open space and habitat while facilitating public access to California's wilderness and wildlife. The RMC achieves these goals through projects that preserve and restore wildlife habitat, improve watersheds, and provide low-impact recreational and educational uses. The RMC applies for funding from public and private sources to support projects throughout their territory which covers eastern Los Angeles County and Western Orange County.

Need for the Bill:

While the Conservancy has successfully completed numerous projects within its territory, several neighboring and nearby communities in need have not had access to the same opportunities. Other than limited coverage by the Coastal Conservancy, neither of these communities below have access to the opportunities provided by a state backed conservancy.

The Dominguez Channel Watershed is west of the Los Angeles River and includes portions of the communities of Carson, Compton, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, and San Pedro. Approximately 81 percent of the 133 square miles that make up the watershed are developed. With a population of 1 million, demand for services are high while parkland and open space are in short supply.

Another nearby community facing open space management challenges is Santa Catalina Island. Normally thought of as a tourist destination, the residents of the island itself are primarily those who provide services to tourists. With a population of about 4,000 and a median household income of approximately $63,000, finding funding for open space and water management projects can be challenging. Additionally, the very nature of the island poses challenges with managing several native and non-native species as well as limited access; everything must be brought by plane or boat.

Solution:
AB 2103 seeks to bring the numerous benefits of the RMC to the Dominguez Channel

Watershed and Santa Catalina Island. This will expand the reach of RMC's funding and expertise to many traditionally underserved communities with unique open space and water management challenges.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Resolution 20-057 (pgs. 4-5)
2. Dominguez Channel & LA Harbor Watersheds Map (pg. 6)

Prepared by: John S. Raymond, Assistant City Manager