

From: Heather Wylie
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2014 1:33 AM
To: Emma Howard
Subject: Fwd: Significant Ecological Areas (Item 6d, Aug. 6, 2014) – SUPPORT

July 30, 2014

Esther L. Valadez, Chair
Regional Planning Commission
300 West Temple St., 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Item 6d, August 6, 2014: Significant Ecological Areas Program—SUPPORT

Dear Chairperson Valadez and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of my family, I ask you to protect the irreplaceable natural heritage of Los Angeles County through expanded Significant Ecological Area (SEA) boundaries. The SEAs are the only home left for our remaining wildlife and provide education, inspiration, beauty, enjoyment, improved health, and sustain the desirability of the area for people. The expanded SEAs have been developed through a sound scientific process, and are needed to balance the major growth called for in the new General Plan.

In addition to expansion, in order to make SEAs stronger, connectivity between SEAs must be added as a defining factor.

We also need a revised SEA Ordinance that is both efficient for applicants and effective for resource protection. Finally, please look to innovative implementation mechanisms such as density transfers and comprehensive agreements with landowners.

Please consider the legacy you will be leaving behind you and make sure that we pass on a heritage of nature that is able to survive climate change and the other challenges it faces. Expanded SEAs are our best and only hope. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Heather Wylie
(You likely remember me from my kayak trip down the LA River)