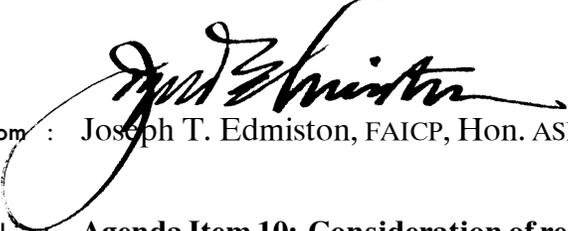


# Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: December 12, 2016

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 10: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Trust for Public Land to acquire the Robin's Nest property, approximately 51 acres (APNs 3209-008-012, -013, -016), Upper Santa Clara River.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy authorize a grant not to exceed \$1,000,000 in Proposition 1 funds to the Trust for Public Land (TPL) for acquisition of the 51.41 acre Robin's Nest property (APN's 3209-008-012; -013; -016), located on the Upper Santa Clara River near Acton, off Soledad Canyon Road.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204.2(a) of the Public Resources Code; and Section 79731(h) of the Water Code.

Background: Please see the attached Proposition 1 grant application from the Trust for Public Land. The grant request is for funding a portion of the fee acquisition of the Robin's Nest property, totaling 51.41 acres in three parcels in the Acton area along the upper Santa Clara River. The property significantly contains a half mile of river, plus over six acres of wetland, and over twenty-three acres of groundwater recharge area. The property is part of a Conceptual Area Protection Plan (CAPP) approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. TPL expects to match the Conservancy grant with an additional \$1,526,000 in funds from other sources.

The property is a key connection in the Pacific Crest Trail, and its acquisition would bridge a gap between two portions of Angeles National Forest. Over twenty-four acres of critical habitat for the federally-listed arroyo toad would be permanently protected in public ownership; along with other federally- and state-listed species. The recent Sand Fire last summer burned through the property and severely damaged the recreational vehicle resort and campground that previously operated there. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority has tentatively agreed to assume ownership once the property is acquired by TPL, but contingent upon the property being free and clear of damaged structures, environmental contamination, and other conditions. Assuming the redevelopment potential of the resort and/or six potential dwelling units, preservation of the property would avoid up to 2,010,283 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>, or 911.8 metric tons.

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Scoring under the Conservancy's adopted Proposition 1 Grant Project Land Acquisition Guidelines results in the Robin's Nest project receiving 117 points (out of a possible 137; 96 minimum required), plus 16 out of 18 climate change value points, plus 18 out of 33 possible points under Additional Criteria. **Total points: 151** (out of possible 188)

Staff recommends award of \$1,000,000 for this project.