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February 2, 2021

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

I support our community members, including the Riverpark Coalition, to advocate for open space along the Los Angeles River. As a former Long Beach Councilmember, current Member of the San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and as the Assemblymember representing Long Beach, I have long been involved in securing open space in Long Beach.

Open space is essential to the well-being of our residents. Additional open green space will improve the air quality for our residents, provide access to recreation, and better the quality of life for our neighbors living near the Los Angeles River.

While the City has provided open green space along the Los Angeles River that includes Drake-Chavez Greenbelt, Wrigley Greenbelt, DeForest Wetland, and the Dominguez Gap Wetlands, this area has significantly less open space than other areas of the city.

I strongly support Agenda Item 16 and continue to support the efforts to create more open space for our residents living near the Los Angeles River. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

PATRICK O'DONNELL
Assemblymember, 70th District