



**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
AGENDA REPORT**

CONSENT CALENDAR

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: Ken Stripling

DATE: June 13, 2017

SUBJECT: FEDERAL LEGISLATION: HOUSE RESOLUTION 2156

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

PRESENTER: Michael Murphy

RECOMMENDED ACTION

City Council adopt the Legislative Committee’s recommendation to support House Resolution 2156 (Knight) and transmit position statements to Representative Steve Knight; Senator Dianne Feinstein; Senator Kamala Harris; the House Subcommittee on Federal Lands; and other Members of Congress and committees, as appropriate.

BACKGROUND

Authored by Congressman Steve Knight (R-25-CA), House Resolution 2156 proposes to establish a national memorial and national monument to commemorate the victims of the Saint Francis Dam collapse of March 12, 1928.

Specifically, this bill:

1. Authorizes the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to establish the Saint Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial to honor the victims of the Saint Francis Dam disaster of March 12, 1928.
2. Requires the USDA to submit to Congress, by three years after the bill’s enactment, recommendations regarding:
 - a. the planning, design, construction, and long-term management of the Memorial;
 - b. the proposed boundaries;
 - c. a visitor center and educational facilities; and
 - d. ensuring public access to the Memorial.

3. Requires the USDA to consult with the City Council, along with appropriate Federal agencies, state government, tribal government, and the public in preparing the recommendations listed in subsection (2) of this summary.
4. Requires the USDA to develop a management plan for the Monument by four years after the bill's enactment.

House Resolution 2156 would create a national memorial and national monument to honor those who were killed, injured or survived the Saint Francis Dam collapse on March 12, 1928. Congressman Knight introduced similar legislation last year, House Resolution 5244 (114th Congress), which passed the House of Representatives on July 5, 2016. The bill was then referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, where no further action was taken.

The City of Santa Clarita 2017 Legislative Platform (Legislative Platform) includes a component related to the Saint Francis Dam. Specifically, component 1 under the "Federal" section of the Legislative Platform advises that the City Council, "Support legislation to establish the St. Francis Dam Disaster National Memorial and National Monument."

House Resolution 2156 was introduced in the House of Representatives on April 26, 2017, and referred to the House Subcommittee on Federal Lands on May 3, 2017.

The City Council Legislative Committee met on May 19, 2017, and recommends that the City Council adopt a "support" position for House Resolution 2156.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

1. Adopt a "neutral" position on House Resolution 2156
2. Adopt an "oppose" position on House Resolution 2156
3. Take no action on House Resolution 2156
4. Refer House Resolution 2156 back to the Legislative Committee
5. Other action, as determined by the City Council

FISCAL IMPACT

The resources required to implement the recommended action are contained within the City of Santa Clarita's adopted 2016/17 budget.

ATTACHMENTS

House Resolution 2156 (Knight)