

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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March 8, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012 **ADOPIED** BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

March 8, 2011

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Dear Supervisors:

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION: APPROVE ALLOCATION OF SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AND ASSIGN THE RIGHT TO APPLY FOR A GRANT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE DON WALLACE TRAIL PROJECT (THIRD DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Regional Park and Open Space District to allocate \$300,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant to the County Department of Parks and Recreation to fund the Don Wallace Trail Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act according to Sections 15303 and 15304 of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines and Classes 3 and 4 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the Project involves installation of new small accessory structures and minor grading.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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- 2. Approve the allocation of \$300,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, who will then assign its right to apply for the grant to the County Department of Parks and Recreation for the Don Wallace Trail Project.
- 3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, as agent of the County, to apply for the grant, accept the funds, conduct all negotiations, and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, the Project application, agreement, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to apply for and accept a grant in the amount of \$300,000 of Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), for the proposed Don Wallace Trail Project.

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), which is the designated recipient of Specified Excess Funds for projects in the Santa Monica Mountains under the 1996 Proposition. SMMC will assign the right to apply for the funds for the Don Wallace Trail Project to the Department.

The Don Wallace Trail will begin south of Agoura Road and run under the 101 Freeway to an existing open space area. The planned trail is aligned with a Los Angeles County Flood Control Easement. The trail alignment transcends both natural areas and partially developed areas and links the communities within the unincorporated Los Angeles County, the City of Calabasas, and natural or open space areas into the City of Malibu.

The proposed Project consists of the development of an approximately 2,500 linear feet, from 8 to 10 foot-wide, multi-use recreational trail segment as part of the planned and mapped Las Virgenes Creek Trail. The Project will include brush clearance, trail edge stabilization, building culverts and other drainage devices, protective fencing and gates or other barriers, trail surfacing, and trail signage. For safety purposes, lighting will be installed, as feasible, under the existing tunnel and approved by Caltrans to ensure safe passage for trail users.

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In a related action scheduled for today's agenda, the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) is recommending the allocation of \$300,000 of Specified Excess Funds to the Department for the Don Wallace Trail Project.

Upon approval of these recommended actions, the Chief Executive Office will return to your Board to establish the Capital Project.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action will meet the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by providing access to recreational activities through vital trails connections in the Santa Monica Mountains in the Third Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in the amount of \$300,000, is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial District's portion of the District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The Department has met this requirement.

The Los Angeles Flood Control District will provide the Department with a co-use agreement upon approval of grant funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Sections 15303 and 15304 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3 and 4 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the Project involves installation of new small accessory structures and minor grading.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects or services within the Santa Monica Mountains.

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CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA

Chief Executive Officer

WTF:RLR:DJT SW:VM:zu

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Parks and Recreation

U:Boardletters/CapProjs/Don Wallace Trail_Las Virgenes 30811