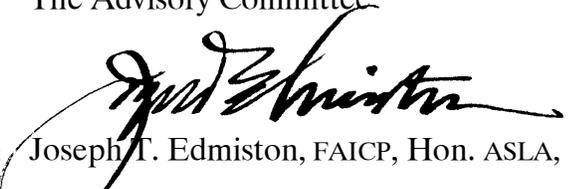


## Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: February 25, 2008

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 13: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to Community Conservancy International for Phase II of the Green Solution Projects Study.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds in an amount not to exceed \$236,000 to Community Conservancy International for Phase II of the Green Solution Projects Study.

Legislative Authority: Sections 75072, 75050(g)(2), 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) of the Public Resources Code

Background: Community Conservancy International (CCI) is a locally-based non-profit organization that recently completed a study entitled, *Green Solutions Projects*. Hard copies of this study will be available when formally printed in several weeks. Item 12 on this same agenda is a presentation by CCI of the results its Green Solutions Projects Phase I study. The Phase I data analysis covered the whole of the upper Los Angeles River watershed, the Ballona Creek watershed, and the central and southern Santa Monica Bay watersheds as far south as the Palos Verdes peninsula. Phase I received the majority of its funding from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and had a substantial contribution from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).

To date, the Green Solutions Projects study made a quantum leap in terms of locating and quantifying the amount of land physically available to implement multi-benefit storm water infiltration and cleaning projects. The results are important to demonstrate that the land base exists to solve most subregion's TMDL water quality compliance requirements with green (multi-benefit) solutions as opposed to major plumbing and mechanical systems.

The attached grant application from CCI provides in depth background about CCI's existing foundation of work and how the next proposed step will bring the benefits of several ready to go projects that will in turn demonstrate the function and feasibility of these types of projects on a much broader scale. The intent is that the Conservancy staff would join with both public and private partners to pursue funding for the five parcel specific projects honed by the Phase II study. To do the necessary level of analysis to get to this level of project development, staff determined that the best course of action was to limit the scope of Phase II to the upper Los Angeles River watershed.

Agenda Item 13  
February 25, 2008  
Page 2

CCI has been in contact with the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission staff about that agency funding a near-equivalent Green Solutions Projects Phase II study for the Ballona Creek watershed along with a couple other watersheds of the Santa Monica Bay. It is anticipated that the Commission will consider such a grant in March or April of 2008.