



MEMORANDUM

DATE May 18, 2017
TO Measure A Steering Committee
FROM Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District
SUBJECT Mtg. 2, Agenda Item 5a: Measure A Funds Associated with Unincorporated Islands Within City Study Areas

There are a total of 188 study areas identified in the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment of 2016 (Needs Assessment). Study Areas were created to account for existing jurisdictional boundaries such as supervisorial districts, city borders, County planning areas, and total population. Sections 5(b)(1) and 5(b)(2) of Measure A explicitly direct that Category 1 and 2 funds are to be directed to the 188 study areas.

There are a total of 21 study areas that are made up primarily of lands within the city but which also contain slivers or islands of unincorporated land that are under the jurisdiction of Los Angeles County. These unincorporated areas were included in city study areas as part of the Needs Assessment process that defined the individual study areas. Each of these study areas have relatively small populations, and the people who live in them generally utilize park and recreation services in the adjacent city. The attached lists and maps show the locations of these “combined” study areas and the amount of Category 1 and 2 Measure A funds associated with each of them.

The existence of these “unincorporated islands” raises the question of how Category 1 and 2 Measure A funds associated with these islands would be allocated. There are several factors that were considered when addressing this question.

First, it might appear that the funds generated in these areas would logically go to Los Angeles County, since these lands and their residents are under County jurisdiction.

However, the County generally has few parks or other facilities in these areas, and most residents in these areas probably find park services in adjacent city areas. Moreover, the amount of money in question in each area is relatively small, which suggests that it might be difficult for the County to effectively spend it within the study area, and might be another reason for the funds to remain with the corresponding city. These factors all suggest that the funds in question would more appropriately be distributed to the adjacent city.

Additionally, the Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) was a key contributor to the definition of each study area and specifically looked at each of the 21 combined areas to evaluate the park and recreation services that DPR provided in each one. DPR helped to make the finding that the 21 combined study areas should be treated as being served by the city in question.

Most importantly, as noted above, Measure A is clear in stating that Category 1 and 2 funds are to be allocated by study area, and Measure A does not foresee splitting Category 1 and 2 funds from a single study among various agencies.

Given all these considerations, Measure A annual allocations associated with the unincorporated areas in the 21 “combined” study areas will remain with the corresponding city as defined in the Parks Needs Assessment.