



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE

September 01, 2026

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

Dear Supervisors:

**TRANSPORTATION CORE SERVICE AREA
APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN
LAND VERITAS CORPORATION AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY
TO PURCHASE MITIGATION BANK CREDITS
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 3 AND 5)
(3-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Public Works is seeking Board approval to sign three agreements between Land Veritas Corporation and Los Angeles County for the purchase of \$922,000 in mitigation credits from the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank. These purchases include \$68,000 for the Kanan Road over Sierra Creek project, \$141,000 for the Lake Hughes Road Sediment Excavation and Culvert Maintenance near Mile Marker 2.74 project, and \$713,000 for the October 2015 Storm, Lake Hughes Road project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this Board letter and in the record.
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to sign three agreements between Land Veritas Corporation and Los Angeles County:
 - a. Sign the agreement to purchase 0.08 acre of 404 Wetland Riparian reestablishment credits from the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank to compensate for the Kanan Road over Sierra Creek project's impacts to Waters of the United States. Public Works will finance the \$68,000 contract cost.

b. Sign the agreement to purchase compensatory mitigation credits, including 0.05 acre of 404 Wetland Riparian reestablishment credits, 0.01 acre of 404 Freshwater Marsh reestablishment credits, 0.01 acre of 404 Open Water reestablishment credits, and 0.10 acre of 404 Seasonal Wetland reestablishment credits, from the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank to compensate for the Lake Hughes Road Sediment Excavation and Culvert Maintenance near Mile Marker 2.74 project's impact to Waters of the State. Public Works will finance the \$141,000 contract cost.

c. Sign the agreement to purchase 0.69 acre of 404 Alluvial Floodplain Uniform reestablishment credits from the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank to compensate for the October 2015 Storm, Lake Hughes Road project's impacts to Waters of the State. Public Works will finance the \$713,000 contract cost.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended actions is to approve three agreements required to purchase mitigation bank credits for the Kanan Road over Sierra Creek, Lake Hughes Road Sediment Excavation and Culvert Maintenance near Mile Marker (MM) 2.74, and October 2015 Storm, Lake Hughes Road projects.

Restoration and revegetation of the mitigation site will enhance the environment and provide habitat to compensate for areas impacted by the three projects.

The mitigation bank credits represent payments to a landowner outside the project limits to compensate for impacts to sensitive plant and animal habitat disturbed by Public Works projects. Purchasing these credits fulfills the mitigation requirements of the permits issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the three projects.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These recommendations support the County Strategic Plan: North Star 2, Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities, Focus Area Goal D, Sustainability, Strategy iii, Natural Resources, by allowing the County to mitigate any temporary and permanent impacts to Waters of the United States (WOTUS) resulting from the Kanan Road Over Sierra Creek, Lake Hughes Road Sediment Excavation and Culvert Maintenance near MM 2.74, and October 2015 Storm, Lake Hughes Road projects.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The cost to purchase mitigation bank credits for the Lake Hughes Road Sediment Excavation and Culvert Maintenance near MM 2.74 project is \$141,000. Funding is available in the Fifth Supervisorial District's Transportation Improvement Program within the Road Fund (B03 – Services and Supplies) Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget.

The costs to purchase mitigation bank credits for the Kanan Road over Sierra Creek project and the October 2015 Storm, Lake Hughes Road project are \$68,000 and \$713,000, respectively. Funding is available in the Third Supervisorial District's Special Road District 3 Fund (CP3 – Services and

Supplies) and the Fifth Supervisorial District's Special Road District 5 Fund (CP5 – Services and Supplies) Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budgets.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Land Veritas Corporation (LVC) is certified as a Woman-Owned Business Enterprise by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council and the Supplier Clearinghouse, and as a Small Business Enterprise by the California Department of General Services. LVC is the sponsor of the Petersen Ranch Mitigation Bank. The contracts are standard agreements used by LVC for compensatory mitigation services and will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel prior to execution by the Director of Public Works or his designee.

Public Works obtained a permit from the LARWQCB for the Kanan Road over Sierra Creek project. As a condition of the permit, mitigation is required to offset the project's temporary and permanent impacts to WOTUS through the creation or restoration of 0.077 acre of riparian habitat. LVC owns and will set aside properties that meet the restoration requirements.

Public Works obtained a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the Lake Hughes Road Sediment Excavation and Culvert Maintenance near MM 2.74 project. As a condition of the permit, mitigation is required to offset the project's permanent impacts to WOTUS through the creation or restoration of 0.17 acre of riparian habitat.

Public Works obtained a permit from the LARWQCB for the October 2015 Storm, Lake Hughes Road project. As a condition of the permit, mitigation is required to offset the project's temporary and permanent impacts to Waters of the State through the creation or restoration of 0.69 acre of alluvial floodplain habitat.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15333 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, which covers small habitat restoration projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment. The proposed actions meet the criteria set forth in Section 15333.

In addition, based on the record, the proposed actions will comply with all applicable regulations; there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, damage to scenic highways, or listing on hazardous waste site lists compiled pursuant to California Government Code, Section 65962.5; or indications that they may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource that would render the exemption inapplicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will have no impact on current County services or projects.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this Board letter to Public Works, Transportation Planning and Programs Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pestrella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Pestrella" clearly distinguishable.

MARK PESTRELLA, PE

Director

MP:MER:pr

c: Chief Executive Office (Christine Frias)
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors