

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: April 24, 2006

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution authorizing an amendment to SMM-05030 with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Project Planning and Design services.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing an amendment to SMM-05030 with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Project Planning and Design services.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204(c) of Public Resources Code.

Background: On April 25, 2005, the Board authorized a Proposition 12 grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for Project Planning and Design services leading directly to the acquisition, improvement, enhancement, or restoration of park, wildlife or natural areas. The MRCA submitted a list of potential projects for which the subject grant would fund staff activities. The MRCA has requested that the list be amended to include five additional projects, as described below. All five projects are consistent with Article 8, Mountain Resource Program, Section 5096.353 of the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 12), and will achieve the goals set forth in Proposition 12, Article 1, Sections 5096.302(e):

“Continued economic success and enjoyment derived from California’s natural resources depends on maintaining clean water, healthy ecosystems, and expanding public access for a growing state.”

and 5096.303(c):

“Park, open-space, and tree planting projects also improve air quality and decrease congestion by reducing sprawl, improving the quality of life...by providing incentives to reduce development in inappropriate areas.”

Ascot Hills: Acquisition and restoration of open space on City of Los Angeles property, creation of habitat connection westward to the Monterey Hills, and creation of visitor-serving amenities.

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Backbone Trail: Acquire donations and Offers to Dedicate, and restoration of open space.

Confluence Park: Acquisition of property for creation of open space, restoration of native habitat, and creation of visitor-serving amenities.

Franklin Canyon: Acquire donations and Offers to Dedicate, restoration of open space and visitor-serving amenities.

Pacoima Wash: Acquisition and restoration of wash-adjacent, or near-adjacent, properties in the City of San Fernando and portions upstream to the Angeles National Forest, and creation of visitor-serving amenities.