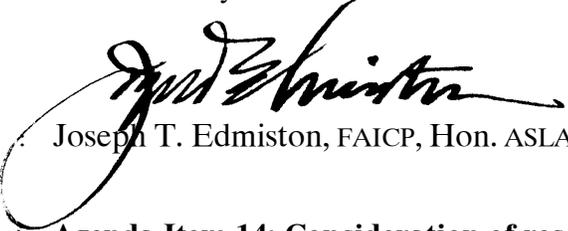


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: October 22, 2007

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution assigning the Mountains Restoration Trust, a non-profit organization, as the Conservancy's designee to implement Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Project Agreement No. 58A1-94-0132 to acquire properties in Escondido Canyon, Malibu.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution assigning the Mountains Restoration Trust, a non-profit organization, as the Conservancy's designee to implement Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Project Agreement No. 58A1-94-0132 to acquire properties in Escondido Canyon, Malibu.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) of the Public Resources Code.

Background: The subject grant agreement between the Conservancy and the District is from the 1992 Prop A bond, section 8(c)(3). The approved scope of work is acquisition of a 115-acre parcel in Escondido Canyon, and People for Parks was designated to carry out the acquisition. On September 20, 1993 and March 7, 1994, the Board passed resolutions authorizing the grant to People for Parks. People for Parks completed pre-acquisition work, but the specified 115-acre parcel was actually acquired with other funds in 1997. The remaining funds in the amount of \$200,295.00 may only be used for grants to non-profit organizations.

The project agreement will be amended to designate Mountains Restoration Trust, and to specify additional parcels in Escondido Canyon for acquisition. These parcels will overlay with the Coastal Slope Trail parcels that the Conservancy is pursuing in Escondido Canyon.

The Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) is committed to preserving, protecting and enhancing the natural resources of the Santa Monica Mountains. MRT accomplishes this by working in several areas: land acquisition, cooperative planning, restoration, and offering education, and recreation programs. MRT is a California Public Benefit Nonprofit Organization and recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization by the IRS.