



CITY OF
Palos Verdes Estates

OFFICE OF
THE MAYOR

April 11, 2017

The Honorable Ben Allen
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814
FAX: (916) 651-4026

RE: SB 541 (Allen) Stormwater Guidelines for Schools. NOTICE OF SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen:

On behalf of the City of Palos Verdes Estates, I write to express the City's support of SB 541 that encourages school districts to partner with local municipalities for compliance with State and Federal stormwater runoff requirements. The partnership between cities and school districts is essential for effectively managing stormwater runoff. Stormwater has no boundaries, and with no current obligations on school districts for stormwater management, SB 541 enables a constructive mechanism for working together.

As you are aware, the 2012 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, states that cities in Los Angeles County must meet some of the strongest water quality guidelines in the country. In order to meet these standards, municipalities must spend billions of dollars upgrading infrastructure and stormwater capture technology. The specific costs to Palos Verdes Estates are projected to be millions of dollars over the next several years while we concurrently are working to overcome a revenue shortfall of \$5 million (equating to a 37% reduction in budget) for balancing the 2017-18 fiscal year budget.

In our suburban area, the Palos Verdes Peninsula school sites are among the largest parcels in our fully built-out communities. School sites also represent an opportunity to capture, treat, store and use rainwater with rain gardens, bioswales, cisterns, and native plants. However, because schools are not currently subject to a MS4 permit, there are no water capture standards or best practices in place for them. Construction or reconstruction of a campus is an appropriate time to initiate these environmental strategies and support our collective goals.

SB 541 provides useful guidelines and best practices standards for schools to partner with cities to locate stormwater projects that improve water quality and sustainability while improving our campuses for generations.

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The City of Palos Verdes Estates supports your SB 541. Thank you for your support and representation of Palos Verdes Estates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JL King". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jennifer L. King, Mayor

cc: Tina Andolina, Office of Senator Allen, tina.andolina@sen.ca.gov
Honorable Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi - Assembly District 66
Palos Verdes Estates City Council
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District Board of Education
Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities, kguerrero@cacities.org