



# Agenda Report

DATE: MARCH 22, 1999

TO: CITY COUNCIL  
THROUGH LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF PENDING LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR  
ENHANCEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACE - SB  
2 (SENATOR CHESBRO)

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Support SB 2 (Senator Chesbro) - Parks resources improvement: bond act;
2. Authorize the Mayor to send letters to the appropriate authorities stating Pasadena's support of this bill.

## BACKGROUND:

The ongoing commitment by City Council to "reinvest in our parks and parklands" is based in part on the availability of recognizing funding opportunities beyond those of the City's General Fund. The task of committing additional funds to strengthen and enhance the level and community perception of safe parks in coordination and collaboration with the Police Department is also dependent in part on our ability to develop and recognize alternative funding resources and strategies. There is a great need to make reasonable and cost effective investments in our park and recreation and natural areas with emphasis on the following: making our parks safer; repairing and restoring worn out and damaged park and open space equipment and facilities; and taking the responsibility now to meet our City's growing needs to enable current and future generations have adequate park and recreational and natural area facilities to enjoy.

SB2 would if passed: (1) Recognize the need to invest in and support infrastructure development designed to provide facilities for youth enrichment and the prevention of youth crime and patterns of delinquency, (2) Recognize that investing in the infrastructure of parks improve the quality of neighborhoods and, thus benefits the quality of life for the residents of those neighborhoods. (3) Recognize that improving the development and restoration of, and access to, publicly owned properties, increases the recreational opportunities for the citizens of Pasadena.

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If signed into Law, SB2 would place the Park and Resources Improvement Bond Act on the November 7, 2000 State ballot. If passed by the voters, a total of \$849,500,000 of General Obligation Bonds would be sold. Pasadena would be eligible to receive funding under two areas. The first area sets aside \$180,000,000 for grants on the basis of population for the acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and interpretation of Local Park and recreational lands and facilities. The second area provides for \$67,500,000 for grants to cities, counties, and districts for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, and restoration of park and recreation areas and facilities is also included in the proposed bill.

The City Council has gone on record in supporting similar bills in the past that could provide funds for the enhancement of parks and open space areas. The Recreation and Parks Commission has also supported prior pending legislation to recognize funds for parks and open space improvements.

The current adopted Capital Improvement Program (C.I.P.) budget identifies approximately \$18,127,291 of unfunded park and open space enhancements that are needed. These projects include: completion of master plans for Central, Memorial, and Robinson Parks, replacement of playground equipment at Victory Park, accessibility improvements to various park, rehabilitation of turf and sports fields, repair of walkways, repair and upgrade of restroom and picnic facilities, tree planting, development of centralized computer irrigation system, repair and resurfacing of basketball and tennis courts, and repair and replacement of security and walkway lighting. Recommended but unfunded Arroyo projects totaling approximately \$2,734,852 are also in need of additional funds. These Arroyo projects include improved walkways, security lighting, renovated restrooms, renovated picnic areas, new playground equipment, improvements to the bank shell, rock wall replacement and trail clearing.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Based upon the current recommended funding amounts the City of Pasadena could receive approximately \$1,100,000 in funds for park recreation areas and open space improvements.

Respectfully submitted,



CYNTHIA J. KURTZ,  
City Manager

Prepared and Approved by:



ROBERT C. BADERIAN, Director  
Parks and Natural Resources

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