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LOS ANGELES WILL BE SITE OF PARKS FORWARD INITIATIVE WORKSHOP ON FUTURE OF CALIFORNIA'S STATE PARKS

October 7, 2013- The Parks Forward Initiative and the California State Park and Recreation Commission will hold a workshop in downtown Los Angeles to gather new ideas from Southern California residents on how to improve efficiency, create financial sustainability, and better leverage partnerships within the California State Park System.

The workshop will be held on Thursday, October 17, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Radisson at USC, Grand Ballroom Center, 3540 S. Figueroa St, Los Angeles. It will also be webcast live on www.cal-span.org.

The workshop is part of the Parks Forward Initiative, which is undertaking a thorough evaluation to improve and sustain California's underfunded State Park System. In June, California Secretary of Natural Resources John Laird and California State Parks Director Major General Anthony L. Jackson, USMC (Ret.) unveiled the Initiative. Earlier this month, the 12 members of the Parks Forward Commission were announced.

"These public workshops are intended to engage and interact with the public that California state parks serve," said Ken Wiseman, Executive Director of the Parks Forward Initiative. "We encourage people to participate, so that we can hear directly from every community. State parks are an important resource for Californians, and this effort is to ensure that everyone has a seat at the table as we search for ideas to improve the way parks serve the public."

Los Angeles citizens who cannot attend the meeting are encouraged to submit comments via the Parks Forward website, www.ParksForward.com, its Facebook Page, www.Facebook.com/ParksForward, and via Twitter @ParksForward.

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