

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: December 3, 2012

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 13 - Consideration of resolution authorizing support of (a) City of Santa Clarita's Gateway Ranch project; (b) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's Ramirez Canyon; (c) Malibu Creek, and (d) Franklin Ivar project applications to the Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program grant program.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the four attached resolutions authorizing support of (a) City of Santa Clarita's Gateway Ranch project; (b) National Park Service's Ramirez Canyon Acquisition project; (c) Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's Malibu Creek Acquisition project; and (d) Franklin-Ivar project applications to the Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program (EEMP) grant program.

Grant applications to the Natural Resources Agency's and Caltrans' Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program grant program are due on January 4, 2012.

(a) The City of Santa Clarita is submitting an application to acquire the 300-acre Gateway Ranch property under the Resource Lands Project category. A map is attached. This is a key Interstate 5 viewshed and inter-mountain range (Santa Susana to San Gabriel Mountains) habitat linkage parcel that has been on the Conservancy's Workprogram since 2000. It is the northern portion of the prior, failed Las Lomas development project.

(b) The National Park Service (NPS) is submitting an application to acquire selection parcels within the 110-acre Ramirez Canyon Acquisition project boundary that straddles Kanan-Dume Road under the Resource Lands Project category. These parcels are with the Escondido-Ramirez Canyon project that has been on the Conservancy's Workprogram since 2000. NPS would take title to the parcels on the west side fo Kanan-Dume Road. A map is attached. The noticed agenda language inadvertently listed this application as being submitted by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).

(c) The MRCA is submitting an application in conjunction with the Trust for Public Land to acquire the second (47.5 acres) and final phase of its 160-acre Malibu Creek Conservation Project upstream of Malibu Lake on the northslope of Castro Peak. This property has the highest priority on the NPS *Land Protection Plan* and the NPS already acquired the first phase. This application is also under the Resource Lands Project category and a map is attached. The property has been on the Conservancy Workprogram since 2000.

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(d) The MRCA is submitting an application to bolster its existing Natural Resources Agency grant to improve the Conservancy-owned Franklin-Ivar Park in Hollywood abutting the south side of the 101 Freeway. The MRCA is taking the lead in the development of the approximately three-quarter-acre site.