

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: March 30, 2020

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 6: Consideration of resolution authorizing a Proposition 68 grant to the Moorpark Watershed Parks, Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Tierra Rejada Valley Trail Connections.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy authorize a grant not to exceed \$41,000 in Proposition 68 funds to the Moorpark Watershed Parks, Recreation and Conservation Authority (MWPRCA) for planning and design of a trail connection project.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204.2(a) and 33204.27(a) of the Public Resources Code; and Proposition 68, Section 80000 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: Please see the attached Proposition 68 grant application from the Moorpark Watershed Parks, Recreation and Conservation Authority (MWPRCA) for a detailed description and analysis. The grant request is for \$41,000 augmented by an additional \$10,000 in City of Moorpark funds to plan and design a trail connection between an open space parcel owned by the joint powers authority to trails and open space just to the south owned by the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency and Conejo Recreation and Park District.

Several years ago the City of Moorpark acquired a key 80 acre parcel just outside their city sphere for conservation and park purposes. The City transferred the parcel to MWPRCA once that joint powers authority was established between the City and the Conservancy. The proposed planning grant will identify access issues, needed improvements such as bridging and interpretive signage, and traffic studies in order to facilitate a recreational connection from the 80-acre park site to the Conejo Open Space Agency's 15,000 acres of public lands and over 100 miles of trails. The proposed project lies within the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor,

Scoring under the Conservancy's Proposition 68 grant guidelines for Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects received qualifying scores under values for Prioritization, Category, Implementation, Climate Change, and Additional Consideration, plus points for 25% matching funds.