

## Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: May 23, 2011

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(e): Consideration of resolution authorizing final advance of funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority from CF-0907 for Browns Canyon restoration project, unincorporated Chatsworth.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing an advance of \$269,980 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority from CF-0907 for its Browns Canyon restoration project.

Legislative Authority: Sections 33215, 33204.2 (a) and 33204.27(a) of the Public Resources Code

Background: In early December 2008 the Conservancy received a \$915,980 check from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to fund 7.046 acres of riparian habitat restoration and creation in the Gopher Canyon tributary of Browns Canyon. The money was deposited into the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Fund (Conservancy Fund). The funding is an approved appropriation in the State budget. The full amount of the funding was granted to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in 2009.

The first advance to the MRCA came in June of 2009, in the amount of \$346,000. The second advance came in March 2010, in the amount of \$300,000. A total of \$269,980 remains in the fund.

The MRCA made extensive progress on the main restoration area. The final amount of funding is for a final 1.5 acre restoration area located upstream and to maintain what has already been planted. The MRCA staff has requested that the final amount be advanced to complete the project.