

MOTION

On April 30, 2018, the Los Angeles Times reported that Los Angeles County is considering an initiative to support stormwater projects and programs that improve water quality and increase water supply. The County-wide initiative is also intended green local parks and wetlands and increase public access to local rivers, lakes and waterbodies. The draft initiative is called the *Safe, Clean Water Program*.

The County plans to place consideration of a parcel tax to support the *Safe, Clean Water Program* on the November 2018 ballot. The parcel tax would be assessed on residential and business properties throughout the County and be collected and administered by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LAFCD). The parcel tax would raise between 3 and 4 cents per square foot, per applicable property, generating up to \$400 million annually.

The current proposed Program seeks to provide half of the parcel tax revenues to regional watershed projects; and 40% of the revenues to cities to implement water quality projects of local concern. The remaining 10% of the revenues will be retained by the LAFCD to administer the Program.

The City of Los Angeles has been on the forefront of stormwater and watershed management programs for years. In 2004, the City voters approved Proposition O which dedicated up to \$500 million to implement stormwater management and water quality improvement projects throughout the City.

The City also spearheaded the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP) which guides the City and its partners in joint compliance with water quality mandates and regional water supply issues.

Given these efforts, it is important to better understand the proposed the *Safe, Clean Water Program*, including its elements, governance and the potential effect on the City and residents. It is also important to better understand how it may correlate/interact with the City's established stormwater and watershed management programs and regulatory compliance.

In this manner, the City can gauge if the proposed initiative is in the City's best interests; and if it meets the City's high standards and expertise in implementing effective stormwater capture and water quality projects that improve the quality of life of all residents.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation (BOS) and the Department of Water and Power (DWP) be instructed/requested to report to the Council in 15 days on the County's proposed *Safe, Clean Water Program*; including its elements, governance, financial/revenue structure; and whether it upholds the City's principles of equity, local hiring, and the implementation of grassroots community projects that address pressing infrastructure needs such as flooded streets and intersections; including equitable funding for disadvantaged and underserved communities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the BOS and the DWP report on whether the proposed *Safe, Clean Water Program* contains provisions that support the needs of the local business community, including rebates/offsets for business entities that have implemented stormwater best management practices and principles.



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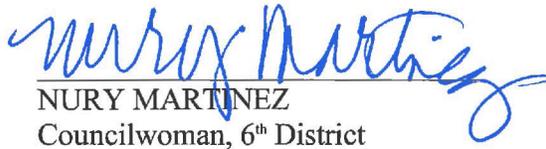
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I FURTHER MOVE that that the BOS and the DWP report on the City's current stormwater/watershed management and water quality programs; and how the proposed *Safe, Clean Water Program* may correlate/interact with these efforts and the City's regulatory compliance.

I FURTHER MOVE that the BOS and the DWP, in conjunction with the Chief Legislative Analyst, report on whether the City should consider the adoption of a legislative position to support or oppose the proposed *Safe, Clean Water Program* and the related elements.

I FURTHER MOVE that the BOS report on the role and function of the Los Angeles Flood Control District; including the total annual amount that the District levies on City residents and businesses, and how those funds are expended to address flood control in areas of the City that suffer from chronic flooding.

PRESENTED BY:


NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District



SECONDED BY: