DATE: September 25, 2017

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 7A: Executive Officer’s Report - Legislation and Initiatives

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 9/12/17

The following is the status of legislative bills that have been introduced in the current session by Senate and Assembly potentially of interest to the RMC. Bills can be tracked on the legislative website: http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/ The Senate and Assembly have until Friday September 15, 2017 to make final changes to any pieces of legislation. The Governor has until October 15, 2017 to sign or veto any bills that come to him for signature.

PARKS AND WATER

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/

PARKS AND WATER

SB 5 (DeLeon, Kevin D) California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act 2018
Introduced: 12/5/2016,
Last Amended Date: 9/10/17
Status: SB 5 passed the Assembly 54-18 at 11:36 pm on September 15, 2017 and then went on to pass the Senate on concurrence at 1:58 am. It is now it is headed to the Governor for signature.

Governor Brown has until October 15, 2017 to sign or veto any bill that comes before his desk for signature. The bond would be subject to voter approval on the June 5, 2018, statewide primary election.

Summary: Would enact the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of $4,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. The bill, upon voter approval, would reallocate $100,000,000 of the unissued bonds authorized for the purposes of Propositions 1, 40, and 84 to finance the purposes of a drought,
water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. The bill would provide for the submission of these provisions to the voters at the June 5, 2018, statewide primary election. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

This bill has very specific funds set aside for the 10 State Conservancies. The chart below highlights some of the key funding allocations in Senate Bill 5 (De Leon).

### SB 5 BREAKDOWN (DE LEÓN)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AB 31 Park Poor Communities Program</strong></td>
<td>$725 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita</td>
<td>$215 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County/Regional Program</td>
<td>$30 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Help Block Grants for Local Taxes</td>
<td>$40 Million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Program</td>
<td>$25 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>$30 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Parks (Fairs Included)</td>
<td>$218 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservancies (Includes WCB &amp; Water)</td>
<td>$767 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Parkways</td>
<td>$162 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceans and Coastal Protection</td>
<td>$175 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous (including Cal Fire, WCB Conservation, Climate Resiliency, CCC, and Natural Resources Agency)</td>
<td>$443 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean Drinking Water and Drought Preparedness</td>
<td>$250 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater Sustainability</td>
<td>$80 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Protection</td>
<td>$550 Million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Sustainability: water</td>
<td>$290 Million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BOND COST</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4.1 Billion</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on 9/10/17 amended version of SB 5.*

For the per capita section, all cities are set to receive $200,000 to use at their discretion and all Counties would receive $400,000. As it relates specifically to Conservancies, the breakdown of is as follows:

**CHAPTER 7. California River Recreation, Creek, and Waterway Improvements Program ($162 million)**

- **$37.5 Million**- SMMC ($15 million of this set aside for LA River projects in the SF Valley)
- **$37.5 Million**- RMC
- $16 Million- Santa Ana River Conservancy Program (State Coastal Conservancy)
- $10 Million- Lower American River Conservancy Program
- $3 Million – Los Gatos & Upper Guadalupe River (Resources Agency)
- $3 Million- Russian River (Resources Agency)
- $10 Million- Santa Margarita River, San Diego (Coastal Conservancy)
- $5 Million- Clear Lake (Resources Agency)
- $10 Million- CA River Parkways Act (Resources Agency)
$10 Million- Urban Streams Restoration Program (Dept. of Water Resources)
$20 Million- LA River Projects, City of Glendale (!) (Resources Agency)

TOTAL: $162 MILLION

CHAPTER 8. State Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, and Authority Funding:

$180 Million for Conservancies:
- $6 Million- Baldwin Hills Conservancy
- $27 Million- Tahoe Conservancy
- $7 Million- Coachella Valley Conservancy
- $12 Million- Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy
- $12 Million- San Diego River Conservancy
- $30 Million- RMC
- $6 Million- San Joaquin River Conservancy
- $30 Million- SMMC
- $30 Million- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- $20 Million- SF Bay Restoration (State Coastal Conservancy)

If this Bill is approved and signed by the Governor, the RMC is set to receive a total allocation of $67.5 million. The bond would be subject to voter approval on the June 5, 2018, statewide primary election.

**AB 1558 (Garcia, Cristina D) Los Angeles River: River Ranger Program**
*Introduced: 2/17/2017, Last Amended Date: 9/1/2017, Status: Senate Appropriations Committee. Sent to Governor Brown for Signature*

**Summary:** This bill would require the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to collaborate with the Department of Parks and Recreation, the California Conservation Corps, and the State Lands Commission to develop a river ranger program to provide a network of river rangers who assist the public at sites along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, as prescribed. The bill would require the conservancies, no later than June 30, 2018, to develop a plan for the design and implementation of the program, containing specified components and information, and to provide a copy of the completed plan to certain legislative committees by that date.

**AB 466 (Bocanegra D) Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group**
*Introduced: 2/13/2017, Last Amended Date: 9/1/2017, Status: Senate Appropriations Committee. Sent to Governor Brown for Signature*

**Summary:** Would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, in consultation with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the City of Los Angeles to the extent they wish to consult, to consider requests from specified local agency representatives to participate in a working group to develop a revitalization plan for the Upper Los Angeles River and its tributaries and watershed. The bill would require the secretary to consider requests from local agency representatives to participate in the working group and would authorize the working group to include specified representatives.

**SB 693 (Mendoza D) Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District**
Introduced: 2/17/2017, Last Amended Date: 9/5/17, Status: Read second time. Ordered to third reading, Assembly.

Summary: Would specifically authorize the establishment of the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District, by petition or resolution submitted to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission before January 1, 2020, subject to specified existing laws governing recreation and park districts, including their formation, except as provided. The bill would authorize specified city councils and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to appoint the initial board of directors of the district.

SB 714 (Newman D) State Coastal Conservancy: West Coyote Hills Conservancy Program
Introduced: 2/17/2017, Last Amended Date: 9/8/2017, Status: On 3rd Reading in the Senate

Summary: Would, until January 1, 2028, establish the West Coyote Hills Conservancy Program, to be administered by the State Coastal Conservancy and to undertake projects and award grants in the West Coyote Hills area, as described, for purposes relating to improvement of public access, and the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural resources in the area. This bill would prescribe the duties of the conservancy with regards to the implementation and administration of the program.

AB 1235 (Daly D) Santa Ana River Conservancy Program
Introduced: 2/17/2017, Last Amended Date: 3/28/2017, Status: Now a 2-Year Bill

Summary: Current law establishes the State Coastal Conservancy with prescribed powers and responsibilities for implementing and administering various programs intended to preserve, protect, and restore the state’s coastal areas. Current law also establishes the Santa Ana River Conservancy Program, to be administered by the conservancy, for purposes related to the implementation of projects to restore, preserve, and enhance specified lands in the Santa Ana River region, as defined. This bill would appropriate the sum of $20,000,000 from the General Fund to the conservancy to be expended for the purposes of this program.

AB 1483 (Daly D) Housing-Related Parks Program
Introduced: 2/17/2017, Last Amended Date: 3/28/2017, Status: Now a 2-Year Bill

Summary: There is hereby established in state government the Housing-Related Parks Program, to be administered by the department, using funds allocated, upon appropriation, under subdivision (d) of Section 53545, for the purpose of providing grants for the creation, development, or rehabilitation of park and recreation facilities to cities, counties, and cities and counties based on the issuance of building permits for new housing units, or housing units substantially rehabilitated, acquired, or preserved with committed assistance from the city, county, or city and county, that are affordable to very low or low-income households.

Appropriated $50,000,000 from the General Fund to the Housing Urban-Suburban-and-Rural Parks Account in the 2017–18 fiscal year. These funds shall be available to the department for grants for housing-related parks in urban, suburban, and rural areas, pursuant to this chapter.

CLIMATE CHANGE
SB-263 Leyva (S) Climate Assistance Centers
Introduced: 02/08/17, Last Amended Date: 5/3/2017, Status: Now a 2-Year Bill

Summary: Existing law creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program, which is administered by the Strategic Growth Council. Existing law requires the council to award competitive grants to specified eligible entities for the development and implementation of neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that include greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health benefits to disadvantaged communities, as defined.

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and to be available upon appropriation.

This bill would require the council to establish no less than 10 regional climate assistance centers, equitably distributed across urban and rural areas of the state, to build the capacity of local community organizations, municipalities, and small businesses from disadvantaged communities to participate in state climate investment programs, as specified. Funds would be allocated through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to community based and nonprofit organizations to engage with climate assistance centers and conduct outreach in disadvantaged communities, as specified. The bill would require the council and the state board to make a specified report to the Legislature.

