

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC)**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
*The meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy will be held*  
*Friday, March 28, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*  
**Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area**  
**Community Center**  
**4100 South La Cienega Blvd.**  
**Phone (323) 298-3660**

**Teleconference Location:**  
**Natural Resources Agency**  
**1416 Ninth Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Conference Room 1305**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**

**10:00 am: CALL TO ORDER Starlett Quarles, Chair**

**MEETING AGENDA**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS WILL BE CALLED PRIOR TO ACTION ITEMS

***Public Comment and Time Limits: If you wish to speak on an agenda item cards are available near the door to the meeting room. Individuals wishing to comment will be allowed up to three minutes to speak. Speaker times may be reduced depending on the number of speakers.***

1. Call to Order – Starlett Quarles, Chair
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes (January) – Starlett Quarles, Chair
4. Update on proposed interpretive features and facility designs for the Stoneview Nature Center – Karly Katona, Deputy to Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
5. Consideration of a resolution to amend the Stoneview Nature Center agreement (#BHC12002), between the BHC and Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, to include a revised performance period and parking related mitigations – Representatives from the Los Angeles County Public Works and Department of Parks and Recreation
6. Discussion and possible action on a draft comment letter regarding the Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan Update – David McNeill, Executive Officer
7. Discussion and possible action on a draft comment letter regarding the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District Periodic Review – David McNeill, Executive Officer

8. Executive Officer Report – BHC Staff Representatives  
Project Status Update  
Fiscal Update  
Legislative Update

9. Ad Hoc Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

10. Board Member announcements or agenda items for future meetings

\* Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 2, 2014.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the Conservancy at (323) 290-5270 at least five days prior to the meeting. For more information about the Conservancy, you may visit our website at **[www.bhc.ca.gov](http://www.bhc.ca.gov)**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY  
**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**  
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056  
Ph: (323) 290-5270  
Fx: (323) 290-5276

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**  
*of the*  
**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**  
**JANUARY 24, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was assembled on January 24, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. and was held inside the Community Center at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056

**II. Roll Call**

Members Present: Julie Alvis (teleconference) Allan Boodnick, Lloyd Dixon (arrived following roll) Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker (arrived following roll) Yolanda Gorman, Robert Jones (arrived following roll) Allan Kingston, Chair Starlett Quarles, Craig Sap, Vice Chair Sara Amir, Jason Marshall (teleconference – arrived following roll) Patrick Reynolds, and Marina Voskanian.

Members Absent: Karen Finn, Russ Guiney, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Joan Cardellino, Joe Edmiston, and Patricia O'Toole.

Staff present: David McNeill, Gail Krippner, Gloria Dangerfield, Deputy Attorney General Christina Bull-Arndt.

Chair Quarles took time out to honor Member G. Allan Kingston for all his accomplishments as last year's Conservancy Chair.

**III. Approval of Minutes (December) Starlett Quarles, Chair**

The Chair called for the motion to approve the minutes. Member Boodnick made the motion and motion was seconded. Roll call was taken for approval of the minutes; eight ayes and one abstention. Motion carries.

**IV. Discussion and Possible Action on a Proposal for Incorporating Ecological Assessment and Monetization Strategies into the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Land Conservation Program – Mark Laska, Great Ecology**

Prior to the presentation, Mr. McNeill stated the Conservancy's land acquisition program was designed by State Lands Commission in 2006, for appraisal of all the parcels in the Baldwin Hills. At that time, the appraisal did not look at the habitat in the open space in terms of potential monetization opportunities; particularly, the ecological values. He introduced Mark. Laska and Jeff Harlan of Great Ecology, whose presentation would give more information about ecological assessment and monetization strategies. Mr. Laska pointed out that the concept of monetizing ecological assets has been around for a while, but only really has picked up steam within the last five yeas. Today, they will give some ideas to think about the evaluation of monetizing assets from an ecological perspective.

Their presentation covered examples of his company's projects. Mr. Laska noted the idea of monetizing is to improve or preserve and create something of value which another entity may want; this is often called an eco-system marketplace.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action on a Proposal for Incorporating Ecological Assessment and Monetization Strategies (cont'd)

He went over five-core strategies for the ecological approach; from direct sale of the property, partnering with another entity for business, donating land for tax benefits, generating eco-system credits, and finding potential buyers. Following the presentation, board members asked Mr. Laska questions regarding mitigation credits and how they could be generated, property surface rights profit opportunities, State and County funding issues, and what entities or buyers would invest. Mr. Laska outlined several scenarios that exemplify successful habitat and wetland mitigation instruments that are part of the ecological portfolio. Staff was instructed to conduct further investigation on the topic and explore partnership opportunities that might apply in the Baldwin Hills.

