

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

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| <b>DATE</b>     | July 10, 2024   |
| <b>TITLE</b>    | Recommendation to Support State Legislation: AB 1581  |
| <b>DIVISION</b> | General Manager's Office  |
| <b>FROM</b>     | Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs<br>Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, Deputy General Manager |
| <b>APPROVED</b> | Sabrina Landreth, General Manager   |

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**RECOMMENDATION**

The General Manager recommends the Board Legislative Committee recommend to the full Board approval to extend support on the following legislation: AB 1581.

**BACKGROUND**

As part of the 2023-2024 Legislative Session, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) Board of Directors will take formal positions on bills as they are introduced and considered by their respective Legislatures. To guide bill analysis, the Park District's Board of Directors established seven key advocacy goals through Resolution No.: 2024 – 01 – 003. These advocacy goals strive to align funding and policy advocacy with identified project and program needs and priorities. Guided by the Park District mission, elected Board of Directors and General Manager, Government and Legislative Affairs staff work to align advocacy goals with Park District needs. Overarching principles include equitable service delivery, advancing climate resiliency adaptation and mitigation, guiding work with an environmental ethic, supporting inclusive interpretation and educational opportunities, increasing conservation through land acquisition, and ensuring the fiscal health of the Park District. The specific goals are as follows:

- Climate - Friendly Transportation: To expand accessible active and public transportation to and within East Bay parks and trails.
- Community Health: To ensure equitable access to parks so all East Bay communities can enjoy the physical and psychological benefits of nature.
- Ecosystem Stewardship: To support ecosystem health through restoration, acquisition and habitat enhancement, and improved efficiencies in regulatory approvals.
- Green Jobs: To guide the development of career pathways for all in the parks, recreation, outdoor and environmental fields.
- Sea Level Rise Preparedness: To address sea level rise with nature-based infrastructure and initiate mitigation strategies regarding climate change.
- Welcoming Visitor Use Facilities: To be sure all visitors are welcomed to the East Bay parks and trails by providing facilities which are safe, accessible, inclusive, and sustainable.
- Wildfire Resilience: To minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire in the East Bay by using proactive vegetation management which is ecologically sound.

**ANALYSIS**

The legislation proposed for support by the Park District, as listed below, has been identified based

on its alignment with at least one of the seven key advocacy goals of the Park District and support for overarching principles of advocacy as approved by resolution no.: 2024 – 01 – 03. To engage on the identified bills, the proposed resolution will direct staff on specific actions related to Park District supported legislation, including writing letters of support, participating in committee meetings in Sacramento and engaging with the author or relevant elected official's offices directly.

**AB 1582 (Kalra D-San Jose and Mathis R-Visalia) The Restoration Management Permit Act** supports the legislative advocacy goal of ecosystem stewardship. This legislation would authorize the issuance of a restoration management permit for projects where the outcome of the project work would result in a net positive environmental impact. By exempting restoration projects from permits designed for development projects, this legislation would help to streamline regulatory review of environmental enhancement projects.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Presentation.