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**STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
VIRTUAL**

September 29, 2021

STAFF REPORT: Budget Update

STAFF: Will Schaafsma, Administrative Services Division

SUBJECT: Report of California State Parks' Budget 2021-2022

INTRODUCTION

This report will give an overview of the Department's budget for 2021-22. The bills affecting the Department's budget are AB 128, SB 129, SB 170, and SB 155. Please note, as of September 20, 2021, SB 170 and SB 155 have not been chaptered.

BACKGROUND

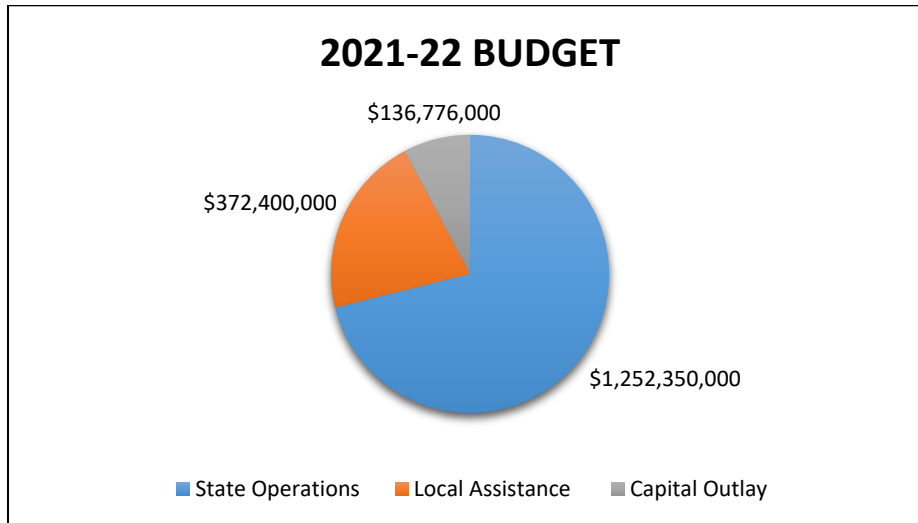
Six of every ten Californians live in park-poor neighborhoods and four of every ten Californians have no access to open space within walking distance of their home. The Budget includes initiatives to enable safe, equitable, and enjoyable access to state parks and open spaces for all Californians. Investments expand environmental education; enhance safe, reliable access to state and local parks; enhance and restore state parks through restoration and climate resilience effort; and increase recreation opportunities for Californians at a time in which many have relied on state parks to provide relief from the pressures that COVID-19 has placed on Californians' daily lives.

BUDGET UPDATES

ENACTED BUDGET AT A GLANCE

*The numbers reflected below include SB170 and SB155, which have not been chaptered as of 9/20/2021.

- \$1,761,526,000 total State Parks budget



*The majority in one-time General Fund appropriations.

- State Operations - \$1,252,350,000
 - Outdoor Access for All
 - Fire Repairs
 - Fire Prevention
 - Sea Level Rise
 - Deferred Maintenance
- Local Assistance - \$372,400,000
 - Outdoor Equity Grants
 - Statewide Park Program
 - Various legislative grants
- Capital Outlay - \$136,776,000
 - 95,310,000 transfer for the California Indian Heritage Center
 - \$41,466,000 various projects

OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL

California State Park Adventures

\$5,600,000 General Fund for a pilot program to implement the California State Park Adventure pass. The pass will waive day-use entrance fees for fourth graders and their families at

participating state parks to encourage them to get outdoors and explore the cultural and natural resources of California.

California State Library Partnership Pilot Program

\$3,000,000 General Fund to collaborate with the California State Library to provide state park passes to libraries for check out. This three-year pilot program could either be statewide or target specific areas of the state based on need and is based on a successful pilot in Marin County. Marin County's program provides passes for check out in all county libraries and select city libraries in lower-income neighborhoods.

Golden Bear Pass program

\$500,000 General Fund to reimburse the CA Department of Social Services to notify CalWORKs recipients of their eligibility for the Golden Bear pass. This pass provides free day use access to most state parks on an annual basis. The goal of this pilot is to increase awareness of this pass program.

Outdoor Equity Grants Program

\$40,000,000 General Fund for the Outdoor Equity Grants Program, which increases the ability of residents in low-income urban and rural communities to participate in outdoor experiences at state parks and other public lands. This funding builds upon the \$20 million invested in the Outdoor Equity Grants Program in the 2020 Budget Act and will allow the program to incorporate the findings of studies on the effectiveness of the various strategies deployed to connect low-income communities with the outdoors.

K-12 Access Expansion

\$3,1200,000 Environmental License Plate Fund to allow the Department to implement programs, fund projects, and expand educational opportunities like Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students[®] Program (PORTS), Summer Learning Program (SLP) and Marine Protected Areas (MPA) programs into underserved population areas. These programs and projects will break down access barriers for disadvantaged communities by dedicating full-time staff to build a suite of year-round educational and access opportunities, and foster partnerships.

