

**DATE:** July 25, 2016  
**TO:** RMC Governing Board  
**FROM:** Mark Stanley, Executive Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Item 7A: Executive Officer's Report- Legislation and Initiatives

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For full text and history of bills and initiatives, visit these web sites:

**Federal Bills:** <https://www.congress.gov>  
**State Bills:** <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

**STATE LEGISLATION**  
**Current as of 7/22/16**

The following are legislative bills that have been introduced by the Senate and Assembly representatives.

**[AB 2444](#)**

**[\(Garcia, Eduardo D\)](#)** California Water Quality, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access Improvement Act of 2016.

LAST HIST. ACT. DATE: 06/29/2016

LAST HIST. ACTION : From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on GOV. & F. (Ayes Noes 2.) (June 28). Re-referred to Com. on GOV. & F. From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 4. Noes 1.) (June 29). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Summary:** Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact the California Water Quality, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access Improvement Act of 2016, which would authorize the issuance of bonds to finance a water quality, coastal protection, and outdoor access improvement program. Also referred to as a parks bond.

**[AB 2534](#)**

**[\(Nazarian D\)](#)** Los Angeles River.

LAST HIST. ACT. DATE: 06/30/2016

LAST HIST. ACTION: Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. On APPR.

COMM. LOCATION: SEN APPROPRIATIONS

HEARING DATE: 08/01/2016

**Summary:** Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to promote the revitalization of the Los Angeles River through a Working Group focusing on the LA River Greenway in the San Fernando Valley

**[SB 1374](#)**

**[\(Lara D\)](#)** Lower Los Angeles River.

**Introduced:** 2/19/2016

LAST HIST. ACT. DATE: 06/28/2016

LAST HIST. ACTION : From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on L. GOV.(Ayes 11. Noes 4.) (June 28). Re-referred to Com. On Local Government

COMM. LOCATION : ASM WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

**Summary:** Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would preserve open space, promote recreational opportunities, and create watershed improvements along the Lower Los Angeles River through the creation of a Lower LA River Recreation and Parks District.

**AB 2722**

**(Burke D) Transformative Climate Communities Program.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2016

**Status:** 2/22/2016-Read first time.

**Location:** 2/19/2016-A. PRINT

**Summary:** Would create the Transformative Climate Communities Program, to be administered by the Strategic Growth Council. The bill would appropriate \$250,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the council to administer the program. The bill would require the council, in coordination with the California Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs, to award competitive grants to specified eligible entities for transformative climate community plans in disadvantaged communities, as defined.

**AB 2796**

**(Low D) Active Transportation Program.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2016

**Status:** 2/22/2016-Read first time.

**Location:** 2/19/2016-A. PRINT

**Summary:** Current law creates the Active Transportation Program in the Department of Transportation for the purpose of encouraging increased use of active modes of transportation. Current law requires the California Transportation Commission to award 50% and 10% of available funds to projects statewide and to projects in small urban and rural regions, respectively, with the remaining 40% of available funds to be awarded to projects by metropolitan planning organizations, with the funds available for distribution by each metropolitan planning organization based on its relative population. This bill would require a minimum of 5% of available funds in each of the 3 distribution categories to be awarded for planning and community engagement for active transportation in disadvantaged communities.

**SB 163**

**(Hertzberg D) Wastewater treatment: recycled water.**

**Introduced:** 2/4/2015

**Status:** 9/11/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(14). (Last location was RLS. on 9/8/2015)

**Location:** 9/11/2015-A. 2 YEAR

**Summary:** Would declare that the discharge of treated wastewater from ocean outfalls, except in compliance with the bill's provisions, is a waste and unreasonable use of water in light of the cost-effective opportunities to recycle this water for further beneficial use. This bill, on or before January 1, 2026, would require a wastewater treatment facility discharging through an ocean outfall to achieve at least 50% reuse of the facility's actual annual flow, as defined, for beneficial purposes.

**SB 919**

**(Hertzberg D) Water supply: creation or augmentation of local water supplies.**

LAST HIST. ACT. DATE: 06/28/2016

LAST HIST. ACTION : From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To consent calendar. (Ayes 15. Noes 0(June 28). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

COMM. LOCATION : ASM APPROPRIATIONS  
 HEARING DATE : 08/03/2016

**Summary:** This bill would require the commission, before January 1, 2018, in consultation with the Independent System Operator, to address the oversupply of renewable energy resources through a tariff or other economic incentive for electricity purchased by customers operating “facilities that create or augment local water supplies,” as defined, to reduce the cost of electricity to those facilities. Because a violation of an order or a direction of the commission is a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

**SB 1294**

**(Pavley D) The California Community Climate, Drought, and Jobs Resiliency Act.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2016

**Status:** 2/22/2016-From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 23. Read first time.

**Location:** 2/19/2016-S. PRINT

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to award grants to local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps for projects that improve the climate and drought resiliency of urban canopies, community landscaping, and urban greening efforts through the use of various water conservation methods, including the application of compost and mulch.

## FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The Obama administration February 4 reiterated its long-standing request for full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), making the request even before the fiscal 2017 budget came out. The administration echoed its recommendation of the last three years that Congress take a bifurcated approach to putting up the \$900 million per year it said the program deserves.

Under the recommendation for fiscal 2017 about half of the \$900 million would come from regular appropriations, or \$475 million, and about half of it would come from new legislation to guarantee money for the program each year without an appropriation, or \$425 million. For the following fiscal year and beyond the administration would have all money guaranteed outside an appropriations bill.

The plan was announced February 4 by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior for Policy Kris Sarri and Under Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bonnie. They emphasized the economic benefits rendered by LWCF.

“When we talk about investing in our future, the Land and Water Conservation Fund is one of the most effective programs there is, with conservation and recreation projects serving as a big boon to local economies, bolstering tourism and supporting jobs,” they said in a joint statement. “For every \$1 invested through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, there is an estimated return of \$4 in local economic activity. This is not only good for our nation, environment and people, it’s also a good return on investment.”

