

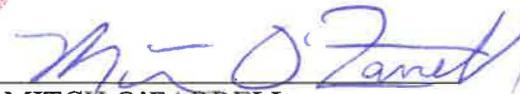
On June 29, 2016, the City Council adopted (C.F. 14-1158-S2) the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project (LARER, also known as ARBOR or “Area with Restoration Benefits and Opportunities for Revitalization”), developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) with the City as the non-federal sponsor, and Council later approved an initial Design Agreement with the USACE on September 29, 2017 (C.F. 14-1158-S2). The LARER plan lays out actions to restore LA River habitat and improve recreation access in and along an 11-mile segment of the LA River from approximately Griffith Park to Downtown Los Angeles, while maintaining existing levels of flood risk management.

The City is now working with the USACE Los Angeles District to begin implementing portions of the LARER plan. In March 2020, LARER was accepted into the USACE Public Private Partnerships (P3) Pilot Program using alternative delivery, providing new tools for the City and the USACE to streamline activities and help to expedite the project by reducing costs and risks to both entities. On August 18, 2021 the City Council authorized (14-1158-S9) a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the USACE to specify the roles and responsibilities of the alternative delivery of the project.

As the project’s local sponsor, the City is responsible to provide financial and other contributions to advance the project. The City’s planned share of the project includes the land, easements, right-of-way, relocation, and disposal areas (LERRDs). The City has an opportunity to secure a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to assist with the acquisition of a small portion, approximately 24, of the remaining private parcels in Reach 6 of the LA River (roughly between the 2 Freeway and 110 Freeway) with a priority to focus on the parcels adjacent to Taylor Yard G2 and G1. Many of these parcels are within existing City, LA County or USACE easement areas and thus have no development potential. This grant to the City was recommended by the Upper LA River and Tributaries (ULART) working group on February 24, 2022.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Engineer, or his designee, with the assistance of the City Attorney and any other department or office as needed, be authorized to apply, negotiate and execute a grant agreement and / or other agreements as necessary to receive up to \$1,000,000 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project (LARER) Reach 6 Critical Acquisitions.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Engineer, or his designee, with the assistance of the City Attorney and any other department or office as needed, be directed to negotiate the acquisition of LARER Reach 6 parcels within the project footprint contained in the Final LARER, Integrated Feasibility Report (IFR) and Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR), approved by Council on June 26, 2016 (CF 14-1158-S2), and be directed to prepare any required agreements, legal documents, and transactions; procure and manage any consultants hired; and request payment to effectuate the acquisition of the LARER Reach 6 parcels using the above grant funds.

PRESENTED BY: 
 MITCH O'FARRELL
 Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

APR 26 2022
