

MOTION

At over 2,000 acres, the Sepulveda Basin is the largest open space in the San Fernando Valley and the second largest in the City of Los Angeles. The basin is an important hub for outdoor recreation, containing many important community facilities including Lake Balboa and the Japanese Garden. It is also provides critical habitat for plants and wildlife.

However, the Sepulveda Basin is not living up to its full potential. Los Angeles is one of the most park poor large cities in the United States according to the Trust for Public Land. The basin is directly adjacent to two communities defined as being high, or very high need in the Los Angeles County Parks Needs Assessment.

Yet much of basin remains undeveloped and underutilized. This includes approximately 325 acres of land designated as Inactive and/or Future Recreation in the "Sepulveda Dam Basin: Master Plan and Environmental Assessment" produced by the Army Corp of Engineers. In addition, 250 acres of land is designated as being either Environmentally Sensitive or Vegetative Management. These underutilized spaces within the basin have become locusts of negative activity resulting in several large fires that have broken out over the past several years.

However, under the Army Corp plan these underutilized spaces can be turned into amenities with new recreational facilities as well as trails, restrooms, benches and signage. Funding is available to add these amenities through local and state measures including Prop 68, Measure A, and Measure W. This would further bolster the basins appeal as a regional park which would be one of the most accessible in the city with two Orange Line stations.

The Sepulveda Basin is also the focus of several important initiatives. It will serve as the Valley Sports Park for the 2028 Olympics and is bisected by the Los Angeles River in a critical location for its restoration. These efforts should be coordinated so they further enhance the basin and leave a lasting legacy for residents of the San Fernando Valley.

Now is a critical moment to reimagine the Sepulveda Basin as the crown jewel of the San Fernando Valley through the creation of a master plan in coordination with the Army Corp and the County. This will follow recent master plans that have been developed for the Silver Lake Reservoir and Exposition Park and provide a path for the basin to be turned into a world class open space for the entire city.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the department of Recreation and Parks in coordination with the Army Corp of Engineers and Los Angeles County report back in 30 days on developing a master plan for the Sepulveda Basin, including a budget, and potential funding sources.

This master plan should:



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- Audit existing land uses within the basin and identify areas that can be enhanced.
- Provide a framework for how future investments, such as the Olympics and LA River restoration, can tie into the overall vision for the basin.
- Provide a framework for improving mobility and way finding around and within the basin for cars, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- Outline a decision making framework between the different government agencies with purview over the basin including the Army Corp, County, and City.
- Be created through a robust community engagement process.

PRESENTED BY: 

NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL