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9/25

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 303036
DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE OCT 12 2007

RESOLUTION TO PROTECT CALIFORNIA STATE PARK
LANDS.

WHEREAS, California's first state park was established in 1864 with land granted by President Abraham Lincoln, and the California state parks system was created in 1927 "to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values, indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora, and the most significant examples of ecological regions of California;" and

WHEREAS, California state parks are the crown jewels of the state, designated for the benefit of all of California residents in order to improve our lives by providing healthy outdoor and educational experiences; and

WHEREAS, California state parks provide a significant economic benefit to the people of California, generating, according to estimates from the Department of Parks and Recreation, about 80 million visitors from around the world who spend approximately \$2.6 billion directly with an additional \$4 billion in indirect contributions; and

WHEREAS, California state park lands are designated for their protection and preservation on behalf of future generations and should not be warehoused for later development in a manner inconsistent with state park purposes; and

WHEREAS, protection of state park lands is a matter of paramount statewide concern which requires that these lands not become the least costly alternative for major infrastructure projects deemed to be necessary for uses inconsistent with state park purposes; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2005, the California State Park and Recreation Commission [Commission], in a resolution entitled "Opposing a Proposed Tollroad Alignment and Request for Action to Protect San Onofre State Beach," reaffirmed the principle that state parks are "designated for their protection and preservation on behalf of this and future generations and should not be used in a manner inconsistent with state park purposes;" and

WHEREAS, in said resolution, the Commission (i) urged abandonment of the proposed toll road, called the Foothill-South Toll Road, that would run "over four miles in length through the heart of the nearly 1,200 acre [inland portion] of San Onofre State Beach" and (ii) requested that the "Governor, in concert with the Attorney General's office, oppose any major transportation arterial through San Onofre State Beach using all appropriate methods, including litigation if necessary, to defend this valuable and irreplaceable public resource;" and

WHEREAS, the state park at San Onofre State Beach was set aside for the people of California in 1971 by Governor Ronald Reagan who proclaimed that "one of the greatest legacies we can leave to future generations is the heritage of our land, but unless we can preserve and protect the unspoiled areas which God has given us, we will have nothing to leave them" and has since become one of the top five most visited state parks in California; and

WHEREAS, the taking of such park land by a toll road would destroy this unique Southern Californian coastal unit of the state parks system, and set a dangerous state-wide precedent that might in the future be cited in justifying the destruction and degradation of other state parks; and

WHEREAS, In said resolution, the Commission recognized that "viable alternative routes and traffic improvements exist which do not depend upon San Onofre State Beach;" and

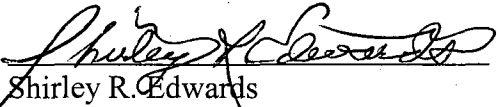
WHEREAS, San Onofre State Beach is located almost entirely in San Diego County, which is outside the geographic jurisdiction of the Orange County toll road agency, and the toll road's alignment through the park was proposed without any participation by San Diego residents or officials; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that the City of San Diego endorses the Commission's November 18, 2005 resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Diego City Council supports additional examination and implementation of feasible alternative transportation projects, including improvements to Highway 5, that do not impact San Onofre State Beach or other park lands or beaches.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By


Shirley R. Edwards
Chief Deputy City Attorney

SRE:pev

04/10/07

Or.Dept:Council 2, Council 4, & Council 6

R-2007-984

MMS #4627

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of SEP 25 2007.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By 
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Please note the Mayor did not sign this resolution within the specified time limit. (See San Diego City Charter Section 280)