

**Senator Bob Wieckowski, Chair**  
**Senator Brian Dahle**  
**Senator Mike McGuire**  
**Senator Henry I. Stern**



**Thursday, April 28, 2022**  
**Upon Adjournment of Session**  
**1021 O Street, Room 1200**

Consultant: Joanne Roy

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**VOTE-ONLY**

**0540 CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY (CNRA)**  
**3100 EXPOSITION PARK**  
**3340 CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS (CCC)**  
**3540 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CALFIRE)**  
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**3860 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR)**  
**3875 SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY**

**Issue 1: Natural Resources Agency Bond and Technical Proposals (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** A Spring Finance Letter (SFL) requests for appropriations and reappropriations from various bonds, reversions, reversions with associated new appropriations, and other non-bond technical adjustments to continue implementation of existing authorized program.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

**0540 CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY (CNRA)****Issue 2: Bonds and Grants Unit Positions (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests seven permanent positions in 2022-23, six permanent positions in 2023-24, and seven permanent positions in 2024-25 (for a total of 20 positions ongoing) within the Bonds and Grants Unit, to support the increase in grant program and specified project funding and associated workload. Positions will be funded with existing funding authority.

**Background.** CNRA programs award grants for multi-benefit projects that support river restoration, urban greening, flood protection, trails and greenways, natural resource acquisitions, museums, and youth access to natural and cultural resources.

Annually, CNRA receives General Fund projects to administer as well as two annual and one biennial grant program that include the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation, Museum Grant Program and Youth Community Access Program. In addition, the 2021-22 Budget included General Fund of \$50 million for the Museum grant program, \$50 million for the Urban Greening grant program, \$235 million for specified projects, and \$40 million for Water Resilience Projects, and an additional \$125 million in Proposition 68 funding for programs and projects that improve environmental conditions to promote recovery of native fish species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin watershed. It is anticipated that all but the specified projects will be awarded over multiple rounds.

In addition to the funding appropriated in the 2021-22 Budget, an additional \$200 million General Funds is anticipated for the Urban Greening grant program over the next two fiscal years.

Grant administrators have an average workload of approximately 33 grants per administrator. In order to maintain that ratio additional positions are needed. The additional funding over multiple rounds will also increase workload to develop and update grant guidelines, provide outreach and technical assistance, and provide management of solicitations and award processes. With the addition of staff, programs, and project funding, CNRA requires additional managers to provide oversight of grant administrators and program implementation and administration.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

## 3100 EXPOSITION PARK

### Issue 3: Baseline Budget Augmentation for New Infrastructure Maintenance (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$418,000 ongoing Exposition Park Improvement Fund to acquire goods and services in the maintenance and repair of the Orange Parking Structure which was built by the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art to restore the Office of Exposition Park Management's (OEPM's) lost parking inventory due to the construction of the Museum. Additionally, OEPM requests one additional Associate Governmental Program Analyst to support in the additional workload of acquiring the goods and services for maintenance.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

### Issue 4: Parkwide Surveillance System (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$378,000 General Fund for the preliminary plans phase of a project to implement a parkwide surveillance system that will allow Exposition Park Department of Public Safety to patrol the grounds more efficiently, decrease liability to the state for loss of property or life, and allow for more proactive policing to protect the states assets and visitors of the Park.

**Background.** Exposition Park is 147-acre campus comprised of cultural, community, sports and entertainment venues. The Park hosts hundreds of thousands of visitors yearly. A core function of the OEPM is to provide Exposition Park with public safety.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

### Issue 5: South East Underground Parking Structure (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$500,000 General Fund to fund a cost estimate study and feasibility analysis to construct an underground parking structure with a festival plaza top-deck.

This underground parking structure will replace three existing surface parking lots and parking on lawn area of the Park. The underground parking structure will be topped off with 14.2 acres of new green space to be use by the local community and park visitors, as well as will serve as additional event space.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

## 3125 CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY

### Issue 6: Forest Program Management (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests a \$1 million ongoing increase in reimbursement authority, and a \$1 million ongoing increase in Federal Trust Fund authority, along with one position to support recently awarded state and federal grants. The additional resources will increase the pace and scale of forest restoration work in the region to reduce risks associated with catastrophic wildfires, drought, and climate change.

**Background.** The Conservancy proposes to use the requested reimbursement authority to reduce hazardous fuels in the wildland-urban interface, implement landscape-scale restoration initiatives, and build sustainable capacity for forest management. The Conservancy supports capacity building and provides grants or subgrants to Basin partners to implement projects on non-Conservancy lands. For projects on Conservancy lands, staff carries out every aspect of project implementation except for specific specialized forestry services that can only be provided by a contractor or project partners.

To begin increasing the pace and scale of wildfire and forest resilience work, the Conservancy requests one Attorney III to oversee compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and other rules and regulations, provide legal guidance on areas of first impression, and help craft agreements to expand capacity to support partner efforts including the Washoe Tribe.

The Conservancy will use funding from the federal Bureau of Land Management's Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act and the Department of Conservation's Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program grants to support the requested position. Given the Conservancy's recent success in securing over \$11 million in grant funding and \$36 million in General Fund to support wildfire and forest resilience, the Conservancy anticipates that additional funding will be available to support the position on an ongoing basis.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

**3125 CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY**  
**3355 OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY**  
**3360 ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**COMMISSION (CEC)**  
**3480 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (DOC)**  
**3600 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (DFW)**  
**3720 CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**  
**3860 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

**Issue 7: Support for Relativity Document Review Software (SFL)**

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests \$2.324 million baseline funding to provide resources necessary to adequately maintain and use the Relativity program in responding to litigation requirements and California Public Records Act (PRA) requests.

**Background.** Since the adoption of the PRA in 1968, technology and the types of records used to conduct business have expanded exponentially (e.g., email, SharePoint, cloud drives, Zoom chats, BlueJeans, MicroSoft Teams chat, video footage from drones, and public meeting recordings). Shifts to paperless offices and remote work have also contributed to the creation of larger numbers of electronic records that require collection, review, and, in part, production.

In addition, the public is increasingly making PRA requests referencing specific search terms (e.g., "I want all records you have with the name 'Smith'") in the department’s electronic records. With this shift, there is a significant increase in the quantity of records retrieved, which in turn creates a much greater burden to curate the retrieved records for relevance, confidentiality, privilege, or sensitivity.

These shifts increase the volume of records in PRA requests and e- discovery as well as the complexity of developing search terms, digital storage criteria, and review and redaction of records on those platforms.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**



## 3600 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (DFW)

### Issue 8: Automated License Data System Contract Increase (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests funding of \$831,000 General Fund in 2022-23, \$833,000 in 2023-24, \$834,000 in 2024-25, \$974,000 in 2025-26, and \$1.05 million in 2026-27 and ongoing for the increased cost of the agreement between DFW's Data and Technology Division and Aspira. Aspira provides the necessary maintenance, development, and support to keep the Automated License Data System (ALDS) operational.

**Background.** ALDS is an automated system that replaced DFW's paper license inventory system. ALDS allows license items to be printed instantly using point of sale terminals and is available at DFW license agents and DFW license sales offices located throughout the state. ALDS also allows applicants to apply for licensing via the Internet.

ALDS, which houses over 5,000,000 customer and agent records, is DFW's primary mechanism for collecting revenue from the sale and issuance of over 391 different license, permit, and other entitlement types by 10 DFW license sales offices and more than 11,000 license agent locations statewide. ALDS is an essential, mission critical system to DFW, and has allowed DFW to meet mandates that were not previously achievable.

Since the first launch of ALDS, DFW has contracted with Aspira for the maintenance, operation, development, and support to create and keep the system running. The state does not have the necessary knowledge and skill to provide the development, operation, and maintenance of this integrated enterprise information system.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

### Issue 9: Wildlife Waystation Emergency Response (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests one-time funding of \$1.08 million General Fund in 2022-23 to fund the necessary contracts (payroll services, armed guards, water delivery, portable toilets, etc.) associated with the Wildlife Waystation Sanctuary (WW). The additional resources are needed to care for and rehome the remaining exotic animals to complete DFW's original emergency operation.

**Background.** The WW was an animal sanctuary located in Sylmar, CA that was founded in 1976. This animal sanctuary operated for over 40 years and housed over 77,000 animals. The WW facility was costly to operate and in August 2019, the WW was forced to shut down due to financial difficulties and surrendered its Restricted Species Permit to DFW. At the time of shut down, the WW housed 481 exotic animals, including African lions, tigers, bears, jaguars, chimpanzees, monkeys, reptiles, birds, etc. Surrendering their Restricted Species Permit shifted the responsibility of all the restricted species to DFW. The WW did not have the resources to pay for supplies, utilities, site security, contracts, and various ad-hoc needed repairs and emergencies. DFW has requested deficiency funding the last couple years to cover the unanticipated costs that the WW could not pay for since the facility closed. Without DFW's support, the WW would not be able to continue to care for the animals.

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DFW has rehomed all animals except for 18 remaining chimpanzees and 2 wolf-dog hybrids. Currently, DFW is working in collaboration with the North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance, Seventh Generation Advisors, and other organizations to find homes for the remaining chimpanzees (there were 42 chimpanzees when the facility closed). DFW is also working with its partners to raise funds to aid in the rehoming of the animals and supplement on-site costs as needed. Finding appropriate homes for chimpanzees is difficult because quality sanctuary space is unavailable. DFW is focusing on finding appropriate facilities and helping to pay for new enclosures at sanctuaries willing to take the chimpanzees. Because of the costly expenses to care for a chimpanzee, most facilities willing to accept them require some funding to support proper care for them while additional funds are raised. While excellent progress has been made, DFW still has a commitment to safely rehome the remaining animals.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

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**3720 CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION****Issue 10: Resources for Attorneys' Fees (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$120,000 General Fund one-time to pay for outside counsel to represent it in litigation brought by Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc., EcoLogic Partners, Inc. and the Specialty Equipment Market Association challenging the Commission's March 18, 2021 action to amend the California Department of Parks' coastal development permit for operations at Pismo State Beach/Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area. The Attorney General's Office is unable to represent the Coastal Commission in this litigation due to a potential conflict of interest with State Parks. The funding is necessary to allow the Coastal Commission to defend itself in this litigation.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

## 3760 STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY (SCC)

### Issue 11: Establishment of Two Positions for the Great Redwood Trail Project (SFL)

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests the establishment of two permanent full-time positions to implement the Great Redwood Trail Project pursuant to SB 69 (McGuire), Chapter 423, Statutes of 2021. These positions will be funded through an appropriation included in the 2021 Budget to aid in the planning and reuse of the assets of the North Coast Rail Authority.

**Background.** SB 69 renames the NCRA the Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA), and to the extent funding is available, requires the GRTA to, among other things, “(1) inventory any parcel, easement, or contract related to its rail rights-of-way, (2) complete an environmental assessment of the conditions of its rail rights-of-way for purposes of trail development, (3) plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain a trail in, or next to, the rail rights-of-way, and (4) complete a federal railbanking process for the rail rights-of-way.” SB 69 also gives the GRTA the authority “to contract with SCC, a state agency, or another organization to staff the agency.” In support of this effort, the 2021 Budget appropriated \$10.3 million to SCC to assist with development of the Master Plan for the trail, provide interim staff support to the GRTA, and undertake activities necessary to advancing the trail.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

### Issue 12: New Reimbursement Authority (SFL)

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests \$40 million in increased reimbursement authority for 2022-23 and \$20 million in increased reimbursement authority in 2023-24 to receive and disburse grant funds. The grants will provide funding for the protection and restoration of coastal and ocean resources related to the effects of sea level rise and other impacts of climate change.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

**3790 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION (PARKS)****Issue 13: Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area Planning (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests one-time funding of \$1 million State Park and Recreation Fund and one limited-term position to best determine the classification and planning of the Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area. This funding will be used to conduct the necessary research and resource surveys to establish the appropriate park unit classification, such as a State Park or State Park Reserve, including allowable uses, community/park user needs, and reviewing best practices from other State Park units that may be applicable. Additionally, a general plan will be developed for the property that will include a robust public engagement and extensive planning process to identify the potential land management strategies and appropriate level of public recreation opportunities that will provide for the preservation of the natural and cultural resources as well as public access.

This request includes \$1 million Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund authority for feasibility studies related to acquisition of additional lands to support and/or expand off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation. The Department will explore opportunities that protect open space, provides for increased OHV recreation, and protects California's unique ecosystem. The current project schedule estimates feasibility study activities will begin in July 2022, with the first possible land acquisitions to be completed as early as December 2023.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 14: Kings Beach State Recreation Area (SRA): Recreational Pier Replacement and Support Buildings (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$805,000 in reimbursement authority for the preliminary plans phase of the Kings Beach SRA: Recreational Pier Replacement and Support buildings project in Placer County. This project will relocate the existing pier, construct a new support building for park operations, and provide access and recreational improvements, consistent with the 2018 General Plan.

Design funds for this project will come from fully executed grant agreements between Parks and the California Tahoe Conservancy in the amount of \$650,000 and Parks and the State of California, Wildlife Conservation Board in the amount of \$700,000, for a total of \$1.35 million. Parks will seek additional grant funds for the construction phase of this project.

This project would relocate the existing pier, construct a new support building and appurtenances for park operations, and provide other access and recreational improvements, consistent with the General Plan. Total project costs are estimated at \$15.425 million, including preliminary plans (\$805,000), working drawings (\$1.046 million), and construction (\$13.574 million). The current project schedule estimates preliminary plans will begin in July 2022 and be completed in May 2023. The working drawings are estimated to begin in July 2023 and be completed in January 2025. Construction is scheduled to begin in August 2025 and will be completed in August 2026.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 15: Lake Oroville SRA: Gold Flat Campground Upgrades (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests a new appropriation in the amount of \$1.677 million from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Fund (Proposition 84) for the construction phase of the continuing Lake Oroville SRA: Gold Flat Campground Upgrades project. Also, Parks requests the reversion of the 2019 appropriation for \$1.299 million from Proposition 84 for the construction phase of the continuing Lake Oroville SRA: Gold Flat Campground Upgrades project. This request is a net increase of \$378,000.

This continuing project will upgrade aged and failing infrastructure by replacement of the outdated electrical and water distribution systems, installation of data conduit for future use, and overlay of campground roads and campsite spurs. The project will also construct accessible campsites and accessible paths of travel and accessibility upgrades to the existing combination building.

The project will upgrade Gold Flat Campground's aged and failing infrastructure; by replacement of electrical and water distribution systems, installation of data conduit, overlay of roads and spurs, and construction of additional accessible campsites. Total project costs are estimated at \$1.984 million, including preliminary plans (\$216,000), working drawings (\$91,000), and construction (\$1.677 million). The current project schedule estimates preliminary plans began in July 2017 and were completed in December 2019. The working drawings began in February 2020 and were approved in July 2021. Construction is scheduled to begin in September 2022 and be completed in February 2023.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 16: Local Assistance: Statewide Park Program and Urban Parks Initiative Grants (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests one-time funding of \$7.2 million from the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 40) for competitive grants under the Urban Parks Initiative Program to fully expend remaining Proposition 40 bond funds available from Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 5096.610(b)/.620(d). Parks also requests one-time funding of \$5 million from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 84), PRC Section 75065(b) for competitive grants under the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program.

With Proposition 40 winding down and anticipated to be closed out in 2027, the Department requests to appropriate the remaining available funds under PRC Section 5096.610(b)/5096.620. PRC Section 5096.633 states that funds not expended by grant recipients prior to July 1, 2011, shall revert to the fund and become available for appropriation by the Legislature for one or more of the local assistance programs specified in PRC Section 096.620 that the Legislature determines to be the highest priority statewide. Parks is requesting to use redistributed savings and any funding available in Parks's PRC Section 5096.610(b)/5096.620 allocations of Proposition 40 to fund this \$7.2 million proposal from pot PRC Sections 5096.610(b)/5096.620(d); 5096.625; 5643 (Ch. 876/01) & Ch. 878/01.

This method of sweeping available balances is consistent with what Parks has done in previous fiscal years.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 17: Malibu Creek State Park (SP): New Stokes Creek Bridge (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests a supplemental appropriation of \$79,000 from available bond funds from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund (Proposition 84, PRC Section 75063(a)) for the working drawings phase of the continuing Malibu Creek SP: New Stokes Creek Bridge project in Los Angeles County. This project will replace an existing, undersized arch culvert with a bridge to restore a secondary escape route for park visitors in the event of fire or other emergencies, reduce deferred maintenance costs and disruption to campers, and restore the creek to its natural configuration. Additional funding is necessary for the working drawings phase of this project due to increased design costs and additional natural resources permitting activities

Total project costs are estimated at \$7.791 million, including preliminary plans (\$292,000), working drawings (\$687,000), and construction (\$6.812 million). The current project schedule estimates preliminary plans began in July 2015 and will be approved in March 2022. The working drawings are estimated to begin in April 2022 and be completed in March 2023. Construction is scheduled to begin in June 2023 and will be completed in March 2025.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 18: Mount Diablo State Park (SP): Visitor Center (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$90,000 in reimbursement authority from the State Parks and Recreation Fund for preliminary plans and working drawings phases of the Mount Diablo State Park (SP): Visitor Center. This new project includes replacing a small existing visitor center trailer with a larger visitor center, remodeling the existing restroom and site to meet accessibility standards, and constructing an outdoor interpretive pavilion.

The Mount Diablo Interpretive Association (MDIA) has agreed to donate the design drawings and specifications for this project, subject to state review and approvals, and will collaborate with the Department to pay all state costs for design review, project management, and construction.

The project includes replacing a small existing visitor center trailer with a larger visitor center, remodeling the existing restroom and site to meet accessibility standards, and constructing an outdoor interpretive pavilion. Total project costs are estimated at \$2.702 million, including preliminary plans (\$70,000), working drawings (\$20,000), and construction (\$2.612 million). The current project schedule estimates preliminary plans will begin in September 2022 and will be completed in June 2023. The working drawings are estimated to begin in July 2023 and will be approved in April 2024. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2024 and will be completed in March 2025.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 19: Pismo Beach State Beach (SB): Entrance Kiosk Replacement (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests a \$260,000 transfer from the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund (OHVTF) to the General Fund to reimburse Parks for costs incurred for the preliminary plans and working drawings phase. Additionally, Parks requests to remove the \$793,000 request for construction funded by OHVTF included in the 2022-23 Governor's Budget and replace it with a new appropriation of \$793,000 funded by General Fund for the construction phase for this project. The request is a total of \$1.053 million General Fund.

On March 18, 2021, the California Coastal Commission (Commission) concluded that off-highway vehicle recreation at Oceano Dunes SVRA is incompatible with the Coastal Act and revised Parks's Coastal Development Plan regarding off-highway vehicle use at this SVRA. Consistent with this ruling, the Commission directed Parks to phase out off-highway vehicle recreation in this SVRA over the next three years. Given the Commission's March 2021 ruling, it is not appropriate to fund this project using OHVTF. Since park visitors will still be camping at the North Beach Campground, the new ADA-compliant entrance station kiosk with workstations, restroom, storage facilities, and ADA compliant parking are still necessary.

Total project costs are \$1.053 million, including preliminary plans (\$124,000), working drawings (\$136,000), and construction (\$793,000). The current project schedule estimates preliminary plans began in July 2017 and was approved in November 2021. The working drawings are estimated to begin in August 2021 and will be approved in December 2022. Construction is scheduled to begin in April 2023 and will be completed in April 2024.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 20: Tamarack Wildfire Repair (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$5 million General Fund one-time in 2022-23 for the Tamarack Wildfire Repair project in Grover Hot Springs SP. The Department will replace and repair lost equipment, destroyed facilities, and trails back to pre-disaster condition.

This wildfire is not a Federal Emergency Management Agency declared emergency and Parks does not have necessary resources to restore the fire damaged area. Additionally, three-year encumbrance availability is being requested for this proposal to allow for sufficient time to complete projects. This funding is also requested to be available for both support and capital outlay.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**



<b>Issue 21: Local Parks Extensions</b>
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**Governor’s Proposal.** The Governor’s budget requests grant liquidation extensions for the following grant recipients and local projects:

Grantee	Project	Amount to be Extended	Liquidation Date Needed
City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks	Cesar Chavez Park Development	\$1,500,000	June 30, 2024
City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks	Nevin Avenue Elementary School Park	\$2,234,484	June 30, 2024
City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks	Slauson-Wall Park	\$4,999,933	June 30, 2026
City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Dept.	Balboa Park Botanical Building Improvements	\$8,000,000	June 30, 2024
City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Dept.	Rancho Bernardo Community Park	\$485,000	June 30, 2024
City of San Diego, Parks and Recreation Dept.	Jerabek Neighborhood Park ADA Upgrades	\$3,880,000	June 30, 2024
City of Lafayette	Brook Street Park	\$291,000	June 30, 2023
Salinas Regional Sports Authority	Salinas Soccer Complex	\$4,850,000	June 30, 2024
City of Rancho Cucamonga	Community Dog Park	\$2,719,899	June 30, 2023
YMCA of San Diego County	Jackie Robinson YMCA Aquatic Center	\$4,850,000	June 30, 2023
San Francisco Mayor's Office of Community Development	Richmond Community Center	\$2,000,000	June 30, 2023
San Francisco Parks Alliance	Harvey Milk Plaza Renovations	\$556,621	June 30, 2023
City and County of San Francisco	Merced Heights Park	\$848,841	June 30, 2023
Heal the Bay	WAYS Park (now Inell Woods Park)	\$789,142	June 30, 2023
Fox Fullerton Theater Foundation	Fox Fullerton Theater Project	\$2,335,031	June 30, 2024
City of Artesia	A.J. Padelford Park Expansion	\$486,476	June 30, 2024
City of Huntington Beach	Bluff Top Park Improvement Project	\$1,649,000	June 30, 2023
City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks	West Lakeside Park	\$3,862,954	June 30, 2023

City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks	Rhodes Park	\$485,000	June 30, 2023
City of Galt	Galt Walker Park Phase 2	\$1,649,000	June 30, 2023
California Museum of History	California Museum	\$2,835,427	June 30, 2023
City of Grand Terrace	Playground	\$19,000	June 30, 2023
East Bay Regional Park District	McCosker Creek Restoration and Public Access	\$3,880,000	June 30, 2023
City of Pico Rivera	Smith Park Pool Renovation	\$84,000	June 30, 2023
City of Colton	Playground Improvements	\$485,000	June 30, 2023
City of Colton	Colton Museum Renovation	\$873,000	June 30, 2023
City of Whittier	Guirado Park Fitness Equipment	\$58,500	June 30, 2023
City of Los Angeles, Recreation and Parks	Mid Valley Multipurpose Intergenerational Center	\$106,187	June 30, 2023
City of Whittier	Laurel Park Restroom Renovation	\$300,000	June 30, 2023
California Museum of History	California Museum	\$848,891	June 30, 2023
City of Twentynine Palms	Project Phoenix	\$4,232,251	June 30, 2023
Jurupa Area RPD	Horseshoe Lake Park with Playground	\$757,336	June 30, 2023
Jurupa Area RPD	Vernola Park Expansion	\$963,323	June 30, 2023

All of these projects currently have a liquidation date of June 30, 2022, except the following:

- The City of Los Angeles had previously requested a two-year extension for the Cesar Chavez Park Development project for 2021-22 (from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023); however due to a technical error, this extension was not actually provided. The current grant project number is from the grant contract that technically liquidated on June 30, 2021. The grantee now needs a two-year extension from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.
- The Fox Fullerton Theatre Foundation had previously requested a one-year extension for 2021-22; however due to a technical error, this extension was not actually provided. The current grant project number is from the grant contract that technically liquidated on June 30, 2021. The grantee now needs a two-year extension from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.
- The City of Whittier had previously requested a one-year extension for 2021-22; however due to a technical error, this extension was not actually provided. The current grant project number is from the grant contract that technically liquidated on June 30, 2021. The grantee now needs a one-year extension from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

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**3820 SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (BCDC)****Issue 22: Hybrid Commission Meetings and New Compliant Website (SFL)**

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests \$195,000 General Fund in 2022-23, and \$125,000 General Fund ongoing to pay for (1) costs associated with providing hybrid public meetings emanating physically from BCDC’s leased office space (\$125,000 in 2022-23) and (2) to create a new website to replace the Commission’s out-of-compliance and unfixable current website (a \$70,000 one-time expenditure).

Hybrid Commission meetings will include both in-person attendance in the Board Room and other rooms used by BCDC at its offices at 375 Beale St. in San Francisco for its public meetings and attendance by Commissioners and the public from other locations. For such meetings, BCDC must use the building’s audio-visual system. BCDC does not have in its budget the ability to pay the annual cost of \$125,000; doing so would require a reduction of at least one staff member, diminishing BCDC’s current staffing levels which would impact BCDC’s ability to carry out its responsibilities. Hybrid meetings have increased participation from both Commissioners and the public, benefit the environment, and furthers BCDC’s environmental justice efforts by providing attendance options for the public.

BCDC’s website is also out of compliance with state standards and guidelines and must be replaced with a far more secure and customer-friendly website based on the California Department of Technology’s security requirements.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

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## 3830 SAN JOAQUIN RIVER CONSERVANCY

### Issue 23: San Joaquin River Conservancy Workload Support (SFL)

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests ongoing position authority for one Staff Park and Recreation Specialist (SPRS) and two Park Maintenance Worker IIs (PMW IIs), for increased workload support. These positions will implement projects funded by a \$15 million General Fund appropriation included in the 2021 Budget Act.

The Conservancy has continued to purchase properties since acquiring Wildwood Native Park in 1996. The Conservancy now owns 20 properties totaling nearly 3,000 acres, including five houses and one office. In addition, the Conservancy received a \$15, million appropriation in current year to expand access to as many of the properties as possible, as part of the Access for All priority. Due to the increase in properties over the years, as well as the need to comply with the legislative directives associated with Access for All, the Conservancy needs additional staff. The new positions will be field-based and charged with operational work, purchasing, overseeing service agreements, concession agreements, and determining property needs.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

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**3835 BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY****Issue 24: Reimbursement Authority (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$1 million in ongoing reimbursement authority from the General Fund to allow for the receipt of grants. Currently, the Conservancy has no reimbursement authority available, which limits its ability to execute its mission and leverage funding for partnerships with agencies and non-profit organizations.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

**3860 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES****Issue 25: Central Valley Flood Protection Board Database Management (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests \$160,000 ongoing General Fund to make ongoing improvements to the Database Management Program. The requested funding will be spent on two support functions: improvements and on-going maintenance to the database and converting old records to digital. The work includes continual updates for the application functions and converting historical paper records into a digital format for over 21,000 records. Both functions will keep the database running up to date and create more efficiency to search for needed documents for day-to-day work.

Improvements include development of electronic reporting to track enforcement progress, automate and track permitting fees tied to the permits, copying, and transferring permitting and enforcement database files to a web server, and report on permit and enforcement progress in a timely manner. Automatic notifications from the database will be reported for upcoming inspections and enforcement deadlines to ensure better tracking and timely processing. This will also allow tracking of fee payments tied directly to the permits and other Board actions, enhancing data security and revenue reporting.

The ability to share more of the publicly available information quickly and clearly through a web interface will help reduce direct queries to staff that have to manually research and respond to requests for information. Today, tracking of the Board's core business functions is done manually through many different sources. An overall improved database is intended to allow the Board to generate enhanced enforcement and inspection reporting automatically from the same database.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 26: Salton Sea Reimbursement Authority (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL request a total of \$150.7 million (\$145.5 million in State Reimbursements and \$5.2 million in Federal Reimbursements) starting in 2022-23 through 2025-26.

The work is described in the CNRA's Salton Sea Management Phase I 10-year Plan and required by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Stipulated Order WRO 2002-0013.

This request seeks reimbursement authority from CNRA so that DWR can continue the work on the Salton Sea Species Habitat Restoration and dust mitigation project. The work consists of building a total of 9,000 -12,000+ acres of deep and shallow water habitats and dust mitigation projects at the Salton Sea. DWR's current reimbursement authority will expire June 30, 2022. In order for DWR to continue the work on behalf of CNRA, DFW, and WCB, DWR needs the authority spread over the next 4 years to continue the work.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

**Issue 27: Water Storage Investment Program Support (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL for the California Water Commission (Commission) requests three permanent positions for the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP). These positions would increase efficiency and better position the Commission to manage the WSIP. The program's funding is continuously appropriated from Chapter 8 of the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1).

**Background.** The Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) is a high dollar, small applicant pool, long- timeline program. WSIP implements Proposition 1, Water Code Sections 79750 to 79760. Chapter 8 continuously appropriates \$2.7B for the public benefits of water storage projects.

The current grant load, agreement and invoice processing, program development, and bond accountability tracking workloads exceed the Program Manager position capacity. Even with help from DWR for invoice processing, additional help is needed. The Commission was unsuccessful in identifying employees within DWR who have capacity to assist with the program. In 2021, two limited term positions, (1) Associate Governmental Program Analyst and (1) Sr. Environmental Scientist were opened to provide workload capacity to help with grant management, invoice processing, and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) responsibilities.

The episodic nature of work for WSIP made it possible to advance the program through the regulation development and application review with staff borrowed from DWR. However, the program is starting to have a more consistent workload in grant management and program development. As this workload has manifested, the financial processing support from DWR is also changing. WSIP has relied on support from a Staff Services Manager 1 (SSM1) and an Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA) to help with agreement processing, inter- agency agreement invoicing, and grant invoicing. The SSM1 will be retiring eminently and access to the AGPA is becoming more limited. To consolidate the services within the Commission office would create an efficiency it currently does not have to meet a growing need as fund reimbursement increases. Additionally, the Commission needs technical staff capacity to continue to provide focused services to existing projects, and possibly to new projects as well. Efficient program management will keep projects within the program moving forward and will support the program with ancillary obligations such as bond accountability, records management, and CEQA support.

**Staff Recommendation. Approve as proposed.**

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**3860 DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES (DWR)**  
**3940 STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD (SWRCB)****Issue 28: Drought Planning for Nontransient Noncommunity Water Systems (SB 552) (SFL)**

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests a total of \$1.8 million ongoing (\$1.1 million General Fund and \$675,000 from the Safe Drinking Water Account Fund) and five permanent positions (two for DWR and three for SWRCB) to support SB 552 (Hertzberg), Chapter 245, Statutes of 2021. DWR and SWRCB will utilize the requested resources to do the following:

**DWR.** Start the implementation of the legislative requirements established by SB 552 to improve drought resiliency and preparedness for small water systems, state small water systems, and privately supplied residences.

**SWRCB.** Focus on two sections of the requirements of SB 552:

- Develop templates for submission of Water Shortage Contingency Plans and develop and maintain a platform for electronic annual reporting of water supply conditions, by community water systems.
- Coordinate “counties, groundwater sustainability agencies, technical assistance providers, nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, and the public” on drought planning for domestic wells and state small water systems.

**Background.** SB 552 enacts many of the recommendations in the final “Small Water Systems and Rural Communities Drought and Water Shortage Contingency Planning and Risk Assessment” report. The bill requires SWRCB, DWR, counties, and small water suppliers to implement various recommendations from the County Drought Advisory Group to increase the drought resiliency of small water suppliers and rural communities.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.



## 3885 DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (DSC)

### Issue 29: Human Resources (HR) Capacity Improvement (SFL)

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests one permanent position, with no additional funding required, to support the capacity improvements in DSC's HR office. DSC is in the process of transitioning from an inter-agency agreement with CalFire for HR services to provide HR services in-house with DSC staff.

**Background.** Since its inception in 2009, DSC has contracted with CalFire for HR Services including examination, hiring and recruiting, classification and pay, payroll and benefits, health and safety-related benefits, labor relations, employee discipline and position control through an inter-agency agreement (IAA) that is renewed triennial basis. Over the years, DSC has assumed more HR tasks while contracted HR service costs have been increasing.

Initially, contracted HR support services were approximately \$110,000 annually; however, in 2021-2022 CalFire estimated the costs to be over \$189,000 per year. The current IAA will expire on June 30, 2022.

Given that DSC's IAA with CalFire will expire on June 30, 2022, the following tasks will be transitioning back to the organization resulting in a workload increase: appointments, payroll, timekeeping, salary/range determinations, benefits administration, disability management, personnel record management, examination drafting/coordination, withholding responses, and Career Executive Assignment bulletins. The increase in DSC workload, coupled with an opportunity to save DSC-related HR costs, necessitates the addition of one (1) full-time position to oversee the transactions-related activities that will be assumed by the Council.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as proposed.

## DISCUSSION

### VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS: NEW BUDGET CONTROL SECTION

#### Issue 30: Budget Control Section 20.00: Reappropriations and Reversions (SFL)

**Governor’s Proposal.** In an April 1 Finance letter, the Administration has proposed adding Control Section 20.00 to the annual Budget Act to establish an administrative approval process to revert or extend the deadline to commit and expend certain general obligation and lease revenue bond funds.

Background. Currently, the Legislature must approve any extension of the encumbrance or expenditure period of bond funds for projects that are not complete. In addition, the Legislature must approve any proposed reversion of unliquidated bond funds. Every year, the Budget Act includes a lengthy list of projects that need additional time to be completed and funds that need to be reverted.

The Administration is proposing to change the process to allow the Director of Finance to authorize an extension, up to three years, or a reversion of unspent funds after providing a written 30-day notification to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) and the appropriate fiscal committees and subcommittees in both houses of the Legislature.

According to the Department of Finance, the new control section will simplify “the reappropriation and reversion process for bond and non-governmental cost funds. This process will streamline workload and reduce the amount of technical budget bill language required for inclusion into the annual Budget Act while still providing transparency and notification to the Legislature.”

The new control section would create an administrative approval process for following funds:

#### ***Natural Resources and Environmental Protection***

- River Parkway Subaccount
- Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Bond Fund
- Flood Protection Corridor Subaccount
- Urban Stream Restoration Subaccount
- Bay-Delta Multipurpose Water Management Subaccount
- California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Fund
- Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund of 2002
- Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Fund of 2006
- Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014
- California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Fund

#### ***Higher Education***

- 2004 Higher Education Capital Outlay Bond Fund
- 2006 California Community College Capital Outlay Bond Fund
- 2016 California Community College Capital Outlay Bond Fund

#### ***General Government***

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- Public Buildings Construction Fund
  - Public Buildings Construction Fund Subaccount

**LAO Comments and Recommendations.** The LAO finds the concept of streamlining the process for the administration to request technical, non-controversial reappropriations/extensions and reversions of certain bond and non-governmental funds to be reasonable. However, in general, the JLBC process can make it more challenging for the Legislature to perform its oversight role than the traditional budget process. Accordingly, ensuring that the administration limits its use to cases that are indeed technical and non-controversial will be important, and any revised process should provide the Legislature with the time and information necessary to facilitate its review. If the new control section is approved, the LAO recommends the Legislature consider modifying the proposed language in the following areas:

- ***Types of Projects Covered.*** The LAO recommends that the Legislature consider adding additional limitations on this new authority to ensure that it only applies to projects and programs for which the Legislature is comfortable that a JLBC process would provide adequate oversight. For example, the Legislature could consider excluding certain bond-funded projects from this process if there are concerns that these projects may require additional oversight. For example, greater oversight of prison projects that are not on track to be completed in the timeline initially presented to the Legislature could be warranted. This is because inmate population projections indicate that the state could be in a position to close around four additional prisons (beyond the one prison already identified by the administration for closure) within the next several years and it would not be cost-effective to reappropriate funds to continue projects at prisons that could be closed. Accordingly, the Legislature may wish to consider excluding the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR's) prison projects from this process to preserve its current oversight of prison infrastructure projects. Alternatively or additionally, the Legislature could consider excluding bond-funded projects that meet certain criteria from this process. For example, the Legislature could exclude lease-revenue funded projects that (1) are above a certain dollar threshold if it is concerned about applying the proposed process to very large legislatively-established projects or programs (such as CDCR's Health Care Facility Improvement Program, which totaled over \$1 billion in lease revenue bonds) or (2) have already received one or more previous reappropriations/extensions due to concerns about projects that have continuously experienced lengthy delays.
- ***Timing.*** It is more difficult for the Legislature to adequately review JLBC notifications that are received during periods of peak budget workload. Accordingly, the LAO recommends the Legislature consider adding language to the proposed control section requiring corresponding JLBC notifications to be submitted prior to May 1st each year. If the administration would like to request additional funding extensions or reversions after May 1st, it could do so through a traditional budget request.
- ***Information Provided.*** In order to facilitate legislative review, the LAO recommends adding language to the control section requiring that DOF provide a spreadsheet with certain key information on the proposed extensions along with the JLBC notification.

**Staff Recommendation.** Hold open.

**3540 DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CALFIRE)****Issue 31: Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), Fire and Life Safety Designated Campus Fire Marshal Program (SFL)**

**Governor's Proposal.** An SFL requests a \$3.2 million reimbursement authority increase in 2022-23, \$2.8 million ongoing, and 12 positions to support the Office of the State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) workload associated with reviewing the University of California (UC) campus' adherence to the Designated Campus Fire Marshal (DCFM), Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entered into as allowed by Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 13146.

**Background.** HSC Section 13108(c) tasks the OSFM with the enforcement of its adopted regulations and building standards relating to fire and panic safety published in the California Building Standards Code in all state-owned buildings, specified state occupied buildings, and state institutions. AB 2021 (Fletcher), Chapter 370, Statutes of 2010, authorized the State Fire Marshal to delegate enforcement authority for UC campuses or property to the DCFM. This led to the development of an MOU with the UC providing delegation of specified fire and life safety review and inspection functions to qualified staff of the institutions with adherence to applicable mandates and contractual obligations.

**Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) Comments.** *Governor Proposes New Unit to Oversee UC's Enforcement of Building Standards.* The proposal would provide \$3.2 million in reimbursement authority in 2022-23 and \$2.8 million ongoing and 12 positions to create a new unit within OSFM. This unit, which would be called the UC Compliance and Evaluation Unit (CEU), would oversee UC's DCFM program and would be paid for by UC. (At the time this analysis was prepared, UC could not provide the LAO with information on which source of funds it would use to pay for these costs.) Since 1994, OSFM has delegated authority to enforce regulations and building standards related to fire and panic safety at UC campuses to DCFM pursuant to an MOU. OSFM argues that the proposed resources are necessary to help it oversee DCFM's compliance with the current MOU, such as by enabling it to provide more training to DCFM and perform additional monitoring and data collection activities. CalFire notes that the department identified overseeing DCFM's enforcement of building standards as a risk in its 2021 Leadership Accountability Report.

**LAO Recommendation.** *Recommend Rejecting Proposal Due to Insufficient Justification of Need for New Unit.* The LAO finds that OSFM has not provided adequate justification for the need for the requested unit. Specifically, at the time this analysis was prepared, CalFire had not provided specific evidence to substantiate that DCFM currently fails to adequately enforce building standards or justify that a new unit within OSFM is necessary to monitor and improve DCFM's longstanding delegated authority. Furthermore, the LAO notes that UC has expressed concerns with this proposal. Specifically, UC argues that additional OSFM oversight of DCFM is not required as DCFM staff are trained and hold the same prerequisites for certification as do OSFM deputies. UC further asserts that the proposal will result in an unnecessary burden on campuses to coordinate with OSFM for a redundant program. UC also indicates that it does not believe the proposed resources are warranted or reasonable.

