

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: June 18, 2018

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy conflict of interest code to designate disclosure requirements of members of the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy authorize an amendment of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy conflict of interest code to designate disclosure requirements of members of the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code Section 33220 and Government Code Section 87306.

Background: Recently, Assembly Bill 466 was adopted by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Brown. This legislation, now codified as Section 33220 of the Public Resources Code, created the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group (“Working Group”).

The Working Group is charged with creating a revitalization plan for the Upper Los Angeles River and its tributaries by March 2019. Membership is currently limited to 23 appointees and staff of the Conservancy has been in consultations with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency regarding these appointments.

The Fair Political Practices Act requires that members of public agencies such as the Conservancy are required to file a Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests to help identify and avoid any potential conflicts of interests as members of these agencies help to debate and shape public policy. Conservancy staff has determined that members of the Working Group fall into the category of public officials required to disclose specified financial interests on the Form 700.

This resolution will simply amend the Conservancy’s current conflict of interest code to identify members of the Working Group as persons required to comply with applicable conflict of interest disclosures.