

**From:** bottorffm@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 31, 2014 7:28 PM  
**To:** Rosie Ruiz; Emma Howard  
**Subject:** 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:

Friends of the Santa Clara River have worked for over 20 years to protect vital ecological areas in the Santa Clara River watershed. We know first hand the value of Significant Ecological Areas (SEA).

We urge your commission to further protect the irreplaceable natural heritage of Los Angeles County through *expanded* SEA boundaries. The proposed expanded SEAs have been developed through a sound scientific process, and are needed to balance the needs of people and nature under the new General Plan. Also, connectivity between SEAs should be improved where possible.

Expanded SEAs are one of the best mechanisms to ensure that the remaining natural areas in Los Angeles County are adequately protected.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Ron Bottorff, Chairman

Friends of the Santa Clara River