AB 1530 (Gonzalez Fletcher D) Urban forestry
Introduced: 2/17/2017, Last Amended Date: 7/5/2017, Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee

Summary: The California Urban Forestry Act of 1978 has as a stated purpose the promotion of the use of urban forest resources for purposes of increasing integrated projects with multiple benefits in urban communities. This bill would provide that the purpose of the act is also to promote policies and incentives that advance improved maintenance of urban forest canopy to optimize multiple benefits, among other purposes. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

LA COUNTY UPDATE

Los Angeles County Legislation approved by the voters in November 2016 potentially of interest to the RMC.

MEASURE A: Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks, Open Space, Beaches, Rivers Protection, and Water Conservation Measure. To replace expiring local funding for safe, clean neighborhood/ city/ county parks; increase safe playgrounds, reduce gang activity; keep neighborhood recreation/ senior centers, drinking water safe; protect beaches, rivers, water resources, remaining natural areas/ open space; levy of 1.5 cents annually per square foot of improved property in Los Angeles
County, with bond authority, requiring citizen oversight, independent audits, and funds used locally.

This measure was overwhelmingly approved by the required 2/3 supermajority of votes on November 8, 2016 by 73.48%, or 1,568,781 votes.

**MEASURE M: Los Angeles County Sales Tax**

To improve freeway traffic flow/safety; repair potholes/sidewalks; repave local streets; earthquake retrofit bridges; synchronize signals; keep senior/disabled/student fares affordable; expand rail/subway/bus systems; improve job/school/airport connections; and create jobs; shall voters authorize a Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan through a ½ ¢ sales tax and continue the existing ½ ¢ traffic relief tax until voters decide to end it, with independent audits/oversight and funds controlled locally?

Approval of Measure M (“Measure”) would adopt an ordinance known as the Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan (“Ordinance”) proposed by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (“Metro”), which placed this Measure on the ballot by resolution dated June 23, 2016. The Ordinance would impose a retail transactions and use tax (“Sales Tax”) at the rate of one-half of one percent (.5%) within Los Angeles County (“County”), beginning on the first day of the first calendar quarter commencing not less than 180 days after adoption of the ordinance. The Sales Tax will increase to one percent (1%) on July 1, 2039, when the Measure R tax of one-half of one percent (.5%) tax imposed by Metro by Ordinance number 08-01 expires. The Sales Tax is in addition to any other taxes authorized by law. The Sales Tax has no expiration date.

This measure was overwhelmingly approved by the required 2/3 supermajority of votes on November 8, 2016 by 69.79% of votes, or 1,594,427 voters that voted yes.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATION**
**CURRENT AS OF 7/20/17**

**NATIONAL MONUMENTS**
As part of an administration-wide review of the designation of 27 large national monuments, Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke made his first recommendation to President Trump, to reduce the size of Bears Ears National Monument in southern Utah.

President Trump executive order asked for a recommendation from Secretary Zinke by June 10 the recommendation was submitted June 12. The comment period for the other 26 monuments runs through July 9.

If President Trump accepts Secretary Zinke’s recommendation, a likelihood, it raises the possibility of a lawsuit under the Antiquities Act of 1906. That law authorizes a President to designate national monuments, but some experts question whether it authorizes the de-designation of monuments, or significant portions of monuments.
In February, the California State Senate leadership introduced the Preserve California package, a series of legislation intended to insulate California from federal actions to roll back environmental protections. Two of the three measures passed in the final hours of the session.

The package consisted of three bills:

- **SB 49**: Senator de León (D - Los Angeles) & Senator Stern (D - Canoga Park) which directs state agencies to fill any gaps in environmental enforcement created by the Trump administration.
- **SB 50**: Senator Allen (D - Santa Monica) allows state agencies to step in to protect environmentally sensitive lands that are given up by the federal government.
- **SB 51**: Senator Jackson (D - Santa Barbara) provides protection to whistleblowers.

SB 50 and SB 51 passed out of the Legislature, however, SB 49 was blocked before it could be voted on the Assembly floor due to heavy lobbying from industry and agriculture.

In line with the Preserve California effort, the Legislature has committed to defending public lands and National Monuments in response to the federal administration's efforts to overturn protections for these lands and reduce our national monuments.