



## **Proposition 84: Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond**

### **Fact Sheet**

California is facing enormous population growth in the coming years, with 25 million new residents expected by 2040. But our investment in infrastructure is not keeping pace with our population growth. Current funding for natural resources and environmental protection programs is critically low. In fact, funding for resources makes up less than 1% of the overall state budget. We must make the investments needed to ensure that all Californians will have access to safe drinking water, better protection from floods and opportunities to enjoy parks, natural landscapes and our rivers, lakes, beaches, bays and coastline.

A broad coalition of interests – water districts, conservation and environmental groups, local government entities, museum and park interests, elected officials, and civic organizations – has been formed to support Proposition 84, the Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond.

#### **Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Water Supply**

Proposition 84 will provide critically needed funding for programs that will help ensure safe drinking water for all Californians by cleaning up polluted waters and protecting them from further contamination. The measure will dedicate funds to protect the water quality of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta—the source of drinking water for 23 million Californians. In addition, Proposition 84 will provide funds to assist each region of California in improving local water supply reliability and local water quality.

#### **Protection of Rivers, Lakes and Streams**

The health of California's rivers, lakes and streams is continually threatened by pollution, reduced water quality, and destruction of fish and wildlife habitats. Proposition 84 will provide funding to develop river parkways, restore and protect urban streams, and keep contaminated storm water runoff out of our rivers, lakes and streams.

#### **Protection of Beaches, Bays and Coastal Waters**

California's coastline is one of the most beautiful parts of the state, but coastal areas and marine life are being harmed by overdevelopment and toxic pollution that flows out of storm drains, resulting in beach closures, public health and safety threats, and declining ocean ecosystems. Proposition 84 is the first in the nation to provide dedicated funds - \$540 million - to help preserve our ocean and major bays, and ensure vibrant marine resources and fishing communities for generations to come. As part of this, Proposition 84 also funds programs to protect the San Francisco, Santa Monica and San Diego bays and their watersheds.

#### **Flood Control**

Over the next 50 years there is a two-in-three chance that an earthquake or a storm will damage California's six thousand miles of vulnerable levees. A disaster of this kind could result in the loss of lives and homes and could leave 23 million Californians without reliable drinking water. Proposition 84 would strengthen flood protection in order to avoid these kinds of devastating disasters. It will provide for funding the identification and mapping of high-risk flood areas, and the inspection and repair of levees and flood control facilities. By planning, designing and implementing multi-objective flood corridor projects, Proposition 84 will reduce future flood risk and maximize public benefits.

### **State and Local Parks and Public Access to Natural Resources**

All Californians deserve access to our state's natural resources, yet our state and local park systems are currently unable to take on the challenges that arise in a rapidly-growing society. Proposition 84 will include projects that will expand and restore the state park system to reflect the state's growing population and shifting population centers. Proposition 84 will also provide funding for the creation of local and regional parks especially in communities that are park-poor. In addition, it will fund the development of nature education opportunities at institutions including, natural history museums, aquariums, research facilities and botanical gardens.

### **Wildlife and Forest Conservation**

California's wildlife and forests as well as its farms and ranches are under direct threat from the state's rapid population growth. Proposition 84 will fund the programs needed to protect California's forests, wildlife as well as preserve working forests, farms and ranches.

### **Sustainable Communities: Preparing for Population Growth and Climate Change**

California's rise in population and the impacts of climate change pose significant challenges. These challenges must be addressed through careful planning and improvements in our land use and water management systems. Proposition 84 will help California prepare for the challenges that lie ahead while improving the livability of our cities and communities through programs to re-design California's water and flood control systems. The programs included in Proposition 84 will support the greening of our cities, schools and neighborhoods, while stimulating investments in water use efficiency and conservation to reduce energy consumption.