

14-0356

MOTION

The Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee (Steering Committee) advises the Department of Recreation and Parks on policies and programs that promote the long-term preservation of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas. The Steering Committee is comprised of various wildlife groups and the Department of Recreation and Parks. Representatives from the Encino and Lake Balboa Neighborhood Councils are also active non-voting advisory members of the Steering Committee.

In recent years, Steering Committee members have noticed increasing numbers of people treating the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas as hunting and fishing grounds and have observed various harmful activities such as the following: individuals aiming at birds with rocks and slingshots; birds taken for food; eggs taken out of their nests to be either consumed or smashed; and, bicyclists and people on foot leaving marked trails and trampling on native plant areas.

Section 63.44(M) of the Municipal Code contains regulations on prohibited behaviors in parks and recreation areas within the City. Prohibited behaviors include the taking of all animals; the removal of plants and soil; and fires, littering, and firearms. In light of the alarming rise of destructive behaviors in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas, the Council should request the City Attorney to prepare the necessary Ordinance(s) to extend the protections that currently exist in parks to wildlife areas.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney to prepare and present the necessary Ordinance(s) to prohibit certain behaviors in the City's wildlife areas, including but not limited to the following: the taking of animals; the removal of plants and soil; and, the taking and breaking of bird eggs.

PRESENTED BY Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY Wynne Martinez
Bob Zimmerman

ORIGINAL

MAR 21 2014

[Signature]