

## MOTION

In February 2014, the Council adopted a Motion (CF# 14-0222) to conduct the Los Angeles River Recreational Zone Program in partnership with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The Program, which started as a pilot-program in 2011, stemmed from strong community interest in expanded and interactive public access to the Los Angeles River.

The Recreational Zone Program took place in the summer of 2014 (from Memorial Day to Labor Day); and consisted of various recreational activities such as non-motorized boating (kayaking), fishing, bird watching and hiking. The boundary of the Program included the river stretch between Fletcher Avenue/Rattlesnake Park to the North and the Confluence Park/Egret Park to the South.

The Council's action also granted the MRCA the authority to manage the designated Recreational Zone area and utilize its Park Ordinance to preserve, protect and maintain the area. In turn, the City's public safety personnel provided police and fire protection services.

The MRCA is requesting that the City re-authorize it to manage the River Recreational Zone Program for the summer 2015 season. The MRCA is also requesting an extension of the 2015 season from Memorial Day – May 25, 2015 (kick-off) to October 1, 2015. The additional four weeks (from Labor Day) will allow Los Angeles Unified School District students to participate in the Program.

The MRCA has ensured that it will provide minimum funding/in-kind services for the 2015 season; yet it can benefit from additional funding to maintain a viable and interactive Program.

In addition, the MRCA has requested that the City also consider making the Program permanent and granting the MRCA authority to manage the recreational zone for a five year period. Last year's Program was hugely successful and experienced by over 3,000 participants. The Program has maintained high participation levels for several years.

It is important that the River Recreational Zone Program commences for the 2015 season and that the City and its partners establish a long-term program and provide ongoing support. In this manner, revitalization of the Los Angeles River can be ensured and greater recreational opportunities offered to City residents.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council hereby authorizes the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) to conduct the Los Angeles River Recreational Zone Program for the 2015 Season consistent with the following conditions:

- Grant the MRCA authority to manage the designated recreational zone area and utilize the MRCA Park Ordinance to regulate park and public trust doctrine activities, subject to City Attorney review;
- Establish the boundaries of the Program to consist of Fletcher Avenue/Rattlesnake Park to the North and the Confluence Park/Egret Park to the South along the Los Angeles River;
- Establish the Program Season from Memorial Day - May 25, 2015 to October 1, 2015 with hours of operation from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week;

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- Grant the MRCA the ability to make minor river alterations subject to authorization by the appropriate regulatory agency; such as debris/hazard removal, small rock relocations, non-native foliage trimming and related;
- Grant the MRCA the ability to install temporary and removable launch and safety devices subject to the authorization by the appropriate regulatory agency.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Recreation and Parks, in conjunction with the City Administrative Officer and the Chief Legislative Analyst, be instructed to report in 45 days on the feasibility of:

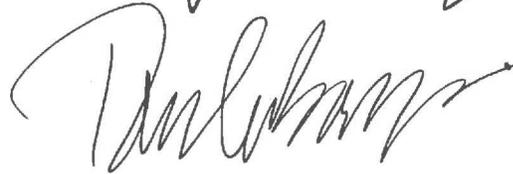
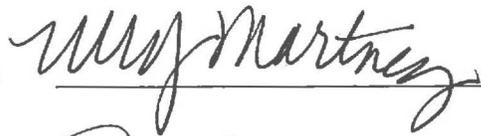
- Granting the MRCA authority to manage the designated recreational zone area and utilize the MRCA Park Ordinance, as part of the River Recreational Zone Program, for a five year period starting summer 2016.

PRESENTED BY:



MITCH O'FARRELL  
Councilmember, 13<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



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