Date: September 22, 2014

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Memorandum

To: The Conservancy

The Advisory Committee

From : Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item 10: Consideration of resolution naming the Coastal Slope Trail in Los Angeles County the Zev Yaroslavksy Coastal Slope Trail.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution naming the Coastal Slope Trail in Los Angeles County the Zev Yaroslavsky Coastal Slope Trail

<u>Legislative Authority</u>: California Public Resources Code Section 33211(c)

<u>Background</u>: The regionally significant Coastal Slope Trail is a long-envisioned 70-mile trail alignment that will provide continuous views toward the Pacific Ocean coastline along the Santa Monica Mountains, linking public open space and coastal canyon parks from Topanga State Park to Point Mugu State Park. The trail has been designated as part of the Los Angeles County Trails Master Plan since the 1980s, and is included in virtually all coastal-oriented planning documents with a trail component.

The Conservancy has been working steadfastly to acquire segments—large and small—of the trail for many years. In the last few years, key acquisitions of the trail have been facilitated by the vision and commitment of Los Angeles Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, including exquisite segments in Carbon Canyon, Decker Canyon, and the recently-acquired 703-acre Cameron Nature Preserve in Puerco Canyon. The trail connects together many significant parklands in the Coastal Zone and will make it easier for the public to access and enjoy them. Much of the active parts of the trail are on properties owned or managed by the Conservancy or Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

In his twenty years in office, Supervisor Yaroslavsky has contributed to the acquisition and preservation of over 20,000 acres of public parkland in the Santa Monica Mountains. Naming the Coastal Slope Trail for Zev Yaroslavsky would be a fitting tribute to his extraordinary efforts to protect the natural resources of the Santa Monica Mountains and the region, and make these public parklands accessible for future generations.