

OCT 17 2008

MOTION**PUBLIC WORKS**

The City of Los Angeles approved the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (LARRMP) in 2007. The plan includes conceptual images that demonstrate future conditions that would allow people to enter the river channel. Currently access to the river channel is restricted and contact with river water is not encouraged due to safety, liability, and water quality concerns.

Regarding the natural elements of the river - including its fish and wildlife - the federal government (through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and the state (through the California Department of Fish and Game) maintain jurisdiction over species and habitats, while the Corps of Engineers issues permits for wetlands. While people are known to fish in the river, it is not considered a sanctioned activity. Boating is also an activity that takes place on the river, but it is also not presently encouraged.

In order for the LARRMP to be implemented in the way that it was intended, these issues regarding access and use must be addressed. Certainly long term solutions are in process as the river is restored, but in the short term, agencies should work towards development of consistent policies that balance the needs of the river environment including wildlife conservation with enjoyment of the river.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Bureau of Engineering, with assistance of all appropriate City, State, and Federal agencies and community organizations, prepare both short and long term recommendations to address concerns stated in this motion, including consistent policies that balance the needs of the river environment such as wildlife and conservation, with human enjoyment of the river.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the Bureau of Engineering to report back to Ad Hoc River Committee within 60 days.

PRESENTED BY

ERIC GARCETTI
Councilman, 13th District

ED P. REYES
Councilman 1st District

SECONDED BY

07-1342-85