

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/18/2022 08:27 PM

Council File No: 22-0002-S98

Comments for Public Posting: Please add more funding for public lands. See attached file.

PUBLIC Lands Act Key Messages & Talking Points

- **Background:** The PUBLIC Lands Act, championed by Senator Alex Padilla, will protect and increase access to over 1 million acres of public lands and over 500 miles of rivers in Northwest California, on the Central Coast, and near Los Angeles.
- **Access to the Outdoors:** While Californians enjoy some of the best public lands in the country, many communities—especially communities of color—do not have equitable access to these places. The legislation will expand protections for public lands and rivers near communities that have limited access to the outdoors.
- **Climate:** The legislation will help make California a key part of the climate solution by protecting public lands from oil drilling, improving carbon sequestration, and preserving wildlife corridors. It is also critical to addressing President Biden’s and Governor Newsom’s recent Executive Orders, which call for protecting at least 30% of our lands and waters by 2030.
- **Economic Recovery:** Protecting our public lands and rivers is an important investment in our state’s ongoing economic recovery. The legislation will conserve places that are beloved for outdoor activities. As it becomes safe to travel again, protecting these places will help bolster our state’s outdoor recreation economy. Prior to the pandemic, this industry was a significant economic driver, in local communities and throughout the state.

Key Messages With Talking Points

- **Background:** The PUBLIC Lands Act, championed by Senator Alex Padilla, will protect and increase access to over 1 million acres of public lands and over 500 miles of rivers in Northwest California, on the Central Coast, and near Los Angeles.
 - In the Los Angeles area, the bill would expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by over 109,000 acres to include the western Angeles National Forest. The bill would also designate over 30,000 acres as protected Wilderness and over 45 miles of Wild and Scenic rivers throughout the San Gabriel range. Finally, the bill would also establish a National Recreation Area in San Gabriel Valley.
- **Access to the Outdoors:** While Californians enjoy some of the best public lands in the country, many communities—especially communities of color—do not have equitable access to these places. The legislation will expand protections for public lands and rivers near communities that have limited access to the outdoors.
 - The PUBLIC Lands Act will increase equitable access to the outdoors in the Los Angeles area by expanding the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and establishing a new National Recreation Area. The National Recreation Area has the potential to improve access to open space for communities such as Baldwin Park and El Monte that lack access to parks. The San Gabriel Mountains provide

Angelenos with 70% of their available open space. Protecting places like the San Gabriels so that more Angelenos, especially residents of color, can access the outdoors is a critical equity issue for the state.

- On California's Central Coast, the bill would call for a study for a 400 mile-long Condor National Scenic Trail and protect over 300,000 acres of public lands and 150 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers in the area. This would increase accessibility to world-class nature for Santa Maria, Fillmore, and other nearby communities that currently have limited access to the outdoors.
- In Northwest California, the PUBLIC Lands Act authorizes the creation of over 295 miles of new trails, including in rural areas where local residents have little access to quality outdoor recreation experiences.
- **Climate:** The legislation will help make California a key part of the climate solution by protecting public lands from oil and gas drilling, improving carbon sequestration, and preserving wildlife corridors. It is also critical to addressing President Biden's and Governor Newsom's recent Executive Orders, which call for protecting at least 30% of our lands and waters by 2030.
 - In the San Gabriel Mountains, the bill protects habitat for Bighorn Sheep and bigcone Douglas fir, which are both gravely threatened by climate change.
- **Economic Recovery:** Protecting our public lands and rivers is an important investment in our state's ongoing economic recovery. The legislation will conserve places that are beloved for outdoor activities. As it becomes safe to travel again, protecting these places will help bolster our state's outdoor recreation economy. Prior to the pandemic, this industry was a significant economic driver, in local communities and throughout the state.
 - The Angeles National Forest supports about \$83.2 million annually in labor income for wage earners and local businesses including food and lodging services, arts, entertainment and recreation, real estate, rental and leasing, and retail trade services and about 1,600 jobs annually.

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Huynh

Date Submitted: 08/22/2022 02:11 PM

Council File No: 22-0002-S98

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members: My name is Linda Huynh and I live in Alhambra. I am writing to ask that you approve the proposed city resolution to support the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459), and the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act (H.R.1075) and S.1769) The San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act which is part of the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459) would expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by over 109,000 acres to include the western Angeles National Forest. The bill would also designate over 30,000 acres as protected Wilderness and over 45 miles of Wild and Scenic rivers throughout the San Gabriel range. Finally, the bill would establish a National Recreation Area in San Gabriel Valley. The San Gabriel Mountains provide Angelenos with 70% of their available open space. Protecting places like this so that more Angelenos, especially residents of color, can access the outdoors is a critical equity issue for the city and the entire state of California. The legislation will also help make California a key part of the climate solution by protecting public lands from oil and gas drilling, improving carbon sequestration, and preserving wildlife corridors. It is also critical to address President Biden's and Governor Newsom's recent Executive Orders, which call for protecting at least 30% of our lands and waters by 2030. I believe your support for the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459), the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act (H.R.1075) and S.1769) will help the cities' commitment to increasing climate resilience and improving their relationship with the natural world by protecting and enhancing its biodiversity. That is why I hope the LA City Council will take the Pledge and commit to protecting our nearby open spaces for future generations. I appreciate your consideration. Sincerely, Linda Huynh

Communication from Public

Name: Machiko Yasuda

Date Submitted: 08/22/2022 09:46 PM

Council File No: 22-0002-S98

Comments for Public Posting: Attn: Los Angeles City Council Office of the City Clerk Council & Public Services Division Dear Council Members: My name is Machiko Yasuda and I live on the border of the Angeles National Forest in Altadena, and I am writing to ask that you approve the proposed city resolution to support the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459), and the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act (H.R.1075) and S.1769). The San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act which is part of the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459) would expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument by over 109,000 acres to include the western Angeles National Forest. The bill would also designate over 30,000 acres as protected Wilderness and over 45 miles of Wild and Scenic rivers throughout the San Gabriel range. Finally, the bill would also establish a National Recreation Area in San Gabriel Valley. The San Gabriel Mountains provide Angelenos with 70% of their available open space. Protecting places like the San Gabriels so that more Angelenos, especially residents of color, can access the outdoors is a critical equity issue for the city and the entire state of California. The legislation will also help make California a key part of the climate solution by protecting public lands from oil and gas drilling, improving carbon sequestration, and preserving wildlife corridors. It is also critical to addressing President Biden's and Governor Newsom's recent Executive Orders, which call for protecting at least 30% of our lands and waters by 2030. I believe your support for the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459), and the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act (H.R.1075) and S.1769) will help the cities commitment to increasing climate resilience and improve its relationship to the natural world by protecting and enhancing its biodiversity. That's why I hope that the LA City Council will take the Pledge and commit to protecting our neary open spaces for future generations to come. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Machiko Yasuda

Communication from Public

Name: Kyle Cavazos

Date Submitted: 08/22/2022 09:51 PM

Council File No: 22-0002-S98

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members: My name is Kyle Cavazos and I live in Hollywood, and I am writing to ask that you approve the proposed city resolution to support the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459), and the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act (H.R.1075) and S.1769). In the midst of the climate crisis and widespread ecocide, defending Los Angeles' ecosystems is a crucial battle that we cannot delay. We must take direct action to stave off those who seek to take advantage of our home and capitalize on the natural abundance of our green, open spaces. I believe your support for the PUBLIC Lands Act (S.1459), and the Rim of the Valley Corridor Preservation Act (H.R.1075) and S.1769) will help the cities commitment to increasing climate resilience and improve its relationship to the natural world by protecting and enhancing its biodiversity. Voting to expand protections of these areas will ensure that LA's natural wonders will remain for generations to come. Sincerely, Kyle Cavazos