

BALDWIN HILLS REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

October 9, 2013 - Agenda Item VII

Resolution No. 13-13

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE BALDWIN HILLS REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING GRANT OF FUNDS TO THE SPATIAL SCIENCES INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TO UPDATE THE BALDWIN HILLS BIOTA REPORT

WHEREAS, the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA) was established by the County of Los Angeles (County) and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the purpose of providing a comprehensive program to acquire, expand, and improve open space, natural habitat and recreational opportunities within the Baldwin Hills and other natural and recreational areas within the Second Supervisorial District; and

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of BHRCA is to promote conservation and protection of natural habitat in the Baldwin Hills; and

WHEREAS, in February 2001, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and Community Conservancy International released "The Biota of Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment" (2001 report) which reported on vegetation, arthropods, reptiles and amphibians, birds and mammals in the Baldwin Hills; and

WHEREAS, said 2001 Report has been helpful to BHRCA and others with respect to conservation, environmental protection and expansion of open space in the Baldwin Hills area; and

WHEREAS, advances in survey techniques and improved local expertise allow updating of such biota and biological resources included in the 2001 Report, including assessment of vegetation on active oil field portions of the Baldwin Hills; and

WHEREAS, staff has determined that an update of the 2001 Report, particularly focusing on reptiles and amphibians, mammals, and vegetation, is warranted to better understand the natural habitat and thus enhance efforts to improve said habitat in the Baldwin Hills areas; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends proceeding with such an update as proposed by the University of Southern California, Spatial Sciences Institute (Institute), in the attached proposal,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of BHRCA hereby authorizes a grant of \$140,795 to the Institute to undertake the study as outlined on the attached proposal; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of BHRCA directs the Executive Officer to take all necessary steps to implement said grant of funds.

Chair

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a special meeting of the Governing Board of the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority, duly noticed and held according to law, on the 9th day of October, 2013.

Executive Officer