

CHAPTER 1469

An act to convey certain submerged lands to the City of Needles, in furtherance of navigation, commerce, and fisheries upon certain trusts and conditions, and providing for the government, management, use, and control thereof.

[Approved by Governor August 25, 1967 Filed with
Secretary of State August 25, 1967.]

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There is hereby granted to the City of Needles, a municipal corporation of the State of California, and to its successors, all the right, title and interest of the State of California, held by said state by virtue of its sovereignty, in and to all of the submerged lands, whether filled or unfilled, situated within the boundaries of the City of Needles as such boundaries exist on the effective date of this act.

To be forever held by such city and by its successors in trust for the uses and purposes, and upon the express conditions following, to wit:

(a) That the lands shall be used by the city and its successors for purposes in which there is a general statewide interest as follows:

(1) For the establishment, improvement and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures and appliances incidental, necessary or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation.

(2) For all commercial and industrial uses and purposes, and the construction, reconstruction, repair and maintenance of commercial and industrial buildings, plants and facilities, as may be specified by the city council, after public hearing.

(3) For the establishment, improvement and conduct of an airport and heliport or aviation facilities, including but not limited to approach, takeoff and clear zones in connection with airport runways, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance and operation of terminal buildings, runways, roadways, aprons, taxiways, parking areas, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures and appliances incidental, necessary or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of air commerce and air navigation.

(4) For the construction, reconstruction, repair and maintenance of highways, streets, roadways, bridges, belt line railroads, parking facilities, power, telephone, telegraph or cable lines or landings, water and gas pipelines, and all other transportation and utility facilities or betterments incidental, necessary or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of any of the uses set forth in this section.

(5) For the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance and operation of public buildings, public assembly and

meeting places, convention centers, parks, playgrounds, bath-houses and bathing facilities, recreation and fishing piers, public recreation facilities, including but not limited to public golf courses, and for all works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures and appliances incidental, necessary or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of any such uses.

(6) For the establishment, improvement and conduct of small boat harbors, marinas, aquatic playgrounds and similar recreational facilities, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance and operation of all works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures and appliances incidental, necessary or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of any of such uses, including but not limited to snackbars, cafes, restaurants, motels, launching ramps and hoists, storage sheds, boat repair facilities with cranes and marine ways, administration buildings, public restrooms, bait and tackle shops, chandleries, boat sales establishments, service stations and fuel docks, yacht club buildings, parking areas, roadways, pedestrian ways and landscaped areas.

(b) The city, or its successors shall not at any time, grant, convey, give or alienate such lands, or any part thereof, to any individual, firm or corporation for any purposes whatever; provided, that the city, or its successors, may grant franchises thereon for limited periods, not exceeding 66 years, for wharves and other public uses and purposes, and may lease the lands, or any part thereof, for limited periods, not exceeding 66 years, for purposes consistent with the trusts upon which the lands are held by the state, and with the requirements of commerce and navigation, and collect and retain rents and other revenues from such leases, franchises and privileges. Such lease or leases, franchises and privileges may be for any and all purposes which shall not interfere with commerce and navigation. Nothing contained in this paragraph (b) shall be deemed to affect the validity or term of any franchise granted by said city under the Franchise Act of 1937, and any such franchise shall be effective with respect to the lands.

(c) Within 10 years from the effective date of this act, the lands shall be substantially improved by the city without expense to the state, and if the State Lands Commission determines that the city has failed to improve the lands as herein required, all right, title, and interest of the city in and to all lands granted by this act shall cease and the lands shall revert and rest in the state.

Nothing contained in this act, however, shall preclude expenditures for the development of the lands for any public purpose not inconsistent with commerce, navigation and fishery, by the state, or any board, agency or commission thereof, when authorized or approved by the city, nor by the city of any funds received for such purpose from the state or any board, agency or commission thereof.

(d) In the management, conduct, operation and control of said lands or any improvements, betterments, or structures thereon, the city or its successors shall make no discrimination in rates, tolls or charges for any use or service in connection therewith.

(e) The state shall have the right to use without charge any transportation, landing or storage improvements, betterments or structures constructed upon the lands for any vessel or other watercraft, aircraft, or railroad owned or operated by the state.

(f) There is hereby reserved to the people of the state the right to fish in the waters on the lands with the right of convenient access to the water over the lands for such purpose.

(g) There is hereby excepted and reserved in the state all deposits of minerals, including oil and gas, in the lands, and to the state, or persons authorized by the state, the right to prospect for, mine, and remove such deposits from the lands.

(h) Such lands are granted subject to the express reservation and condition that the state may at any time in the future use the lands or any portion thereof for highway purposes without compensation to the city, its successors or assigns, or any person, firm or public or private corporation claiming under it, except that in the event improvements, betterments or structures have been placed upon the property taken by the state for such purposes, compensation shall be made to the person entitled thereto for the value of his interest in the improvements, betterments or structures taken or the damages to such interest.

(i) The State Lands Commission shall, at the cost of the city, survey and monument the granted lands and record a description and plat thereof in the office of the County Recorder of San Bernardino County.

(j) The city shall cause to be made and filed with the Department of Finance, annually, a detailed statement of receipts and expenditures by it of all rents, revenues, issues and profits in any manner hereafter arising from the granted lands or any improvements, betterments or structures thereon.