V. **Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a Grant of BHC Prop 84 Funds to Culver City Public Works for the Hetzler Pedestrian Trail Project – David McNeill, Executive Officer**

Mr. McNeill stated the proposal is the second generation of the original project awarded to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to get pedestrian off of Hetzler Rd and onto the trail. Culver City expressed an interest in partnering on the project based on their success working with State Parks and their prior work along the park frontage. Rudy Galindo, Culver City Public Works, showed the artist rendering of what the project would like (a pathway alongside Hetzler Road for pedestrians). Culver City recently held a public meeting to share the project with park users and residents living on Hetzler Road for their input. Charles Herbertson, Culver City Public Works Director, added a decision to provide a concrete path was because they felt it would improve the chance of getting pedestrians off the road and onto a walking path if it was a hard surface.

Member Sap, California State Parks, added they had looked at alternative surfaces for the walking path, but kept in mind that any other materials (other than concrete or asphalt materials) would become a maintenance liability. To enforce usage of the walking path, California State Park will issue warnings for pedestrians to stay off the road and onto the walking path; after a month, however, they will issue citations.

The total cost of the project is one million eight-thousand dollars, and if approved, the project will take eight months to complete from start to finish. Member Boodnick moved to approve Resolution 14-01 and the motion was seconded. Roll call was taken for the vote; all ayes. Motion carries.

VI. **Executive Officer Report – BHC Staff Representatives**  
**Project Status Update**  
**Fiscal Update**  
**Legislative Update**

Mr. McNeill informed the members that in the board package materials, this item is listed as Item VII, should be removed and replaced with Item VI that was handed out today. He called on Gail Krippner to give the local assistance capital outlay projects status.

**Project Status Update**

Ms. Krippner reported:

- Norman O. Houston park outdoor improvements. The City will have their first construction meeting next week.
- The City of Culver has completed the design for the Ballona Creek pedestrian bicycle ramp at Higuera Street and will be meeting next week to initiate environmental review.
- Stoneview Nature Center planning included a meeting with County Parks to discuss progress. They will be asking for a time extension of one year.

## Executive Officer Report (cont'd)

- Stocker Corridor Street Section of the Park-to-Playa Trail. MRCA is working on getting their permit, but they expect to go out to bid late in the spring.
- USC Baldwin Hills Biota Update. Contract is executed and David McNeill will be working with the grantee to setup access and logistics with the partner agencies.

### **Fiscal Update**

Mr. McNeill reported Attachment II shows the appropriations balance for the 2013-2014 year. This includes the ELPF, Prop 40 and Prop 84 funds. Prop 40 capital Outlay projects have an eleven million dollars balance. Prop 84 projects have a six million dollars balance. Bond Cash (Attachment III) shows how much money can be spent based on sold bonds.

### **Legislative Update**

The Water Bond of 2014 is being talked about in the legislature. Although the BHC was left out of Prop 50, the goal is to make sure the Conservancy is included in the next water bond. Hearings that are taking place next month and the EO is planning to travel to Sacramento to attend. Additionally, a California Land Conservation Conference is scheduled on March 5 and 6 in Sacramento; he will be attending the series of afternoon workshops and panels.

An emergency declaration of a drought in California has been issued by Governor Brown. Save Our Water campaign logo/link is on BHC's website so you can learn what California is doing to educate the public on conservation.

A CAP meeting was held last night from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00. County Planning announced the periodic review of the Community Standards District will be released and revisions (additions and updates) can be made to it Los Angeles County Fire department was also present due to a rash of fires in the oil field area occurring within the last three months.

## **VII. Ad Hoc Committee Reports – Committee Chairs**

### **Marketing and Special Events**

Member Dupont-Walker reported the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board was very present at the Baldwin Hills Dam 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary in December. The Conservancy's Chair, Starlett Quarles was a co-emcee and did a fantastic job. The gathering was everything they hoped it would be and two surviving families attended; neither of them had never spoken about the disaster nor had come to the areas since their families evacuated. There was excellent press coverage and Channel 5 participated with enthusiasm. She thanked Mr. McNeill for all the good work he did, he was the glue holding all the pieces together. As a result of the event, Gail Anderson (Channel 5 News) wants to do a piece with Dorsey High School youth for Black History Month.

