

WILDLIFE CORRIDOR CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

Date: September 22, 2017

To: The Governing Board Members

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

Subject: **Agenda Item VI: Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of Proposition A funds to acquire APNs 8267-015-029 and 8267-015-030 (approximately 2.34 acres) and transfer to Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, City of La Habra Heights.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of Proposition A funds to acquire APNs 8267-015-029 and 8267-015-030 (approximately 2.34 acres) and transfer to Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, City of La Habra Heights.

Background: The two subject properties on Skyline Drive are clustered right in with a large collection of Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (PHHPA) properties (former Diaz Ranch). This node of open space is located just west of the Harbor Boulevard wildlife undercrossing. The attached map shows the two parcels both in greater wildlife corridor context and with a detailed inset map.

PHHPA staff negotiated a deal with the property owner. Staff sent an offer letter. Escrow must close within 45 days after written acceptance of the offer. The funding source is the \$1 million Proposition A grant that Los Angeles County awarded prior to the stripping away of the remaining \$9 million of WCCA funding. Price and terms shall be discussed in closed session. The minimum two-acre acquisition requirement of the Proposition A Project Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) will be met by the subject acquisition.

At its January 20, 2017 meeting the Governing Board adopted a resolution authorizing staff to enter into an agreement with PHHPA to work on land acquisitions amendable to PHHPA and that PHHPA would accept transfer and subsequent management of said parcels. The subject acquisition of APNs 8267-015-029 and 8267-015-030 follows that model. PHHPA staff has approved the acquisition and acceptance of the parcels once they are first acquired by WCCA. As part of that transfer PHHPA would have to sign an Assumption of Assignment Agreement for the District to approve PHHPA as the new permanent property management agency.