

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: June 18, 2015

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

FROM: Sharon M. Tso *KEY FOR*
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 15-0002-S53
Assignment No: 15-06-0433

SUBJECT: Resolution (Buscaino – Cedillo) to support SB 317 (De Leon, et. al) relative to The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2016.

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution (Buscaino – Cedillo) to include in the City's 2015-2016 State Legislative Program, SUPPORT of SB 317, The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2016, which would authorize the issuance of bonds in the total amount \$2.45 billion to finance a safe neighborhood parks, rivers, and coastal protection program.

SUMMARY

The Resolution (Buscaino – Cedillo) states that Los Angeles residents lack access to safe parks and recreation areas, especially in park-poor and low-income areas. SB 317 would enact the The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2016, which would, if adopted, authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$2.45 billion pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe neighborhood parks, rivers, and coastal protection program.

Funds derived from the issuance of bonds would: (1) create and expand neighborhood parks; (2) rehabilitate and restore local and regional parks; (3) protect regional parks; rivers, lakes, streams and watersheds, including the Los Angeles River; and beaches, bays coastal and ocean resources; and (4) support urban forestry and urban greening projects. At the local level, funds would be provided to acquire and develop new parks in park poor and low-income communities as well as maintaining existing City parks and facilities.

SB 317 specifically allocates \$100,000,000 to be made available for protection and restoration projects, and for the development of river parkway projects on the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. In addition, \$300,000,000 would be made available for the protection of beaches, bays, and coastal watershed resources, and \$50,000,000 will be allocated to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the protection of City-adjacent coastal watersheds of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Background

On February 4, 2015, Council adopted a Resolution, at the request of the Department of Recreation and Parks, to include in the City's 2015-2016 State Legislative Program sponsorship and/or support of legislation or administrative action that would provide funding for safe neighborhood parks, rivers and coastal protection for the creation, maintenance, restoration and protection of parks and recreation facilities.

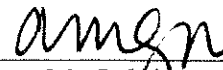
In the 2013-2014 State legislative session, the City took a similar position to support SB 1086 (De Leon), The Safe Neighborhood Parks, River, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2014, which was not enacted.

STATUS OF LEGISLATION

5/28/15	Read second time. Ordered to third reading.
5/28/15	Approved by Committee on Appropriations
5/06/15	Approved by Committee on Government and Finance and re-referred to Committee on Appropriations
5/04/15	Approved by Committee on Natural Resources and Water
3/05/15	Referred to Committees on Natural Resources and Water and Government and Finance
2/23/15	Introduced

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Department of Recreation and Parks



Andrea M. Galcin
Analyst

Attachment: Resolution

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, Los Angeles residents lack access to safe parks and recreation areas, especially in park-poor and low-income areas, which limits their ability to improve their physical and emotional health; and

WHEREAS, investments in the development of new parks and recreation facilities and maintenance, preservation and protection of existing parks and recreation facilities will improve the quality of life for the City's residents ; and


WHEREAS, because funding for parks and recreation facilities continues to decline, a dedicated funding source, such as a bond, to provide consistent financial support for new and existing parks and facilities is necessary; and


WHEREAS, SB 317 (De Leon, et. al) would enact The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2016, which, if adopted by voters at November 2016 election, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the total amount of \$2.45 billion pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe neighborhood parks, rivers, and coastal protection program; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of SB 317 would benefit the residents of Los Angeles and provide local jurisdictions the necessary resources to create and maintain green space, encourage residents to improve their health, and raise the quality of life in each city and the State of California as a whole.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles, hereby includes in its 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for SB 317: The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2016 that would allow the State to issue bonds to fund safe neighborhood parks, rivers and coastal protection for the creation, maintenance, restoration and protection of parks and recreation facilities.


MAY 15 2015

PRESENTED BY: 
JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL