Council Agenda Report

City Council Meeting
06-22-26
Item 1.B.6.

To: Mayor Silverstein and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Rob DuBoux, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Joseph D. Irvin, City Manager

Date prepared: June 3, 2026 Meeting date: June 22, 2026

Subject: Letter of Support for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 Proposition 4 Grant Funding Requests for Climate and Water Resilience Projects

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RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the Mayor to sign a Letter of Support for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3's Proposition 4 grant funding requests for climate and water resilience projects that benefit the Malibu community and surrounding region.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION: This item supports the City's 2025-2028 Strategic Plan Goal 3: Advance Infrastructure Resilience and Strategic Plan Goal 4: Improve Public Safety

Goal 3: Advance Infrastructure Resilience
Objective 3.1: Develop and fund a comprehensive Infrastructure Resilience Plan Emergency Evacuation: Increase alert warning, and evacuation capabilities.
Strategy: Supporting Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3's Proposition 4 funding requests would advance regional and local infrastructure resilience by supporting potential State funding for Waterworks District 29 capital improvements, including water reliability and fire flow capacity, and for the Zuma and Point Dume Living Shorelines Coastal Resiliency and Habitat Project, which would use nature-based solutions to protect coastal resources, infrastructure, habitat, and erosion,

Goal 4: Improve Public Safety
Objective 4.2: Increase Wildfire Resiliency.
Strategy: Supporting the Proposition 4 funding requests for Strategic Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Resilience Projects and the Biological Brush Clearance and Grazing Program

would further the City's wildfire resiliency goals by supporting regional fuel reduction, vegetation management, and wildfire risk reduction efforts in Malibu, the Santa Monica Mountains, and surrounding Wildland-Urban Interface areas. These efforts would help protect communities, open space, critical infrastructure, and evacuation corridors in high fire risk areas.

DISCUSSION: Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, Third District, has requested the City of Malibu's support for several Proposition 4 funding requests being pursued through the 2026–27 State Budget process. Proposition 4 funding may support eligible projects related to climate resilience, wildfire preparedness, water reliability, coastal protection, biodiversity, habitat restoration, and outdoor access.

Supervisor Horvath's May 19, 2026 letter to the State Legislature identifies several priority projects within Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3. The County has requested that the City provide a letter of support for the listed projects, with the exception of the Home Hardening and Defensible Space Program, which has been completed and is therefore not included in the requested City support. The Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park project and Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles project are also not included in the City's proposed letter of support because they are not located within the Malibu area.

The remaining projects have a direct nexus to Malibu, Topanga, the Santa Monica Mountains, and nearby coastal areas. They include wildfire resilience work in the Santa Monica Mountains, biological brush clearance and grazing, improvements to Los Angeles County Waterworks District 29, and coastal resiliency work at Zuma and Point Dume.

The projects proposed for City support are summarized below.

Strategic Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Resilience Projects — $15 Million
This request would support long-term strategic fuel reduction efforts led by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority across Malibu, Calabasas, and surrounding Wildland-Urban Interface areas in the Santa Monica Mountains. The proposed work includes approximately 647 acres of current and planned treatments, including targeted grazing, mastication, manual and mechanical thinning, prescribed fire and pile burning, environmental compliance, and recurring maintenance. These efforts would help protect communities, open space, habitat areas, and evacuation corridors in high fire risk areas.

Biological Brush Clearance and Grazing Program — $3.85 Million
This request would support a Los Angeles County Fire Department biological brush clearance program using targeted grazing and vegetation management across approximately 350 acres annually in high-risk Wildland-Urban Interface areas. The program would reduce wildfire fuel loads, help protect critical infrastructure and communities, and support ecologically sensitive vegetation management practices.

LA County Waterworks District 29 Capital Plan — $90 Million
This request would support modernization of Los Angeles County Waterworks District 29, which provides potable water service and firefighting capacity to Malibu and Topanga. The District serves approximately 22,000 residents and has experienced repeated wildfire impacts, including the Palisades, Woolsey, and Franklin Fires. The proposed funding would help advance a capital improvement plan to upgrade aging infrastructure, enhance fire flow capacity, and improve system reliability in response to wildfire, climate, and seismic risks. This project has a direct connection to Malibu's public safety, water reliability, and emergency response needs.

Zuma and Point Dume Living Shorelines Coastal Resiliency and Habitat Project — $45 Million
This request would support a nature-based coastal resilience project at Zuma and Point Dume. The project would restore beach width and establish living shorelines using native dune systems to reduce erosion, buffer storm impacts, and enhance habitat for sensitive species. Zuma and Point Dume are major public coastal resources, and the project would help protect beach access, public infrastructure, and coastal habitat from sea level rise and increasingly severe storm events.

Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles — $15 Million
This request would support expansion and modernization of the Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles, the region's primary facility for the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of stranded marine mammals. The facility serves more than 75 miles of coastline and provides an important regional coastal and marine wildlife response function. The proposed investment would improve emergency response capacity, animal care, and protection of coastal ecosystems.

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for these Proposition 4 funding requests. The projects are consistent with the City's interests in wildfire resilience, water reliability, emergency preparedness, coastal protection, habitat restoration, and regional climate adaptation. The recommended action would express the City's support for the County's funding requests and would not commit to City funding or require City implementation responsibilities.

ATTACHMENTS:

1) May 19, 2026 Letter from Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath Regarding Proposition 4 Funding for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 Climate and Water Resilience Projects
2) Letter of Support for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 Proposition 4 Funding Requests for Climate, Wildfire, Water, and Coastal Resilience Projects

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LINDSEY P. HORVATH
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
THIRD DISTRICT

May 19, 2026

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Eloise Gómez Reyes
Chair, Sen. Budget Subcommittee #2
1021 O Street, Suite 7210
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Steve Bennett
Chair, Asm. Budget Subcommittee #4
1021 O Street, Suite 4710
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Proposition 4 Funding for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 Climate and Water Resilience Projects

Dear Chair Laird, Chair Gabriel, Chair Gómez Reyes, and Chair Bennett:

I am writing to respectfully request increased funding in the 2026–27 State Budget for Proposition 4 eligible programs, while also advocating for support for several high-priority projects that could be accelerated through these investments. Collectively, these projects represent strategic, multi-benefit investments that advance California's goals related to climate resilience, wildfire preparedness, water reliability, biodiversity, coastal protection, and equitable access to natural resources, while helping communities address urgent and evolving climate-related challenges.

Home Hardening and Defensible Space Program — $20 Million
Los Angeles County's Internal Services Department and Office of Emergency Management are working with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to pursue a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant to help protect homeowners in communities near the Palisades Fire impact area within the Santa Monica Mountains. Given uncertainty surrounding the availability and timing of federal wildfire resilience funding, State support is critical to help vulnerable communities recovering from the Palisades Fire implement urgently needed mitigation measures. Funding would support home hardening improvements for approximately 340 properties, including fire-resistant windows, ember-resistant vents, fire-resistant roofing and siding, and defensible space vegetation management. This proposal represents a proactive investment in wildfire mitigation and climate adaptation that would reduce structure loss, improve community resilience, and lessen long-term disaster recovery costs. The project is strongly aligned with Proposition 4's Wildfire Mitigation Grant Program

administered by Cal OES, as well as CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention Grant Program, both of which support structure hardening, defensible space, and wildfire resilience investments in vulnerable communities and high fire severity zones.

Strategic Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Resilience Projects — $15 Million
I also respectfully request $15 million to support long-term strategic fuel reduction efforts led by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) across Malibu, Calabasas, and surrounding Wildland-Urban Interface areas in the Santa Monica Mountains. Current and planned treatment efforts encompass approximately 647 acres and include targeted goat grazing, mastication, manual and mechanical thinning, prescribed fire and pile burning, herbivory treatments, environmental compliance activities, and recurring maintenance necessary to sustain defensible fuel conditions. These investments would help protect communities, habitat areas, open space, and critical evacuation corridors while advancing science-based, nature-based wildfire resilience strategies. Given current Southern California wildfire mitigation costs and ongoing maintenance needs, the requested funding represents a realistic long-term investment in regional wildfire preparedness and ecosystem resilience. This request aligns closely with Proposition 4's Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Wildfire Resiliency, Watershed Protection, and Workforce Development Program, as well as Regional Fire Prevention and Forest Health and the State Coastal Conservancy Wildfire Resilience Program, all of which support landscape-scale fuel reduction, habitat protection, and community wildfire preparedness in high fire severity areas.

Biological Brush Clearance and Grazing Program — $3.85 Million
To reduce wildfire fuel loads and protect critical infrastructure and communities, the Los Angeles County Fire Department proposes a long-term Biological Brush Clearance Program utilizing targeted grazing and vegetation management across approximately 350 acres annually within high-risk Wildland-Urban Interface areas. Priority treatment areas include Crummer Canyon, the 5 and 14 Freeway corridors, La Crescenta foothills, Tonner Canyon, Helispot 69 Bravo, and the Santa Maria Road/Dirt Mulholland corridor. This effort would improve fuel continuity management while enhancing ecological health and biodiversity within sensitive habitat areas. The proposal is well aligned with Proposition 4's Regional Fire Prevention and Forest Health Program and CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention Grant Program, both of which support hazardous fuels reduction and landscape-scale wildfire prevention activities. It also advances the goals of the State Coastal Conservancy Wildfire Resilience Program by reducing catastrophic wildfire risk in communities adjacent to wildlands.

Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park — $118.6 Million
I respectfully request $118.6 million to advance the Rory M. Shaw Wetlands Park in Sun Valley, a transformative, once-in-a-generation project that will convert a former landfill into a multi-benefit regional wetlands park. This project will deliver significant flood risk reduction, stormwater capture and reuse, habitat restoration, and new recreational opportunities in a park-poor community. With $207 million already secured across local, state, and federal sources, the project is well-positioned to move forward and reflects years of planning and partnership. Upon completion, the park will serve as a model for nature-based solutions that

integrate water management, climate adaptation, and community investment in disadvantaged areas. This project is strongly aligned with several Proposition 4 funding categories, particularly Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience investments, including urban stormwater management, flood control subventions, and wetland habitat restoration. Its multi-benefit design also advances the State's Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions goals through habitat restoration and supports Park Creation and Outdoor Access priorities by expanding recreational opportunities in a disadvantaged, park-poor community.

LA County Waterworks District 29 (Malibu and Topanga) — $90 Million

To strengthen water reliability and wildfire resilience in Malibu and Topanga, I request $90 million to modernize Waterworks District 29, which provides essential potable water and firefighting capacity to approximately 22,000 residents. These communities have experienced repeated wildfire impacts, including the Palisades, Woolsey, and Franklin Fires, underscoring the critical importance of resilient water infrastructure. A comprehensive $250 million capital improvement plan has been developed to upgrade aging infrastructure, enhance fire flow capacity, and improve system reliability in the face of climate and seismic risks. State investment will accelerate implementation, leverage local and federal funding, and ensure these high-risk communities are better prepared for future emergencies. This request is well suited for Proposition 4's Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience funding categories, particularly State Water Resources Control Board investments for water quality and safe drinking water, as well as water storage and system reliability improvements. Modernizing this system will strengthen both everyday water service and emergency wildfire response capacity, directly advancing the State's climate resilience and public safety priorities.

Zuma and Point Dume Living Shorelines Coastal Resiliency and Habitat Project — $45 million

I respectfully request $45 million to support the Zuma and Point Dume Living Shorelines Project, an innovative, nature-based approach to coastal resilience. These beaches are among the most heavily visited in California and serve as a critical recreational resource, particularly for inland Los Angeles County communities facing extreme heat. Sea level rise and increasingly severe storm events have accelerated coastal erosion, threatening public infrastructure and natural habitats. This project will restore beach width and establish living shorelines using native plant dune systems to reduce erosion, buffer storm surge, and enhance habitat for sensitive species. Building on ongoing pilot efforts and prior County investments, this project represents a scalable, science-driven solution aligned with the State's coastal resilience and biodiversity goals. This project is closely aligned with Proposition 4's Coastal Resilience investments, including shoreline protection, flood management for developed coastlines, and ocean and coastal resilience programs. It also supports Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions through habitat restoration for sensitive species and advances Park Creation and Outdoor Access priorities by protecting one of Southern California's most heavily used public coastal resources for future generations.

Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles — $15 Million
I respectfully request a one-time $15 million investment to support the expansion and modernization of the Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles (MMCC), the region's primary facility for the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of stranded marine mammals. Serving more than 75 miles of coastline, MMCC has treated over 10,000 animals since 1992 and plays a critical role in safeguarding ocean health. In recent years, marine mammal strandings have increased in both frequency and severity, driven in part by warming ocean conditions and harmful algal blooms. These events underscore the growing intersection between climate change and wildlife health. MMCC's existing facility, originally constructed in 1989, is no longer sufficient to meet current and projected demand. This investment will expand emergency response capacity, improve animal care, and strengthen the State's ability to respond to marine wildlife crises while protecting coastal ecosystems and public safety. This project aligns with the fish and wildlife resources and habitats category administered by the Wildlife Conservation Board.

Taken together, these projects exemplify the type of forward-looking, multi-benefit investments envisioned under Proposition 4 and demonstrate the importance of sustained funding for eligible programs that support wildfire resilience, water reliability, coastal protection, biodiversity, habitat restoration, and equitable access to outdoor spaces. Increased investment in these programs will help accelerate critical projects in Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 and better prepare vulnerable communities for the growing impacts of climate change.

I respectfully urge your support for increased Proposition 4 funding allocations in the 2026–27 State Budget, as well as for the specific project requests outlined above. Thank you for your leadership and continued partnership in advancing California's climate and environmental priorities.

Sincerely,



Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor, Third District
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Attachment 2

City of Malibu

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June 22, 2026

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Budget Committee
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The Honorable Eloise Gómez Reyes
Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee #2
1021 O Street, Suite 7210
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The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
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The Honorable Steve Bennett
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #4
1021 O Street, Suite 4710
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RE: Letter of Support for Selected Proposition 4 Funding Requests for Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 Climate, Wildfire, Water, and Coastal Resilience Projects

Dear Chair Laird, Chair Gabriel, Chair Gómez Reyes, and Chair Bennett:

As Mayor of the City of Malibu, I submit this Letter of Support for selected Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 3 Proposition 4 funding requests that would strengthen wildfire resilience, water reliability, emergency preparedness, coastal protection, and climate adaptation in Malibu, Topanga, the Santa Monica Mountains, and nearby coastal areas.

Malibu and surrounding Santa Monica Mountains communities face recurring wildfire, water infrastructure, coastal erosion, sea level rise, and climate-related risks. These hazards affect public safety, evacuation corridors, emergency response, water service reliability, coastal access, public infrastructure, open space, and sensitive habitat. Strategic State investment through Proposition 4 would help advance projects that reduce these risks and improve long-term regional resilience.

The City of Malibu strongly supports the following selected funding requests:

Strategic Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Resilience Projects — $15 Million
This request would support long-term strategic fuel reduction efforts led by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority across Malibu, Calabasas, and surrounding Wildland-Urban Interface areas in the Santa Monica Mountains. The work would include targeted grazing, mastication, manual and mechanical thinning, prescribed fire and pile burning, environmental compliance, and recurring maintenance. These treatments would reduce wildfire risk, protect open space and habitat areas, and improve the resilience of communities and evacuation corridors in high fire risk areas.

Biological Brush Clearance and Grazing Program — $3.85 Million
This request would support a Los Angeles County Fire Department biological brush clearance program using targeted grazing and vegetation management in high-risk Wildland-Urban Interface areas. The program would reduce hazardous fuel loads, help protect critical infrastructure and nearby communities, and support ecologically sensitive vegetation management practices.

LA County Waterworks District 29 Capital Plan — $90 Million
This request would support modernization of Los Angeles County Waterworks District 29, which provides potable water service and firefighting capacity to Malibu and Topanga. The District serves approximately 22,000 residents and is essential to both daily water reliability and emergency wildfire response. Funding would help advance needed capital improvements to upgrade aging infrastructure, enhance fire flow capacity, and improve system reliability in response to wildfire, climate, and seismic risks.

Zuma and Point Dume Living Shorelines Coastal Resiliency and Habitat Project — $45 Million
This request would support a nature-based coastal resilience project at Zuma and Point Dume. The project would restore beach width and establish living shorelines using native dune systems to reduce erosion, buffer storm impacts, and enhance habitat for sensitive species. Zuma and Point Dume are major public coastal resources, and this project would help protect beach access, public infrastructure, coastal habitat, and recreational opportunities from sea level rise and increasingly severe storm events.

These projects are strongly aligned with Malibu's priorities related to wildfire resilience, emergency preparedness, water reliability, coastal protection, habitat restoration, and regional climate adaptation. They also reflect the importance of coordinated investment by local, county, and state partners to address hazards that extend beyond jurisdictional boundaries.

For these reasons, the Malibu City Council fully supports these selected Proposition 4 funding requests and respectfully urges favorable consideration of the identified projects.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Joseph D. Irvin, City Manager, at 310-456-2489, x226.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Silverstein, Mayor
City of Malibu

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cc:
Joe Irvin, City Manager
Christopher Smith, Assistant City Manager
Rob DuBoux, Assistant City Manager
Susan Duenas, Public Safety Director
Yolanda Bundy, Community Development Director
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