

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: June 17, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Gerry F. Miller *HEK for*
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 14-0002-S24
Assignment No: 14-03-0168

SUBJECT: Resolution to SUPPORT the National Park Service's certification of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail along the Los Angeles River Trail within the City's boundaries.

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution to include in the City's 2013-2014 Federal Legislative Program, SUPPORT of the National Park Service's certification of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail along the Los Angeles River Trail within the City's boundaries to promote shared recreational and educational objectives.

SUMMARY


The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (Anza Trail) is a commemorative trail that represents the 1775-76 Spanish expedition from New Spain (present-day Mexico) to settle Alta California (San Francisco). The 1,200-mile trail extends from Nogales, Arizona to the San Francisco Bay area. The Anza trail created a connection of various diverse communities and cultures along its way.

The Resolution (O'Farrell – Krekorian, et. al) states that in 1990, the United States Congress designated that the Anza Trail be a part of the National Trails System which is administered by the National Park Service (NPS). Of the 1,200 miles, 250 miles of the Anza Trail have been certified by the NPS as of 2010. The NPS takes various steps and requires specific qualifications to certify trail segments including maintenance agreements, unlimited access to all visitors, and ability to be used for hiking, biking and equestrian activities. Once certified, the official NPS triangular trail emblem can be used to designate the Anza Trail in each specific certified area.

The Los Angeles River Trail coincides with the Anza Trail within the City's limits along a seven-mile stretch from Griffith Park to Downtown Los Angeles. NPS, along with local partners, is in the process of certifying this area of the Anza Trail to provide a contiguous multi-use recreation area. Certification of the Los Angeles River Trail along the Anza Trail will create a more defined and developed area that can be used for recreation and education activities.

NPS reports that certification makes it easier for a trail to seek out grant and funding opportunities. Also, certification of the City's portion of the trail will contribute to the cultural diversity and local history of the City by grounding the trail to significant historic events. The certification will also serve to enhance the entire Los Angeles River both physically and

historically. Local property owners often encourage trail certification to improve safety and increase property values.



Andrea M. Galvin
Analyst

Attachment: Resolution

14-0002-524

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RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, In 2010, President Obama launched the America's Great Outdoors initiative, which includes direction to "Reconnect Americans, especially children, to America's rivers and waterways..." and to "Build upon state, local, private, and tribal priorities for the conservation of land, water, wildlife, historic and cultural resources, creating corridors and connectivity across these outdoor spaces..."; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior prioritized the Los Angeles River Trail System in the America's Great Outdoors "50 State Report"; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the United States Congress designated the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail (Anza Trail) as a component of the National Trails System to be administered by the National Park Service; and

WHEREAS, the Anza Trail commemorates the 1775-76 Spanish expedition of the more than 240 men, women, and children who journeyed across the frontier of New Spain to settle Alta California and connect a diversity of culture and communities along a 1,200-mile corridor extending from Nogales, Arizona to the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles River Trail, within the City's boundaries, coincides with the recreation route of the Anza Trail as designated by the National Park Service; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service works closely with local partners to provide on-the-ground experiences which help connect the Anza story to the community and raise awareness of its place in shaping local history; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the City Council adopted the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (C.F. 07-1342) which prioritized the creation of the Los Angeles River Trail System - celebrating the history of the River and the City; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service, with the support of local partners, seek to certify the Anza Trail along the Los Angeles River Trail in order to provide a contiguous multi-use trail and to promote shared recreational and educational objectives;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 Federal Legislative Program support for the National Park Service's certification of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail along the Los Angeles River Trail within the City's boundaries to promote shared recreational and educational objectives.

MAR 4 2014
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PRESENTED BY: *[Signature: Mitch O'Farrell]*
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: *[Signature: Paul Roberson]*
[Signature: Bl. Blumfeld]

ORIGINAL