



# *CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT*

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**MEETING DATE:** May 3, 2011

**ITEM NUMBER:**

**SUBJECT** AUTHORIZATION FOR STAFF TIME TO RESEARCH SEX OFFENDER ORDINANCE

**DATE:** APRIL 28, 2011

**FROM:** OFFICE OF THE CEO

**PRESENTATION** COUNCIL MEMBER WENDY LEECE  
**BY:** COUNCIL MEMBER STEVE MENSINGER

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** BILL LOBDELL, INTERIM COMMUNICATIONS  
**CONTACT:** MANAGER/PIO, 714-754-5328

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Council Member Wendy Leece and Council Member Steve Mensinger request that the City Council direct staff to proceed to allocate staff time to research model ordinances related to protecting the public from sex offenders and present recommended ordinance changes for future City Council consideration.

## **BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

Attached is a letter from the Orange County District Attorney informing the City Council about a new County law creating safety zones for children in parks, beaches and harbors. On April 5, 2011, the Orange County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed an ordinance prohibiting registered sex offenders from entering County parks without written permission from the Orange County Sheriff. Violators could be punished with up to six months in jail and/or a \$500 fine.

The purpose and intent of the law is clearly to protect children from registered sex offenders by restricting access to locations where children gather. The County ordinance specifically names 26 County Parks but the ordinance does not apply to any city parks.

In addition, the City is aware of a recently enacted ordinance in the City of Fullerton that also restricts the ability of registered sex offenders from entering parks without permission. If the City Council directs staff to allocate staff time to this research project, then staff will research best practices and develop a draft ordinance for consideration by the City Council at a future meeting.

## **FISCAL REVIEW:**

Staff time will be used to research ordinances related to regulating registered sex offenders and their use of City parks.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No legal review has been conducted at this point. If the City Council authorizes staff time on this project, then legal research and review would be necessary to develop a draft ordinance.

**CONCLUSION:**

Council Member Leece and Council Member Mensinger both request that the City Council direct staff to allocate staff time to conduct the necessary research and develop draft ordinance for further review by the City Council.

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WILLIAM LOBDELL  
Interim Communications Manager/PIO

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THOMAS R. HATCH  
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS: 1 [Letter from the County of Orange](#)