

# Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: February 27, 2017

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 11: Consideration of resolution adopting Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor map to include areas around City of Moorpark and authorize filing with Secretary of State.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing adoption of a revised Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor map including areas around the City of Moorpark, and filing the map with the Secretary of State, the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water, pursuant to chaptered bill AB 2189.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204.8 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: Assembly Member Jacqui Irwin carried AB 2189 in the last legislative session, which called for revising the Conservancy's Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor boundaries to include area in and around the City of Moorpark. Soon after the bill was signed and enrolled, the Conservancy held a noticed field trip at its September 26, 2016 board meeting to view some of the areas proposed for inclusion by the City. A public hearing on the proposed map under Agenda Item 10 shows an expansion westward and northward from the current boundary east and south of Moorpark, to include land that the City of Moorpark has already acquired for open space or may wish to acquire in the future from willing sellers or donors.

The science informing expansion of the boundary encompasses two major stems of the Sierra Madre-Santa Monica Mountains Missing Linkages report prepared by South Coast Wildlands that connect the Los Padres National Forest to the Santa Susana Mountains. The scientific justification also includes watershed protection for the Arroyo Simi and Santa Clara River watersheds, the potential for recreational trail linkages, scenic viewsheds, and habitat for species of concern.

It should be emphasized that the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor, and any boundary revisions approved by the Conservancy, denotes planning areas for the Conservancy and other public agencies such as the City of Moorpark, but in no way supercedes or interferes with private property owners' rights or local government zoning and land use regulations. Inclusion into the Conservancy's Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor jurisdiction does allow (but does not guarantee) that the Conservancy can make grants for conservation projects in the area.