



City of Hermosa Beach

Civic Center, 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3885

April 18, 2022

The Honorable Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, Chair
California State Assembly Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife
1020 N St., Room 160
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1789 (Bennett) Trails and Greenways Program. Letter of SUPPORT (As Introduced 02/03/22)

Dear Chair Bauer-Kahan:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Hermosa Beach, this letter confirms our support of Assembly Bill 1789 (Bennett). The City of Hermosa Beach is pleased to support AB 1789, which would establish an ongoing state-sponsored funding source to expand and improve California's natural surface trail network.

Specifically, AB 1789 would establish the California Trails Commission within the Natural Resources Agency to promote policies and investment opportunities that maximize the health, fitness, and social benefits of trails. AB 1789 also includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$75 million and an annual appropriation of \$15 million. This funding would be available to local governments to create, expand, and improve trails and greenways.

California's recreational trails are one of the most popular forms of outdoor engagement, and they have seen increased visitation during the COVID-19 pandemic. To meet this increase in demand, trail infrastructure needs further investment to address the added stress our trails have experienced during the past two years.

The Greenbelt is a 1.7 mile long trail in the City of Hermosa Beach. It is used by many local residents and visitors to the City of Hermosa Beach, in addition to the butterflies, birds and other animals. Along the trail are exercise stations, benches, water fountains, dedication markers and memorials.

The City has approved and will be beginning a project to bring greater accessibility to users of all abilities including those with mobility challenges. The project will include installation of a decomposed granite trail on a portion of the Greenbelt. This will be used as a pilot to later explore and expand the use decomposed granite on the Greenbelt for increased accessibility. The City will also be performing an evaluation of the entire Greenbelt to determine elements which require accessibility improvements. The City is also looking into lighting options for the Greenbelt to increase safety for pedestrians.



Trail networks are a critical recreational component of Cities across the state. The investments included in AB 1789 would allow local governments to ensure that natural surface trails can continue to support residents. For these reasons, the City of Hermosa Beach supports AB 1789.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael Detoy'.

Michael Detoy
Mayor of Hermosa Beach

Cc: The Honorable Members of Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 on Climate Crisis, Energy, and Transportation Assemblyman Philip Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee Ms. Shy Forbes, Consultant, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 on Climate Crisis, Energy, and Transportation
The Honorable Steve Bennett, Assemblymember
The Honorable Al Muratsuchi, Assemblymember
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association, jorge@contractcities.org
Jeff Kiernan, Regional Public Affairs Manager, Cal Cities League of California Cities cityletters@calcities.org