

Recommendation to Sponsor PRC Article 3 Legislation

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025


Introduction

Purpose:


The General Manager recommends the Board of Directors sponsor legislation to amend Public Resources Code (PRC) Article 3 (Sections 5500-5595). This presentation aims to provide background and context on the proposed legislation.

Background:

- The current framework governing regional park districts is outdated and no longer meets the evolving needs of California's communities.
- Staff has prepared a comprehensive update to address these challenges focusing on governance, land management, and operational efficiency.



Purpose of Legislation



- Modernizing Governance and Administrative Practices: Current provisions create barriers to efficiency in service delivery. With the proposed amendments, there would be increased opportunity to address contemporary issues like climate change and increasing demand for open space.
- Support Inclusivity Updates: The proposal would revise the legislative section with gender-inclusive language.
- Address Environmental and Social Challenges: Current code does not adequately address extreme weather, climate change, or equitable public land management. Language changes will increase recognition of nature-based solutions within Article 3.
- Improve Land Management Policies: Restrictive provisions on property leases and land exchanges limit park district flexibility for expansion and efficient land management. The proposal would support revised acquisition policies for improved land conservation.

Review of Materials and Information Provided

Policy Report: This report includes a detailed overview of the proposed amendments, including justifications for each change.

Draft Legislative Language: Text of the proposed amendments to PRC Sections 5500-5595, highlighting key updates to governance, land management, and compensation provisions. *Please note, this text has not been reviewed by Legislative Counsel and is likely to change.*

Context on Timeliness: February 21, 2025, is the last day for bills to be introduced in the Assembly, making swift action necessary.



Recommendation

The General Manager recommends the Board of Directors sponsor legislation to amend Public Resources Code (PRC) Article 3 (Sections 5500-5595).

The Board Legislative Committee supported the recommendation to sponsor legislation to amend PRC Article 3 (Sections 5500-5595) without amendments to Section 5536.