



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Board of Supervisors

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District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

March 5, 2018

The Honorable Chad Mayes
Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4098
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: AB 2137 (Mayes) – Regional Parks and Open-Space Districts; General Manager Powers
As introduced 2/12/2018 – SPONSOR- Per Legislative Platform
Awaiting hearing – Assembly Local Government Committee

Dear Assembly Member Mayes:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write to affirm our sponsorship and support of AB 2137, your measure that would increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000 the no-bid purchasing authority granted to the general manager of the Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District (RCRPOSD). This measure awaits hearing in the Assembly Local Government Committee

Under current law, Section 5549 of the Public Resources Code grants the general manager of any park or open-space district specified duties and authorities, including – subject to the board’s approval – the authority to enter into no-bid contracts of up to \$25,000. This section previously has been expanded to increase the no-bid authority from \$25,000 to \$50,000 in three specified districts. AB 2137 would increase the no-bid threshold for the Riverside County parks district to match the authority previously granted to three districts: East Bay Regional Park District, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, and Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. As with the district-specific increases previously authorized, RCRPOSD’s general manager would be required to report to the board at its next regular meeting regarding any no-bid expenditures up to the \$50,000 limit.

The County is seeking to increase RCRPOSD’s General Manager purchasing limits to match other county division head limits. Over time, general cost increases have effectively reduced RCRPOSD’s purchasing power. Further, the District estimates that it sees, on average, five bids annually that exceed the \$25,000 threshold. Each bid costs an average of \$8,459 in associated administrative and processing functions. If granted an increase in the no-bid purchasing authority

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up to \$50,000, the District could put the administrative costs now going toward bid preparation to better use in support of RCRPOSD's mission.

AB 2137 is a narrowly drafted measure that would offer needed administrative and financial relief to the County. We thank you for your leadership in authoring this measure and stand ready to assist you as it makes its way through the legislative process. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande, at (951) 955-1110 or bnestande@rivco.org.

Sincerely,



Chuck Washington
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Local Government Committee
Riverside County Delegation