

EUNICE M. ULLOA
Mayor



KAREN COMSTOCK
CHRISTOPHER FLORES
MARC LUCIO
Council Members

CURTIS BURTON
Mayor Pro Tem

DR. LINDA REICH
City Manager

CITY of CHINO

March 18, 2025

The Honorable Monique Limón, Chair
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 360 (Rubio) – Land Conservation: California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act: County of San Bernardino

Dear Senator Limón and Honorable Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the City of Chino, I write in support of SB 360 (Rubio), an important bill that amends state law regarding the use of Prop 70 land sale proceeds in San Bernardino County. The passing of SB 360 will allow San Bernardino County to use these land sale proceeds to preserve the region's agricultural heritage and improve parks and recreational facilities in the Prado Regional Park, which is located in the City of Chino.

In June 1988, California voters approved Proposition 70, a park bond that provided \$776 million for developing conservation lands throughout the State. Prop 70 gave \$20 million to San Bernardino County for permanent agricultural preservation. That funding was used by the County to purchase 366.55 acres on nine agricultural properties in the Chino Agricultural Preserve. However, because the lands were not adjacent to each other, it was difficult for the County to fulfill the intent of Prop 70. In 2010, Prop 70 provisions were amended by Senate Bill 1124 (Negrete-McLeod), which allowed San Bernardino County to sell or exchange its Prop 70 properties if replacement property was purchased that would be used for agricultural preservation, community gardens, agricultural heritage projects, agricultural and wildlife education, or wildlife habitat, or for open-space conservation purposes.

SB 360 (Rubio) amends existing law by expanding the authorized use of proceeds from Prop 70 land sales to include, in addition to the existing agricultural preservation, agricultural heritage projects, agricultural and wildlife education, and open-space conservation purposes, the new categories of parks and recreational purposes within the former Chino Agricultural Preserve. It would allow San Bernardino County to use the proceeds from Prop 70 for parks and recreational facilities, including cultural and sporting venues, playgrounds, amphitheaters, and infrastructure to expand access and improve amenities. These provisions apply solely to San Bernardino County's unique situation rather than all Prop 70 lands in the State.



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By clarifying state law, SB 360 will facilitate significant park and infrastructure improvements for Prado Regional Park, allowing San Bernardino County to conserve open space, preserve the region's agricultural heritage, and expand recreational opportunities.

Please support SB 360. If you have any questions about our position, contact Vivian Castro, our Deputy City Manager, at 909-334-3307 or vcastro@cityofchino.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Reich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linda" being more prominent than the last name "Reich".

Linda Reich
City Manager

cc: The Honorable Susan Rubio
The Honorable Phillip Chen
The Honorable Michelle Rodriguez
The Honorable Curt Hagman
Chino City Council Members