

Ongoing cost pressure of an unknown amount, likely in excess of \$150,000 (General Fund or special fund), for State Parks to enter into an agreement with a nonprofit in support of the CIHC. While the establishment of an operating agreement may preliminarily be absorbable within State Parks' existing resources, and while the bill language states that the bill "does not commit, obligate, or require state funds to be provided in support of the CIHC support organization," given the broad scope and depth of the collaborative partnership envisioned in the bill, it is conceivable that the department may require additional funding for its role as the CIHC project progresses.

The total project cost of the CIHC is \$200 million; the state's share is \$100 million, and a campaign is underway to raise a matching donation of \$100 million for the phased buildout. To date, the state has provided approximately \$13.2 million (General Fund) for the CIHC project – specifically for preliminary plans, working drawings, and initial construction. As part of Governor's FY 2026-27 budget, State Parks is requesting \$842,000 General Fund in FY 2026-27, \$805,000 General Fund in FY 2027-28 and ongoing, and three permanent positions to support the CIHC, enhance public access, and improve visitor recreation experience at the site. In addition, State Parks is requesting a transfer of \$2.1 million in FY 2026-27 from the General Fund to the Natural Resources and Parks Preservation Fund for the construction phase of the CIHC project.

The Legislative Analyst's Office recently warned of General Fund structural deficits of around \$35 billion per year in the 2027-28 FY and ongoing.

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

The [CIHC] will become a cultural landmark for our state, a place where visitors from all around the world can learn about the true history of California's First People and be educated on the living cultures that continue to shape this land...This bill would help pave the way for this goal by advancing a top priority of ensuring this center is run by tribes for tribes by allowing for [State Parks] to enter into an agreement with a support organization. This collaborative partnership would advance the creation of the [CIHC].

2) **Background. CIHC.** According to State Parks, the 51-acre CIHC site is located in West Sacramento, at the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers. In June 2019, the City of West Sacramento completed the transfer of its 43-acre parcel to State Parks to realize the decadeslong-desired buildout of the CIHC. The completed CIHC will be a unit of the state parks system, and the development is proceeding with engagement between State Parks and tribal communities. State Parks notes the CIHC is intended to serve as a center of "statewide significance for cultural preservation, learning and exchange, land stewardship based on Native American values, and a place to engage all visitors in celebrating the living cultures of California tribe communities."

CIHC Task Force. In 2018, an executive order issued by Governor Brown directed the state's Tribal Advisor to establish a task force to oversee the development of the CIHC, including decisions about governance of the completed center. In 2005, the CIHC Task Force

recommended that the CIHC be developed and operated through a formal collaboration between State Parks and a new nonprofit organization, and that the CIHC Task Force prepare and approve bylaws for the new organization.

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