Date: June 28, 2010

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens 570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 (323) 221-8900

Memorandum

To: The Conservancy

The Advisory Committee

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

Subject: Agenda Item 9(d): Consideration of resolution authorizing a letter supporting designation of additional wilderness area and wild rivers in the Angeles National Forest.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a letter supporting designation of additional wilderness area and wild rivers in the Angeles National Forest.

Legislative Authority: Section 33211(c) of the Public Resources Code.

<u>Background</u>: Staff has asked the Advisory Committee to consider presenting a support letter for an initiative undertaken by representatives of San Gabriel Mountains Forever, and currently being pursued by Congressman David Dreier.

The initiative seeks to increase the Federal Wilderness Area protections for three sections within the San Gabriel Mountains—Sheep Mountain Additions, Cucamonga Wilderness Additions and San Gabriel Wilderness Additions—extending such new protections to over 30,000 acres. The initiative also seeks Wild and Scenic River designations for the San Gabriel River (including West, North and East Forks), San Antonio Creek and the Middle Fork of Lytle Creek.

Many other organizations have voiced their support, including the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society, the Friends of the River, and numerous cities, Bradbury, Claremont, Glendora, La Canada-Flintridge, Montclair, Pasadena, San Dimas and Upland. The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (representing 31 incorporated cities) has also passed a resolution of support. Many of the Advisory Committee Members have encouraged the Conservancy's action as set forth in the attached letter of support.