

RESOLUTION NO. 08-51

A RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY ENDORSING EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT'S PROPOSED EXTENSION OF REGIONAL OPEN SPACE, WILDLIFE, SHORELINE AND PARKS BOND.

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Mayors' Conference represents all of the cities in Alameda County and has historically communicated and cooperated regarding projects, programs and other issues of mutual interest between the cities in the County and other public agencies serving county residents. The Alameda County Mayors' Conference has requested the City of Albany to support the East Bay Regional Park District's Measure AA; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District which serves all of the residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties has added more than 34,000 acres of parkland and shoreline in the last 20 years, largely as a result of funding provided by the 1988 voter approved bond Measure AA which also provided \$60 million in funding for cities and special park districts to fund local parks and recreation projects; and

WHEREAS, in response to continuing community interest, the East Bay Regional Park District Board of Directors is considering placing a bond measure on the November 2008 ballot to extend the Measure AA program; and

WHEREAS, the proposed measure would replicate and extend the successful \$225 million Measure AA bond passed in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the specifics of the Park District's proposed park bond measure are as follows:

- The proposed issuance of bonds is structured to retain the property tax rate at or below the existing tax rate of \$10 per 100,000 of property value for property owners.
- The \$500 million bond initiative must be approved by two-thirds of voters in Alameda and Contra Costa counties in November 2008.
- \$125 million (25%) of the bond proceeds will fund local park and recreation projects on a per-capita grant program to Cities and other local agencies.
- \$375 million (75%) of the bond proceeds will fund regional park acquisitions, open space preservation, park development, habitat restoration, and an emergency reserve.
- A detailed project list has been compiled which is available to the public.
- The Park District Board of Directors will conduct annual public hearings on projects to be selected and funded by the Measure.
- EBRPD's Park Advisory Committee provides oversight review; and

WHEREAS, the Measure would provide \$774,036 to the City of Albany for local park and recreation projects, \$27 million for improvements to Eastshore State Park along the waterfront between Richmond and Oakland, \$12.3 million for Bay Trail connections between Martinez and Fremont, and \$26.2 million for unanticipated future needs and opportunities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Albany City Council does hereby endorse the East Bay Regional Park District's Proposed Extension of Regional Open Space, Wildlife, Shoreline and Parks Bond, which will be placed on the November 4, 2008 ballot in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

ROBERT S. LIEBER
MAYOR