




Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item
Agenda Item No. 9
 City Manager's Approval

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Robert Richardson, City Manager
Date: April 10, 2017
Subject: Draft Resolution Concerning the Future of the Auburn State Recreation Area and in Opposition to the Auburn Dam Project

The Issue

Shall the City Council adopt the attached resolution concerning the future of the Auburn State Recreation Area and in opposition to the Auburn Dam Project?

Conclusion and Recommendation

That the City Council make desired changes to the attached resolution and adopt.

Background

During the City Council's last meeting they heard presentations from Protect American River Canyon (PARC) and The Auburn Dam Council, as well as public testimony concerning the potential construction of the Auburn Dam and its impacts on the Auburn State Recreation Area. In the end, Council directed staff to produce a document memorializing their position in opposition of any future efforts to construct the Auburn Dam and in support of the ASRA. The attached draft resolution has been provided for Councils' consideration and review.

Alternatives

Amend Draft Resolution
Reject Draft Resolution

Fiscal Impact

None

Attachments

Resolution

1 RESOLUTION NO. 17-

2 RESOLUTION CONCERNING FUTURE OF AUBURN STATE RECREATION AREA

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4 THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

5 WHEREAS, the lands comprising the Auburn State Recreation Area (ASRA),
6 with their steep forested canyons, scenic beauty, and diverse recreational
7 opportunities, are a unique and irreplaceable asset to the citizens of Auburn,
8 California;

9 WHEREAS, the water rights permits for Auburn Dam were revoked by the
10 California Water Resources Control Board in 2008;

11 WHEREAS, Auburn Dam is not needed for storage of water supplied to the City
12 of Auburn and its residents by the Placer County Water Agency;

13 WHEREAS, Sacramento has addressed its flood control needs by constructing a
14 \$900 million auxiliary spillway and obtaining congressional approval for a mini-
15 raise of Folsom Dam;

16 WHEREAS, Auburn Dam would create a reservoir with widely fluctuating water
17 surface levels, thus impacting the scenic beauty of the canyon and limiting the
18 reservoir's recreational value;

19 WHEREAS, ASRA is an enormously popular recreation destination that attracts
20 approximately one million visitors annually, thereby producing substantial
21 economic benefits to the City of Auburn;

22 WHEREAS, on April 14, 2003, the Auburn City Council unanimously approved a
23 resolution proclaiming Auburn, California as the "Endurance Capital of the
24 World" to recognize and honor the origination in Auburn of two world famous
25 endurance sports events – in 1955 the 100 mile Western States Trail Ride (aka
26 "Tevis Cup Ride") and in 1974 the Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run;

27 WHEREAS, the ASRA canyonlands have a rich human history and include
28 hundreds of Gold Rush and Native American cultural sites, many of which are
eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places;

WHEREAS, a potential Auburn Dam threatens to destroy the economic,
recreational and scenic benefits that ASRA currently provides;

WHEREAS, we encourage other agencies to pass a similar resolution;

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IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that the City of Auburn proclaims its opposition to construction of an Auburn Dam, and further proclaims its support for preserving the Auburn State Recreation Area as a river canyon-based recreation area for present and future generations to enjoy.

DATED: April 10, 2017

Matthew Spokely, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy Lind, City Clerk

I, Amy Lind, City Clerk of the City of Auburn, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn held on the 10th day of April, 2017 by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:
Noes:
Absent:

Amy Lind, City Clerk

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