



Date: March 14, 2017

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.M.*

From: Marie Knight, Director, Parks, Recreation and Marine Department *M.K.*

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: City's RiverLink Plan Update

In August 2015, the City Council requested the City Manager to update the Los Angeles RiverLink Plan (Plan) and to work with the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation and other regional partners to coordinate efforts to improve and enhance the entirety of the Los Angeles River and surrounding areas. No direct funding was provided to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (Department) to complete the project. This memorandum provides an update on this request.

The Plan was developed to provide a unified vision for a greenway, with linkages to the neighboring communities, along the eastern bank of the Los Angeles River. The Plan was originally developed in 2003 and updated in 2007. Since that time, the Department has commenced a number of projects along the Los Angeles River in fulfillment of the Plan's objectives, including Wrigley Heights Dog Park, Baker Street Mini-Park, Drake/Chavez Greenbelt and sports fields, and the DeForest Wetlands.

While the City has not been able to secure funding to update the Plan, in March 2016, the City Council did authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with, and provide \$250,000 in support to, the Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation (now called River LA) to conduct an Integrated Design and Technical Analysis for the Long Beach portion of the Los Angeles River. It is expected that by participating in and supporting the River LA's efforts, the City will benefit from the additional information and data to help inform any future local long-term investments along the Lower Los Angeles River, and enhance our residents' ability to enjoy a revitalized scenic river. It will also help inform any future updates to the Plan. The Department will continue to identify future grant opportunities to support the Plan update.

CC: CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
LAURA DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
ANITRA DEMPSEY, INTERIM DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
REBECCA JIMENEZ, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER
STEPHEN SCOTT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
MEREDITH REYNOLDS, PARK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
CITY CLERK (REF. FILE #15-0824)