



CITIZENS FOR
LOS ANGELES
WILDLIFE



June 4, 2021

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we want to thank you for the investment you've made in protecting wildlife connectivity and native biodiversity as you approve the FY 2021-22 budget. We want to give special thanks to the members of the Budget and Finance Committee, especially Chair Paul Krekorian.

In particular, we appreciate investments in four staff positions that will be critical to: 1) finalizing and implementing the wildlife ordinance and 2) advancing the wildlife corridors pilot study to apply to the Rim of the Valley.

The land covered by the Wildlife Ordinance is part of a recognized biodiversity hotspot, and a key habitat area for the wildlife of Los Angeles. The funding of this program is a small investment in our local environment that will pay huge dividends towards conserving LA's ecosystem, and will protect natural carbon sinks that will help LA achieve its goals in the global fight against climate change. Your actions in funding the Wildlife Ordinance will have a profound impact, and your community thanks you for taking these meaningful steps.

Having advocated at City Hall for years around this issue, we know that there are still important details that need to be finalized, but we look forward to reviewing the draft ordinance and coordinating with the City Planning Department to ensure the final draft strongly protects the region's threatened and endangered species as well as the remaining habitat linkages that are essential to their survival.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Reid-Wainscoat
Urban Wildlands Campaigner
Center for Biological Diversity

Tony Tucci
Chair
Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife

Damon Nagami
Senior Attorney, Nature Program
Director, Southern California Ecosystems Project
Natural Resources Defense Council

Jim Hines
Team Leader, California Wildlife Team
Sierra Club

Beth Pratt
California Executive Director
National Wildlife Federation

Kelsey Jessup
Urban Conservation Program Director
The Nature Conservancy

Gerry Hans
President
Friends of Griffith Park

Marian Dodge
Chairman
Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations

Wendy-Sue Rosen
Co-founder
Brentwood Alliance of Canyons & Hillsides