

Date: March 21, 2023

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager



From: Brent Dennis, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine



For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Los Angeles River Vision Plan and Update**

On October 4, 2022, the City Council requested an update on the City of Long Beach (City)'s effort to acquire park space along the Los Angeles (LA) River from Los Angeles County (County). The request included developing a vision plan for an 11-acre parcel owned by Los Angeles County, as well as exploring the feasibility of a butterfly preserve along a second County parcel.

The 11-acre parcel (APN 7140014940) has been identified as a viable park space in several different planning documents. The parcel is adjacent to the LA River, which is to the west of the parcel and Interstate 405 which is to the south. The earliest reference to the parcel is found in the Long Beach RiverLink plan developed in 2007, where it is referred to as Wrigley Heights North. It was further recommended for development as new parkland in the 2021 City Park Acquisition Feasibility Report and is also memorialized in the County 2022 LA River Master Plan update as being located within a planned major project area.

The City recently resumed discussions with the County regarding converting the 11-acre parcel into parkland. These discussions also include the possibility of leasing the adjacent parcel for a butterfly preserve. The adjacent parcel sits to the west, just across the LA River from the 11-acre site. The timing for a vision plan process will depend on securing the appropriate documents and agreements for the use of both parcels. Updates on the progress of these discussions will be provided on a regular basis.

The City has shared its plans to develop the parcel with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) is aware of a future vision plan to engage community members and other stakeholders. The second parcel will also be included in future conversations with the RMC once it is clear whether it is a viable site for a butterfly preserve.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (562) 570-3170.

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