



**CITY COUNCIL**

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August 2, 2012

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
Assemblymember, 44<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0044

Dear Assemblymember Portantino:

As you are aware, the Flint Canyon Trail has been an asset to the community even long before the City incorporated in 1976, allowing hikers, equestrians and bicyclists to enter into the beautiful 40 acre Cherry Canyon Park owned by the City. This 2.03 mile-long trail runs through the Flintridge area of the City, connecting Hahamongna Watershed Park in Pasadena on the east with those trails in Cherry Canyon on the west (please see attached map). Cherry Canyon trails provide connectivity to trails in Glendale on the southwest. Also, Flint Canyon Trail connects to the Arroyo Seco Trail, leading northward to the Gabrielino Trail into the Angeles National Forest abutting the City of La Cañada Flintridge.

Since before incorporation, the dream of the trail-user community, as reflected in the City's first General Plan, was to have a "Loop Trail" that could be used by trail users, both locally and regionally. The City received grants and contributed funds over the past approximate ten years in an effort to complete the Loop; and along the way, winning statewide awards for bridging the missing link in the Loop. The Flint Canyon trail is part of this Loop and a portion of it is eroding. Without repair, that portion of the trail will be lost and the connectivity that the residents, trail users and City have strived so hard to accomplish will be lost.

In 2009, the City completed extensive repairs to the upslope of Flint Canyon Trail, using a combination of funds from Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Land and Water Conservation Fund, Los Angeles County Proposition A Funds and City General Funds (a total of \$441,000). Although this repair was successful, the downslope continues to erode.

Currently, approximately 310 linear feet of the downslope needs to be repaired in the long term, with a total estimated cost of approximately \$1.5 million. However, the portion at risk currently is 160 linear feet. *At a minimum, this 160 linear feet of the downslope must be repaired soon or it will be lost.*

The City has obtained an additional \$40,000 in Proposition A Excess Funds from Los Angeles County to begin the repairs, but the rough estimate of the cost of the repair of the 160 linear feet of the downslope is \$150,000.

The importance of the loss of this connection should not be underestimated. At a time when non-motorized transportation modes are being emphasized as more environmentally acceptable, and in a location where trail use is heavy, loss of this connection would not only involve a severe impact to trail users, but would also involve the loss of an environmentally superior method of transportation.

Therefore, if any funds are available to assist the City in its effort to save this connection, it would be deeply appreciated. Thank you for your continuing efforts to assist our residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen A. Del Guercio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Stephen A. Del Guercio  
Mayor

c: City Council  
Mark R. Alexander, City Manager