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, planning for the restoration of the Ballona Wetlands began in 2008, when the state released a study that explored a range of feasible options for the area; and

WHEREAS, publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project has been in preparation for nearly a decade, is 1,242 pages long plus 15 separate appendices, and the issues raised by the proposed project are profound; and

WHEREAS, the definition of restoration, the type of restoration, the goal of restoration, and the methods of restoration are complex, nuanced and potentially controversial subjects; and

WHEREAS, the project raises significant questions about water quality, wildlife preservation, public access and recreational opportunities that need to be carefully considered and balanced; and

WHEREAS, ample time must be provided for environmental organizations, government agencies, community organizations, neighborhood councils, and Westside residents - including their elected representatives - to carefully study, analyze, and consider the benefits and drawbacks of the proposal; and

WHEREAS, given the significant impact this project will have on the environment and ecosystem, it is imperative that the public input be robust, genuine and substantive; and

WHEREAS, give the document's considerable length and complexity, a comment period of 45 - 60 days is insufficient;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby URGES the comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIR) for the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project be extended to 180 days, inasmuch as it would allow adequate time for interested parties to property study, analyze, and consider the benefits and drawbacks of the proposal.

Councilmember, 11th District

PRESENTED BY:

SECONDED BY: