

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: September 27, 2010

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 12: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the acquisition of approximately 2.8 acres, Rubio Canyon, Altadena.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt a resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in the amount of \$265,000 to acquire approximately 2.8 acres in Rubio Canyon in the Upper Los Angeles River watershed.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code Sections 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) provide that the Conservancy may award grants to local agencies for carrying out acquisitions that directly relate to a project that the conservancy is otherwise authorized to undertake pursuant to Division 23. Public Resources Code Section 75050 (g)(2) provides that the Conservancy may award grants for the implementation of watershed protection activities throughout the watershed of the Upper Los Angeles River.

Background: The MRCA has submitted the attached application for a Proposition 84 grant in an amount not to exceed \$265,000 for the acquisition of approximately 2.8 acres located in Rubio Canyon. The property is in the Upper Los Angeles River watershed.

The subject property is depicted on the attached map. The Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy owns twenty acres of Rubio Canyon (also depicted on the map). Acquisition of the subject property is key to preservation of the remainder of Rubio Canyon.

The acquisition complies with the provisions of Water Code Section 79508, a requirement of Public Resources Code Section 75050(g)(2). Section 79508 provides that watershed protection activities shall be consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan (Common Ground). The acquisition is consistent with the following guiding principles of Common Ground. The acquisition will create, expand and improve public open space and recreation, and maintain and improve flood protection.