

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: February 28, 2011

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 13: Consideration of resolution authorizing assignment of right to apply for Los Angeles County 3rd Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess Funds to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for the implementation of the Las Virgenes Trail, Malibu Canyon watershed, City of Calabasas.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt a resolution authorizing assignment of right to apply for Los Angeles County 3rd Supervisorial District Proposition A Excess Funds in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for the implementation of the Las Virgenes Trail Connector Project adjacent to and within the City of Calabasas.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code Section 33211(c).

Background: Proposition A (Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996) includes a funding section called Specified Excess Funds. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is the designated recipient of 3rd Supervisorial District Specified Excess Funds in the Santa Monica Mountains. The 3rd Supervisorial District has requested that the Conservancy assign \$300,000 of these funds to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for an important trail project in the Santa Monica Mountains zone. The proposed action is necessary to assign the Conservancy's right to apply for the funds to the Department.

The Las Virgenes Connector Trail Project as defined by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation consists of the development of an approximately 2,500 linear feet, 8-10 foot-wide, multi-use trail segment as part of the Las Virgenes Creek Trail. The connector trail will be built on a Los Angeles County Flood Control District easement in both incorporated and unincorporated land. The connector trail will begin south of Agoura Road and run under the 101 Freeway to the 190 acres east of Las Virgenes Road that was recently acquired by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. The project will include brush clearance, trail edge stabilization, the building of culverts and other drainage devices, protective fencing and gates, trail surfacing, trail signage and lighting as needed. The County states that the project would be entirely funded with the requested \$300,000.