

# Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: January 24, 2011

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 16: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the City of South Pasadena for Arroyo Seco trail project planning and design, South Pasadena.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the City of South Pasadena in the amount of \$150,000 for Arroyo Seco trail project planning and design, South Pasadena.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code Section 33204(c) provides that the Conservancy may award grants to cities for development of essential public facilities; Public Resources Code Sections 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) provide that the Conservancy may award grants to local agencies to carry out improvements or educational interpretation programs 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).

Background: The City of South Pasadena has submitted a grant application for project planning and design for a pedestrian and bike path along the Arroyo Seco in the City of South Pasadena, including a geotechnical study and creation of construction documents. The City has asked the Conservancy for a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the Conservancy's Proposition 84 appropriation, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 75050(g)(2). The attached application describes the proposed work in greater detail.

Public Resources Code Section 75050(g)(2) allocated the sum of \$36,000,000 to the Conservancy for implementation of watershed protection activities throughout the Upper Los Angeles River pursuant to Section 79508 of the Water Code. The subject study areas are within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed. Section 79508 provides that watershed protection activities shall be consistent with the *San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan (Common Ground)*. The proposed trail would provide opportunities to implement key strategies found in *Common Ground* including public education, public access, and interpretive opportunities.

The term "protection" found in Section 75050(g)(2) is defined as including both development and interpretation. The project planning and design is for potential development of a

Agenda Item 16  
January 24, 2011  
Page 2

recreational trail with educational displays. When constructed, the trail would further interpretation of the Arroyo Seco watershed's natural resources and native plants.