

City Manager's Office – Intergovernmental Relations

City of Arts & Innovation

May 5, 2022

The Honorable Chris R. Holden Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations 1021 O Street, Suite 8220 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1789 - Outdoor recreation: California Recreational Trails System Plan – As Amended 4/6/2022 - SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Holden:

On behalf of the City of Riverside, I write to express our support for AB 1789 (Bennett), legislation that would create the California Trails Commission and the Trails Corps Program to fund the restoration of nonmotorized recreation trails across the state.

California's trails are one of the most popular forms of outdoor engagement and nonmotorized recreation trails are the venues of choice for diverse outdoor activities including hiking, biking, equestrian use, and passive nature experience. Over the past two years, these trails have seen increased visitation. Further investment in trail infrastructure is needed to address the added stress on our natural trails.

AB 1789 seeks to establish a sustainable state-specific funding source to keep up with trail demand. Specifically, the measure would appropriate \$75 million to the Natural Resources Agency for the Trails and Greenways Program that would award competitive grants to local agencies and other entities to provide nonmotorized infrastructure development and enhancements that promote new or alternate access to parks, waterways, outdoor recreational pursuits, or other natural environments.

For these reasons, the City of Riverside supports AB 1789. If you have questions regarding the City's position, please contact Chekesha Gilliam, Intergovernmental Relations Officer at (951) 826-2419 or CGilliam@riversideca.gov.

Sincerely,

Patricia Lock Dawson

Mayor

City of Riverside

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Steve Bennett

City of Riverside Legislative Delegation