

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
RESOLUTION NO. 5821

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sebastopol Supporting the State Parks and
Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010

WHEREAS, California's parks, once considered the best in the nation, are falling apart because of chronic underfunding. Roofs and sewage systems leak, restrooms are not cleaned regularly, bridges have collapsed, trails are washed out, campgrounds and visitor centers are shuttered and buildings and structures throughout the system are badly deteriorated; and

WHEREAS, Twice in the past two years, state parks were on the brink of being shut down; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 60 state parks will be shut down part-time or their hours of operation reduced because of this year's budget cuts, and more park closure proposals and budget cuts are expected next year; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of scenic acres are closed to the public because of reductions in park rangers, and crime has more than doubled. Destruction and vandalism of the parks themselves has grown fourfold, and beachgoers are often unprotected because of decreases in lifeguards; and

WHEREAS, The State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund would provide a stable, reliable and adequate source of funding for the state park system, for wildlife conservation and for increased and equitable access to those resources for all Californians; and

WHEREAS, Funding for the Trust Fund would come from an \$18 annual State Park Access Pass surcharge on all California cars, motorcycles and recreational vehicles that would be collected by the Department of Motor Vehicles as part of the annual vehicle license fee; and

WHEREAS, California vehicles subject to the State Park Access Pass surcharge and all occupants of those vehicles would receive free day use admission to all state parks throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, Every year, there are nearly 80 million visits to state parks, where the abundance of outdoor activities entices visitors to exercise and lead healthier lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, Parks contribute to public health by protecting forests and natural areas that are sources of clean air and water and by combating climate change by reducing greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, Parks protect the state's wide diversity of plants and animals, preserve an unparalleled collection of historic and cultural assets and provide exciting educational opportunities for young and old alike;

WHEREAS, Proposition 21, known as The State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund, would protect California's 278 state parks so that all Californians can enjoy their benefits;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Sebastopol supports, the State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the City Council of the City of Sebastopol does hereby adopt this resolution this, the 19th day of October, 2010.


IN COUNCIL DULY PASSED THIS 19th day of October, 2010.


AYES: Councilmembers Robinson, Shaffer, Kelley, Vice Mayor Wilson and Mayor Gurney

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED: 
MAYOR SARAH GLADE GURNEY

ATTEST: 
CITY CLERK MARY GOURLEY