



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST  
CITY MANAGER

September 6, 2017

The Honorable Christopher Holden  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 5132  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support for AB 1180 (Holden): Los Angeles County Flood Control District: Taxes, Fees, and Charges**

Dear Assemblymember Holden,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of Assembly Bill 1180 (Holden). AB 1180 would authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to levy a tax to fund stormwater infrastructure and management if approved for consideration by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. I would like to note the City's support for AB 1180 does not equate to support for a tax at this time – however, it is in the City's interest to support legislation that provides local governments with resources to implement stormwater best management practices, including low impact development to capture stormwater at its source and improve recreational water quality at the City's beaches and local waterways.

Given Long Beach's geographic location at the mouth of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers, the City has a history of leading stormwater management efforts throughout Los Angeles County. During the 2013 effort to secure a funding mechanism for stormwater management, Long Beach had a significant role in developing the original structure of watershed advisory groups (WAGs). Long Beach recognizes AB 1180 deletes the WAG structure, and proposes to replace it with other regional groups. This structure was, and remains incredibly important to the City, as 50 percent of tax revenues are expected to be allocated to these groups to advance stormwater management initiatives.

While the City understands WAGs did not fully mature and other regional groups have developed to fill the void that was left, the City believes that it is important that any future WAG replacement structure be regionally-based, and have strong leadership with experience in municipal stormwater management of projects and programs that have watershed-wide benefits. On a related note, I would like to express the City's strong support for provisions in AB 1180 that leave the 40 percent allocation of future stormwater revenues to cities intact. Long Beach looks forward to continuing our work with the County to develop a tax and expenditure plan that is reflective of stormwater management needs countywide.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1180 (Holden).

Sincerely,

Patrick H. West  
CITY MANAGER

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly  
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70<sup>th</sup> District