

# FANCHER CREEK PARKWAY ACT

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FRESNO CITY CLERK



**September 27, 2018**

**ARTICLE I  
PURPOSE AND GOALS**

This Act summarizes a conceptual framework to identify goals and policies for the Fancher Creek Parkway. The Parkway will be significant because it will:

- Restore and promote a linear wildlife habitat corridor connection for a myriad of avian and terrestrial wildlife species;
- Provide an easily accessible passive and active recreation use area to more than 160,000 residents within the City and surrounding unincorporated areas;
- Provide a publicly accessible park and open space amenity totaling approximately 150 acres in size; and
- Provide a natural feature within an urban setting that is generally lacking in natural amenities.

This Act will:

- Name the area identified herein as the "Fancher Creek Parkway."
- Form a five member Fancher Creek Advisory Committee to advise Council District 5.
- Direct Staff to review, update, and finalize the 2001 Fancher Creek Parkway Concept Plan, and bring the Plan and all associated actions before Council for approval as necessary.
- Recognize the formation of "The Friends of Fancher Creek."
- Encourage the continued use of the creek for its vital role in agriculture.
- Support the preservation of the Fancher Creek habitat.
- Recognize the importance of Fancher Creek and its critical partnership with other agencies.
- Encourage the application to State and Federal agencies as well as Foundations for funding to improve and maintain the Fancher Creek Parkway.
- Create "Fancher Creek Parkway Day" in the City of Fresno.

**ARTICLE II  
DEFINITION OF FANCHER CREEK PARKWAY AREA**

Fancher Creek is a naturally flowing seasonal stream originating in the Sierra Nevada foothills of Fresno County. Fancher Creek in its entirety is about twenty-five miles in length.

The Fancher Creek Parkway shall initially extend from McCall Avenue approximately 8.9 miles west to Jensen Avenue. The majority of that distance (5.3 miles) is within the City of Fresno, with the remaining 3.6 miles in the unincorporated area of Fresno County.

**ARTICLE III  
FANCHER CREEK PARKWAY CONCEPT PLAN**

Concurrent with adoption of this Act, Council passed a Resolution of Initiation directing City staff to review and analyze the draft Fancher Creek Parkway Concept Plan from 2002. The analysis should include proposed updates to the plan consistency language, review and updates of proposed policies, and refining the concept plan to fit with the current Fresno General Plan, as funding becomes available.

Along with the adoption of the Fancher Creek Parkway Concept Plan, the City will likely need to adopt General Plan Amendments and Rezones to insure a public use parkway is properly zoned. Such future

planning action shall be identified in the Concept Plan, and prepared by staff along with appropriate environmental analysis, as necessary to implement the Concept Plan.

A thorough outreach program shall be instituted in drafting and refining the Plan. Outreach shall be focused on public and private owners of property within the proposed Parkway, public agencies, and interested community members.

**ARTICLE IV  
FANCHER CREEK ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

A five member Fancher Creek Advisory Committee is hereby created. The Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to Council District 5. Members shall be selected by and shall serve at the will of the Councilmember for District 5.

**ARTICLE V  
THE FRIENDS OF FANCHER CREEK**

A body called the "Friends of Fancher Creek" shall be established.

**ARTICLE VI  
FUNDING GOALS**

The City is encouraged to seek funding opportunities from state and federal agencies, as well as foundations, to implement, enhance, maintain, and preserve the Parkway.

**ARTICLE VII  
AGRICULTURAL AND HABITAT USE**

The Fancher Creek Parkway should be developed and managed in a way that enhances water quality, plant and animal habitat conditions, and open space and natural resource values while promoting water and energy conservation and minimizing environmental impacts, while also respecting rural-residential and agricultural uses. These goals shall be further addressed in the Concept Plan.

**ARTICLE VIII  
INTERAGENCY COOPERATION**

Because the Fancher Creek Parkway is a regional amenity, cooperation among the following agencies is vital to the success of Parkway planning and implementation:

- City of Fresno
- County of Fresno
- Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District
- Fresno Irrigation District
- California Department of Fish and Game
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

In addition, the City shall collaborate with the Fresno Irrigation District to include the Fancher Creek Parkway in the Master Trails Agreement.

**ARTICLE IX  
FANCHER CREEK PARKWAY DAY**

The Council shall establish and recognize "Fancher Creek Parkway Day" in the City of Fresno.