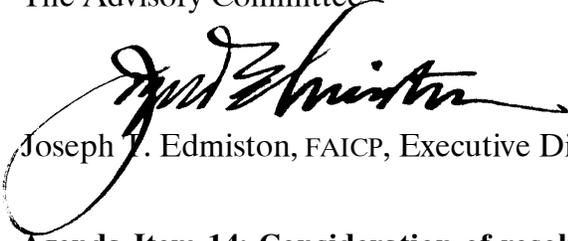


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: April 27, 2009

From :  Joseph W. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution adopting an agency policy on environmental justice.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution adopting an agency policy on environmental justice.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code 33211(c)

Background: The United States Environmental Protection Agency defines environmental justice as:

...the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Environmental Justice is defined by California statute as:

...the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of all environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

According to the National Park Service (NPS) website, current laws and policies require that the following conditions be achieved regarding environmental justice:

Desired Condition: Incorporate environmental justice into NPS mission by identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs and policies on minorities and low-income populations and communities. (Source: Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations)

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) has a track record of its programs

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and projects showing a strong commitment to these goals. See attached draft agency policy on environmental justice. The Conservancy would adopt this environmental justice policy statement effective immediately.