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City Parks Alliance and the Mayors for Parks Coalition Applaud LWCF Funding in President's Budget

Washington, DC— Betsy Price, the Mayor of Fort Worth, Texas, and co-chair of the Mayors for Parks Coalition, joined Catherine Nagel, Executive Director of City Parks Alliance, in praising President Obama's decision to include full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) at \$900 million in his Fiscal Year 2017 budget, released today.

"A fully funded LWCF will mean that in Fort Worth, and in cities across America, mayors will be better equipped to rise to the challenge of providing enough open space to sustain vibrant communities. I join many other mayors in expressing our approval that full funding was included in the proposed 2017 FY budget by President Obama," said Mayor Betsy Price.

"The Land and Water Conservation Fund has been one of our nation's most successful conservation programs, strengthening local economies. We thank President Obama for his support of the competitive grants program that benefits urban areas in need," said City Parks Alliance's Executive Director Catherine Nagel.

Since its launch in December 2013, the bipartisan [Mayors for Parks Coalition](#), a project of [City Parks Alliance](#), has encouraged Congress and the White House to help create and maintain parks in urban areas. Specifically, the coalition is pushing for permanent reauthorization and full funding of LWCF.

Created in 1965, LWCF has funded more than 42,000 state and local parks, playgrounds, urban wildlife refuges, greenways, trails and open spaces. The LWCF is also critical in protecting and improving recreational access to America's national parks, forests and wildlife refuges. The fund is paid for by royalties from offshore oil and gas development, but Congress has continually diverted funding from LWCF, which leaves it underfunded by millions of dollars each year.

If you'd like to reach Mayor Price for comment, please contact Cheraya Peña at (817) 897-2723. To speak with Catherine Nagel, please contact Julie Waterman at (202) 258-9418 or jwaterman@cityparksalliance.org

About City Parks Alliance

City Parks Alliance is the only independent, nationwide membership organization solely dedicated to urban parks. It leads and serves a community of diverse organizations, championing high quality urban parks throughout the nation. CPA's vision is that everyone in urban America will have access to parks and green spaces that are clean, safe and vibrant. www.cityparksalliance.org. CPA created and manages the Mayors for Parks Coalition.