

# Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: January 28, 2019

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution authorizing a Proposition 68 planning grant to the City of La Cañada Flintridge for Flint Wash Trail Repair.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant from Proposition 68 urban creek funds to the City of La Cañada Flintridge for planning of major repair of the Flint Canyon Trail, not to exceed \$300,000.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code Sections 33204 (a) and 80110(a)(1)(A).

Background: Please see the attached grant application materials from the City of La Cañada Flintridge requesting \$300,000 from the Conservancy's Proposition 68 allocation for study of engineering and design alternatives for restoration of the Flint Canyon Trail. The Flint Canyon Trail is a major trail along Flint Wash which connects Cherry Canyon open space in the City, with Hahamongna Watershed Park in the City of Pasadena. Flint Wash, Hahamongna Watershed Park, and the Arroyo Seco are part of the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed and tributaries of the Los Angeles River. The Flint Canyon trail has become seriously undercut and endangered by storm flows over the past few years and solutions are to be studied to prevent further erosion, trail failure, and stream sedimentation. The Conservancy in past years (going back to 1985) has the granted funds to the City for the acquisition of Cherry Canyon parcels and Flint Wash trail projects. Extensive measures may be needed to restore and stabilize for the long term this major trail; the grant would allow the City to perform a Preliminary Engineering Alternatives Analysis. Once the engineering and design phase is accomplished, the City will be encouraged to seek implementation funding from other sources as the cost estimates may be substantial.

## General Obligation Bond Law

The General Obligation Bond Law provides that bond funds may be used for the construction and acquisition of "capital assets." Capital assets include major maintenance, reconstruction, demolition for purposes of reconstruction of facilities, and retrofitting work that is ordinarily done no more often than once every 5 to 15 years or expenditures that continue or enhance the useful life of the capital asset (Government code Section 16727 (a)). Capital assets also includes equipment with an expected useful life of two years or more, and tangible physical

property with an expected useful life of 10 to 15 years. Section 16727 (a) also allows bond funds to be used for costs that are incidentally but directly related to construction or acquisition including costs for planning, engineering and other design work.

Using the Conservancy's Draft Proposition 68 Guidelines for Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects, the Flint Canyon Trail restoration design grant project scores a total of 97 points (out of total possible 145; minimum of 80 to 101), with no matching funds weighting.