

# DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE LOS ANGELES COASTAL SPECIAL RESOURCES STUDY

# OUTLINE

1. Background
  - Legislation
  - Los Angeles Coastal Special Resources Study
2. City Participation & Response
  - Draft Resolution
3. Next Steps
4. Recommendation

# BACKGROUND: LEGISLATION

- **2019:** Congress passed the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Study Act (H.R. 1487)
  - Directed National Park Service to study whether the Santa Monica Bay watershed should be added to the Santa Monica Mountains NRA or become a new recreation area
  - Study area: Venice Beach → Torrance Beach, Ballona Wetlands, Ballona Creek, Baldwin Hills, San Pedro Coastline
- **2023:** Congress expands scope through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Section 634)
  - **Creates the Los Angeles County Special Resources Study**
  - Broader evaluation of whether segments of LA County coastline meet criteria for inclusion in the National Park System

# BACKGROUND: STUDY

- **The Study DOES:**

- Gather information on coastal resources, recreation, environmental conditions, and cultural assets
- Evaluate whether areas meet federal criteria:
  - (1) National significance, (2) Suitability, (3) Feasibility, (4) Need for NPS management
- Consider alternative management models

- **The Study DOES NOT:**

- Change local land use authority
- Impose new regulations
- Transfer ownership of City property
- Automatically create a national park

# BACKGROUND: STUDY

NPS has asked the City to provide input on:

1. Ownership and management of coastal properties
2. Current uses, events, and public access
3. Interest in participating in historical significance analysis
4. Interest in being included in a future national park unit
5. Concerns about historical interpretation
6. Concerns about maintaining physical appearance or historic features
7. Willingness to donate or sell property (voluntary only)

# CITY PARTICIPATION & RESPONSE

- Redondo Beach's waterfront is a major public resource
- The City has longstanding administration over land use, operations, and planning
- Community priorities emphasize:
  - Local decision-making
  - Equitable and safe coastal access
  - Preservation of cultural and historic features
  - Enhancing recreational amenities
- Participation ensures the City's values are represented in the federal study

# DRAFT RESOLUTION

- Reaffirms the importance of municipal management and control of waterfront and coastal resources
- Highlights the public value of the waterfront
- Emphasizes the City's responsibility for:
  - Operations
  - Maintenance
  - Long-term planning
- Expresses willingness to collaborate with regional, state, and federal partners
- Clarifies that local management and control must remain intact

# NEXT STEPS

- Council provides direction on the draft Resolution
- Final Resolution to be presented for approval on May 19, 2026
- Submit approved Resolution during the NPS public comment period (Deadline: May 23, 2026)

# RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council provide direction on the draft resolution.