

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: April 26, 2010

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 11: Consideration of resolution authorizing extension of term of Grant No. SMM-05082, to June 30, 2011, Conejo Recreation and Park District, Thousand Oaks.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing extending the term of Grant No. SMM-05082 to June 30, 2011.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204 of the Public Resources Code states that

The conservancy may, in accordance with the priorities of the plan, do the following: . . . (c) Award grants . . . for the purpose of acquiring sites identified as necessary for park, recreation, or conservation purposes and for development of essential related public facilities.

Background: In October 2005 the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy granted \$750,000 in Proposition 40 funds to the Conejo Recreation and Park District for restoration and improvement of the historic McCrea Ranch, a park owned and operated by the District and acquired from western movie icon Joel McCrea and his wife, actress Frances Dee. Substantial park improvements have been made to the site, which is listed in National Register of Historic Places. The grant term ends June 30, 2010, but additional time is needed by the District to complete the work for the grant, so extending the term of the grant until June 30, 2011 is warranted. The state freeze on existing grant expenditures that began late 2008 and extended into 2009 caused a substantial delay to this and many other grant-funded projects.