

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: July 23, 2018

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Conservancy Fund proceeds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design and improvements to the La Viña open space dedication and public trails adjacent to Millard Canyon, Altadena.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy authorize a grant of Conservancy Fund proceeds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for project planning and design and improvements to the La Viña open space dedication and public trails adjacent to Millard Canyon, Altadena.

Legislative Authority: Sections 33204.2 and 33204.27 of the Public Resources Code.

Background:

The Conservancy recently settled litigation related to the subject properties that resulted in a monetary payment into the Conservancy Fund. The corresponding resolution would approve a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), for the purposes of planning, designing, and construction of improvements for public access and maintenance purposes.

The scope of the proposed grant will include the necessary staff work and materials to complete the project, as well as consulting work required to plan and construct the trails. The MRCA will be responsible for the ongoing daily operations of the trails and the open space as well as for the oversight of adjacent conservation easements.

In addition to the proposed grant, the MRCA has previously received a grant of Proposition 84 funds and additional funds from Los Angeles County for this project. The completion of this project represents the conclusion of a dispute among Los Angeles County, the home owners' association, and the Conservancy dating back more than two decades.