Statewide Park Program

\$155,000,000 General Fund for local assistance grants to create new parks and improve existing parks in the state's most disadvantaged communities. The Department currently holds \$2.4 billion in requests for the \$426 million available for the program under Proposition 68.

Community Engagement / Relevancy and History Program

\$585,000 State Park and Recreation Fund to institutionalize the Community Outreach Program and California Relevancy and History Interpretation Program. These successful pilot programs integrated many underserved community groups, NGOs, and scholars as new park visitors and partners.

FIRE AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY

Fire Prevention

- \$15,000,000 General Fund for redwood forest restoration, watershed health, and fuels treatment in the Redwood National and State Parks.
- \$90,000,000 General Fund for forest health, fire prevention, fuels reduction, vegetation management, or environmental review.
- \$2,000,000 General Fund to comply with the requirements of Assembly Bill Number 3074, Fire prevention: wildfire risk: defensible space: ember-resistant zones (AB 3074).

Fire Repair

- \$10,000,000 General Fund and \$23,350,000 reimbursement authority to address repairs related to the Woolsey Wildfire.
- \$113,500,000 General Fund and \$103,500,000 in FEMA reimbursements for the final design and construction to replace and repair facilities and trails destroyed by the various fires in 2020.

Climate Resiliency

- \$11,500,000 General Fund to plan for and implement projects to reduce the risks of fire, flood, inundation, and sea level rise.

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

\$185,000,000 for deferred maintenance projects, a \$20M increase from May Revise. There are currently over 5,000 deferred maintenance projects totaling approximately \$1.2 billion that are identified throughout the Department to repair or replace its aging infrastructure, much of which is 50-65 years old. Projects include the following:

- *Pigeon Point Lighthouse Rehabilitation (fully-designed and permitted)*
- *Crystal Cove Cottages (fully-designed and permitted)*
- *Border Field Entrance Road (in design, with conceptual approval from the Coastal Commission)*
- *Emmanuel Church Stabilization and Preservation (in design phase)*
- *Hearst Road Stabilization and Rehabilitation (in design phase)*

OTHER NOTABLE INCREASES

- \$30,000,000 General Fund for the rehabilitation of the Sacramento railyards. Funding is available for support, local assistance, or capital outlay.
- \$154,200,000 General Fund for Urban River Waterway Projects. The funding is available to expand the departments presence, facilities, partnerships, and acquisitions in urban areas with a connection to the rivers, waterways, and water systems. This is available for state operations, local assistance, or capital outlay.

- \$95,310,000 General Fund transfer to the Natural Resources and Parks Preservation Fund for the California Indian Heritage Center. This funding will allow the Department to fully develop the site, which will include up to approximately 120,000 square feet of building space, equipment and furnishings, outdoor plazas and venues, along with interpretive/educational trail-connections to the Sacramento River.
- \$175,726,000 General Fund is included in Section 19.56 and 19.57 of SB 170 for various member requests. Projects include the following:

Sec. 19.56 - \$164,826,000

- \$5,000,000 to the City of Los Angeles for Rio de Los Angeles Park, Farmers Market.
- \$1,500,000 to the County of San Bernardino for Ayala Park.
- \$2,000,000 to the City of Los Angeles for Salazar Park renovations.
- \$2,294,000 to the City of Dublin for the Iron Horse Natural Park and Open Space.
- \$3,000,000 to the City of Carson for the Carriage Crest Park improvements.
- \$3,300,000 to the Conejo Recreation and Park District for deferred maintenance and operational assistance.
- \$4,000,000 to the Fulton-El Camino Park District for improvements to Bohemian Park.
- \$4,000,000 to the Daly City for Margate Park.
- \$10,000,000 to County of Santa Clara to purchase Laguna Seca Property.
- \$2,900,000 to the City of Fremont to build out a panhandle park to connect to bicycle and pedestrian pathway between the existing Central Park and a bicycle and pedestrian pathway.

Sec. 19.57 - \$10,900,000

- \$1,500,000 to the Natural Resources Agency for the Parks and Recreation Oceanography Program.
- \$9,400,000 to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the following purposes:
 - \$1,500,000 for Mount Diablo State Park to improve bicycle and vehicle safety.
 - \$4,500,000 Point Sur State Historic Park for completion of bridges 4 and 5 and improvements to the Point Sur Lighthouse.
 - \$1,400,000 for the John Marsh Ranch House for preservation and reconstruction of the historic John Marsh Ranch House at Marsh Creek State Park in the County of Contra Costa.
 - \$2,000,000 for deferred maintenance at Topanga State Park and Will Rogers State Historic Park.

PROPOSED ACTION

There is no proposed action, this report is provided for info purposed only.