

February 24, 2014; Agenda Item No. 11

Resolution No. 14-10

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AUTHORIZING A GRANT
OF PROPOSITION 40 FUNDS TO THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY FOR PROJECT PLANNING AND DESIGN RELATED TO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A CALTRANS PROJECT STUDY REPORT AND
SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW FOR WILDLIFE
CROSSING STRUCTURES AT THE 101 FREEWAY AT
LIBERTY CANYON, INCORPORATED AND
UNINCORPORATED AGOURA HILLS AREA

WHEREAS, The State of California has authorized expenditure of funds from Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for capital outlay and grants; and

WHEREAS, The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is authorized to award grants to government agencies pursuant to Section 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) of the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, The Liberty Canyon wildlife corridor across the 101 freeway between the Simi Hills and the Santa Monica Mountains is of statewide significance; and

WHEREAS, The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has submitted a grant application to fund base design and feasibility work for a dedicated wildlife crossing structure at the Liberty Canyon habitat linkage; and

WHEREAS, the MRCA is the fee simple landowner on both side of the Liberty Canyon inter-mountain range habitat linkage; and

WHEREAS, the project is consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project is being taken subject to approval of the grant for compliance with General Obligation Bond Law; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project protects land and water resources; and

WHEREAS, The proposed action is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); Now

Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy hereby:

1. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the *Sant Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan*.
2. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives.
3. FINDS that the proposed project implements the goals stated in Proposition 40.
4. FINDS that the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
5. ADOPTS the staff report and recommendation dated February 24, 2014.
6. ADOPTS all the preceding *whereas* clauses.
7. AUTHORIZES a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in the amount not to exceed \$200,000 for project planning and design related to the development of a Caltrans Project Study Report and subsequent environmental review for wildlife crossing structures at the 101 freeway at Liberty Canyon.
8. FURTHER AUTHORIZES the Executive Director to execute the grant agreement and to perform any and all acts necessary to carry out this resolution; without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such a authority shall include those provisions that he shall determine in the exclusive exercise of his discretion are necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution and to comply with the policies of the Conservancy, and to otherwise carry out the provisions of state law and regulations.

~ *End of Resolution* ~

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, duly noticed and held according to law, on the 24th day of February, 2014 at Agoura Hills, California.

Dated:

Executive Director