

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles is situated in the unceded traditional homelands of native peoples, including the Chumash, and also in the California Floristic Province, one of only 36 global biodiversity hotspots, which means there is unique, endemic flora and fauna, and they are threatened by human activities; and

WHEREAS, the City has been working to right historical wrongs in its relationship to Indigenous peoples, including removing Columbus Day as a City holiday, and through its Indigenous Land Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the City has also been working to address climate change and improve its relationship to the natural world, by protecting and enhancing its biodiversity through the creation of its City Index; and

WHEREAS, President Biden has launched an initiative to protect 30% of natural areas by 2030 as recommended by leading scientists to better protect against widespread mass extinctions; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Northern Chumash Tribal Council submitted a nomination for the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary (CHNMS) to the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and

WHEREAS, in November 2021, the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians adopted a formal resolution of support for the CHNMS; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2021, the Biden Administration and NOAA formally advanced the proposed CHNMS into the designation process, a monumental step in a more than 40 year effort to preserve sacred Chumash cultural sites, unique coastal waters, and biodiversity hotspots along the Central Coast of CA; and

WHEREAS, this is the first Indigenous-led national marine sanctuary nomination and will set an important precedent for elevating Indigenous perspectives and culture values; and

WHEREAS, the proposed CHNMS would enhance and expand efforts to understand climate change, protect biodiversity, and build resilience along the West Coast and worldwide through the application of Tribal Ecological Knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the coastal waters off Santa Barbara County include the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) and Channel Islands National Park, numerous marine-protected areas, and support uniquely rich biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, the California coastal waters are a national treasure that attract millions of visitors per year for beach-going, surfing, fishing, diving, and boating; and

WHEREAS, national marine sanctuaries provide enhanced opportunity for conservation of marine resources, research, education, and recreation; and

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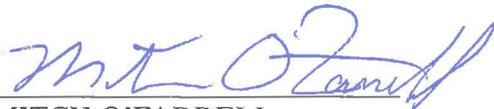
WHEREAS, climate change, human uses, and other threats present an imminent need to increase protections of our coastal waters;

WHEREAS, the approval of the CHNMS by NOAA would help meet President Biden's 30x30 goals and further the City's ongoing support for Indigenous leadership and biodiversity protection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for:

- a) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to adopt sanctuary regulations that: aggressively protect wildlife, water quality, and cultural values, including a prohibition on new offshore oil and gas development or deep-sea mining; phase out existing fossil fuel infrastructure and leases; and develop programs to reduce pollution from land and ocean-based sources;
- b) New educational programs that focus on both ocean ecology and Tribal culture and encourage special attention towards underserved communities and bilingual outreach;
- c) The development of research programs that address the impacts of climate change and encourage community science and elevating use of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) to enhance ecosystem-based management;
- d) Co-management of the CHNMS by the Chumash Tribes.

PRESENTED BY:

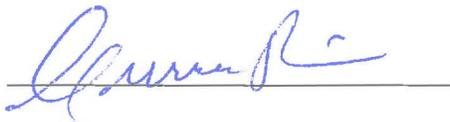


MITCH O'FARRELL  
Councilmember, 13th District



PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



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