Given the lack of adequate justification from OSFM that the proposed unit is necessary and the concerns raised by UC, the LAO recommends rejecting the proposal. To the extent the Administration would like to continue to pursue this proposal, it could resubmit it in January 2023. This would provide OSFM time to provide additional justification of the need for this unit and afford the Legislature more time to consider the concerns raised by UC.

**Staff Recommendation. Reject.**

## 3790 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION (PARKS)

### Issue 32: Statewide: Budget Packages and Studies (SFL)

**Governor’s Proposal.** An SFL requests \$1 million in spending authority from the Natural Resources and Parks Preservation Fund (NRPPF). Parks is currently evaluating its infrastructure needs and will utilize a selection process to identify capital outlay projects that will improve visitor experiences and build park resources and recreational opportunities fostering better connections with under-resourced communities and tackling barriers to park access.

Once potential capital outlay projects are selected, these funds will be used to develop detailed scope and cost estimates for consideration by the Legislature through the annual budget process. Subsequent capital outlay appropriations will be proposed from these funds set-aside in the NRPPF, as additional funding is needed for future phases.

**Background.** *2021 Leadership Accountability Report (December, 2021).* According to Parks, its mission is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of the state by helping to preserve the state’s biological diversity, protecting natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Among the risks and controls outlined in the report are impacts of climate change, which will amplify and exacerbate a range of threats to park visitors and resources, including sea level rise, forest health and wildfire, and intense winter storms.

*Sea Level Rise.* Parks manages approximately 25 percent of the state’s coastline and will experience increased coastal flooding — impacting the built infrastructure, and natural and cultural resources — in the coming years and decades.

Parks has implemented a number of site-specific responses to coastal erosion, drawing on current information and predictive models to institute a suite of projects to build resilience in coastal and infrastructure and park units. Also, the department developed a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy that will guide future planning and project implementation activities.

*Forest Health and Wildfire.* Parks owns approximately 300,000 acres of forest land and has been impacted by climate driven disturbances such as widespread tree mortality and recent large and destructive wildfires. Additionally, a large number of Parks’s facilities are within or adjacent to areas prone to wildland fires. Several parks have been significantly impacted by wildfires in the past few years resulting in the loss of multiple administrative and visitor-serving facilities.

Parks has implemented fuel reduction and forest management projects in recent years, completed an interagency MOU — and funding agreements — with CalFire to address prescribed fire and other fuel treatment efforts. Funding in 2021-22 “Early Action” measures and in 2021-22 will support a further increase in pace and scale of forest management actions intended to attenuate wildfire severity and restore natural forest and fire management regimes across the landscape. Numerous projects and district (park/region) level programs are under development and will be implemented in the coming years.

*Intense Winter Storms.* Over the past several years, powerful winter storms have caused significant damage to Parks facilities, such as roads and trails being damaged by mudslides. This situation is

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exacerbated by the significant backlog in deferred maintenance projects designed to maintain roads and trails to address erosion and provide proper stormwater drainage.

***Deferred Maintenance.*** Parks has not been able to fund ongoing maintenance sufficiently over the past few decades resulting in a backlog of deferred maintenance projects of approximately \$1.2 billion and thousands of projects. The 2021 Budget Act included \$185 million to address Parks’s deferred maintenance backlog. The department’s priority deferred maintenance projects include, but are not limited to, water and wastewater systems, parking lots, trails, roads, restrooms, utilities (such as electrical and fire suppression systems), historical structure rehabilitations and stabilizations, roofs, and bridges. For Parks, nearly all of the projects directly or indirectly support public access and/or have environmental benefits.

According to the 2021 Leadership Accountability Report, the department’s large deferred maintenance backlog includes a significant number of sea wall projects, facility relocations and fuel reduction projects that have not been even completed on a regular basis to maintain public safety, safe fuel levels and defensible spaces around its facilities. Recent one-time funding has allowed Parks to increase its efforts to reduce fuel loads and create defensible spaces and to “harden” facilities by installing fire resistant materials. Appropriations in 2021-22 associated with the enactment of AB 3074 (Friedman), Chapter 259, Statutes of 2020, will allow for ongoing work to address this backlog.

**Staff Recommendation. Hold open.**

**0690 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS ONLY)**  
**3600 DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (DFW)**

**Issue 33: Wildlife Connectivity Actions: Compensatory Mitigation Credits (SB 790)**

**Governor's Proposal.** The Governor's budget requests three permanent positions and \$717,000 General Fund 2022-23, and two additional permanent positions and \$1.1 million in 2023-24 and ongoing to address the workload associated with the implementation of SB 790 (Stern and Cortese), Chapter 738, Statutes of 2021.

SB 790 authorizes DFW to approve compensatory mitigation credits for certain wildlife connectivity actions that measurably improve habitat connectivity or wildlife migration, such as adding an overpass or underpass for a roadway.

**Background.** SB 790 adds new provisions to the Fish and Game Code to clarify DFW's authority to use Conservation and Mitigation Banking and Regional Conservation Investment Strategies to provide advance mitigation credits for projects that improve habitat connectivity and migration. Advance mitigation is a science-based approach to identify mitigation opportunities. By considering mitigation development early in the planning process, prior to design and permitting phases, project proponents can identify higher-quality mitigation opportunities that support species and habitat needs on a regional and landscape scale, result in higher ecological function, and help reduce project approval and permitting timelines. Historically, these programs have not been used to create credits for projects that improve habitat connectivity, but this bill clarifies that they could do so under the current statutory schemes. This change will support public and private entities in developing such projects and improving wildlife connectivity throughout the state.

**Staff Recommendation.** Approve as budgeted.