

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 61

45TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2001

INTRODUCED BY

John Paul Taylor

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING A FEASIBILITY STUDY BY THE STATE PARKS DIVISION OF
THE ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT FOR A
PROPOSED MESILLA VALLEY BOSQUE PARK.**

**WHEREAS, the southern Rio Grande valley is home to a
large and rapidly growing human population concentrated around
the Rio Grande and relying upon that river for recreation; and**

**WHEREAS, the need for recreation opportunities and
facilities in the area has been recognized since the southern
Rio Grande outdoor recreation master plan of 1984; and**

**WHEREAS, a potential site for the proposed park has been
identified in Dona Ana county as lying on the west side of the
Rio Grande between the Mesilla dam and the Mesilla bridge,
including an area locally known as the "old refuge"; and**

WHEREAS, a draft master plan for this project has been

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 developed in cooperation with participating landowners,
2 including the department of game and fish, the United States
3 bureau of reclamation, the United States bureau of land
4 management, the international boundary and water commission,
5 the Elephant Butte irrigation district and several private
6 landowners; and

7 WHEREAS, the proposed project location includes some of
8 the last remaining native bosque vegetation in the region and
9 offers unique opportunities to protect the diversity of native
10 plants and animals in remaining riparian and aquatic habitats,
11 restore the natural mosaic of riverside habitats, provide
12 stimulating educational opportunities for local residents and
13 create a new and exciting destination for visitors;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
15 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state parks division of the
16 energy, minerals and natural resources department be requested
17 to study the feasibility of creating a Mesilla valley bosque
18 park and to present a report of its findings to the
19 legislative finance committee at its October 2002 meeting; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
21 sent to the secretary of energy, minerals and natural
22 resources.