DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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# STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION Virtual Meeting

February 8, 2022

**STAFF REPORT:** Pass Updates, Park Operations

**STAFF:** Adrien Contreras, Assistant Deputy Director of Park Operations

**SUBJECT:** Outdoor Access for All initiative – Park Pass Programs

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To share information about park annual pass updates and pilot programs supporting the California Outdoor Access for All initiative.

#### INTRODUCTION

The California Outdoor Access for All Initiative seeks to promote and expand equitable, safe, and reliable outdoor access to parks. Through this initiative, the department has been provided funding for a three-year pilot program to administer three annual pass programs that will provide free park access to Californians.

### **UPDATE**

The California Outdoor Access for All Initiative provides funding to the department for a three-year pilot program for three annual pass programs. The three programs are:

 <u>California State Park Adventure Pass</u> – This newly created pass provides free access for all California 4<sup>th</sup> graders to 19 state parks. Funding has also been provided through this program to provide transportation to parks for underserved students.

- <u>California State Library Partnership</u> This program will provide state park passes to libraries for checkout. The Library Pass will provide free day use access to 118 parks.
- Golden Bear Pass This program modifies the existing Golden Bear Pass program. The Golden Bear Pass is a pass that is made available to low-income Californian's. Through this program, State Parks is partnering with the Department of Social Services on an outreach campaign to directly notify California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) recipients about the availability of the pass, and their eligibility. Additionally, the \$5 fee that is normally charged will be waived for the duration of the three-year pilot.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The California State Park Adventure Pass launched in September and is now available to all California  $4^{th}$  graders. State Parks is working closely with Department of Social Services on outreach messaging and an overall Communications Plan. Outreach to CalWORKs recipients will begin during the month of February. The State Library Pass program will launch during National Library Week (April 3 – 9), with passes being made available for checkout at that time.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

#### Websites:

California State Parks <u>Outdoor Access for All</u>
California State Parks <u>2022 Annual Pass Program</u> (including Golden Bear Pass)
Office of the Governor <u>Outdoor Access for All Initiative</u>
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs)