

BALDWIN HILLS REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

June 24, 2015- Agenda Item VI

Resolution No. 15-02

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE BALDWIN HILLS REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR, NO-COST EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING 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 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, the University of Southern California, Spatial Sciences Institute (Institute) submitted a proposal to BHRCA to update the 2001 Report (Proposal);

WHEREAS, during its October 9, 2013 meeting, the Governing Board of BHRCA authorized a grant of \$140,795 to the Institute to undertake the study as outlined on the Proposal;

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WHEREAS, the Institute has not yet completed its update to the 2001 Report and has requested a one-year extension, at no additional cost to BHRCA, to complete its update to the 2001 Report;

WHEREAS, staff recommends proceeding with such one-year extension, at no additional cost to BHRCA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of BHRCA hereby authorizes a one year extension to its existing grant to the Institute, at no additional cost to BHRCA, to complete the study as outlined on the Proposal and to update the 2001 Report; and

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

Acting 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 24th day of June, 2015.

Date:

Executive Officer