## **VIII. Board Member Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Member Quarles said she is very excited about serving as Chair and working with Vice Chair Sara Amir.

Member Kingston announced every year the Urban Land Institute produces a contest where they award \$10,000 and publicity for open space in urban communities. He asked Member Sap and Mr. McNeill if they would be interested in submitting an entry for the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, which is in the center of this great urban community. Staff stated they would review the program to determine interest.

**IV. Board Member Announcements (cont'd)**

Member Boodnick asked if WI-FI could be included in the remodeling of the Community Center; Mr. McNeill replied he would include it in the list to be submitted to Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' Office. He also asked Mr. McNeill if it was correct fact that there will be an alternate for the Supervisor (at the Conservancy's meetings) for January 2014. Mr. McNeill confirmed and stated that it would be Karly Katona, who sent regrets she wouldn't able to attend today's meeting, but would make the next meeting.

Member Voskanian asked if perhaps, as part of the remodeling to get screens for members participating in the meetings by phone. Mr. McNeill responded he will put her request on the list.

Member Dupont-Walker reminded everyone March 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for eligible persons to enroll in the Affordable Care Act. Also, if anyone missed it, the Crenshaw LAX Metro Line groundbreaking occurred earlier this week.

Member Reynolds thanked the board for their support on the Hetzler Road project. Future proposed projects they have on their radar include the nature trail re-building, as well as the Park-To-Playa trail segment through Culver City Park.

Member Dixon thanked and congratulated Members Starlett Quarles, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, and David McNeill on their work on the Baldwin Hills Dam 50th Anniversary event.

Member Sap, reported by the next meeting, State Parks will have started construction on the State Historic Park. They've sent out bids and have gotten successful responses. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for their community outreach facility in downtown Los Angeles El Pueblo and is co-located with the National Parks Service and State Parks. If anyone wants to attend, please let him know; once they have a date, he will forward the information to you.

**XI. Adjournment**

There being no more business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Approved:

Starlett Quarles  
Chairman

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Re: Item 4:** Update on proposed interpretive features and facility designs for the Stoneview Nature Center Project – Karly Katona, Deputy to Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

### **Background:**

<u>Funding:</u>	BHC Prop 40	\$ 5 M
	Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA)	\$ 5.25 M

In April 2013, the Governing Board approved Resolution 13-05 authorizing a grant of \$5 million in BHC Prop 40 funds to the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) for the design and development of the five acre Stoneview Nature Center Project.

The Stoneview site is currently managed by County Parks on behalf of the BHRCA. During 2012, County Parks and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisorial District assembled a team of planning consultants to develop an interpretive theme for the park that would help steer the design effort (see attachment #1). Five themes were identified for the park: 1) Healthy Food, 2) Healthy Watershed, 3) Healthy Environment, 4) Healthy Community, 5) Healthy Mind & Body (fitness). Each theme contains subsections that allow for on-site interactive and experiential education that reflect local, county and state policy objectives. In addition to the interpretive themes, design concepts for the community / multi-purpose room, operations, restrooms and site-related visitor amenities have been developed for inclusion in the comprehensive bid package scheduled to be advertised this spring.

# Celebrating Healthy Living

Each of us can make small but powerful lifestyle changes to improve our health, happiness, community and environment.



## Healthy Food

- Community food education: social & environmental consciousness of food choices, impacts
- Food justice, security: equal access to fresh, locally grown food
- Sustainability
  - Local, organic farming vs. global, industrial agribusiness: costs/benefits → *Edible gardens, Community building*
  - Multi-national food corporations, genetically modified organisms (GMO's), packaged foods, preservatives, wasteful use of transportation, resources, pollution
  - Family farms, co-ops, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA's), farmers' markets
  - Agro-ecology: no harm to earth, oceans → *(Watershed connection)*
  - Healthy soil
  - Organic: no toxics
    - Chemical fertilizers, pesticides, fungicides, herbicides: costs/benefits
  - Integrated pest management → *(Wildlife connection)*
    - "Wild helpers": pollinators, beekeeping, seed planters, rodent & pest controllers
- Urban farming → *Edible gardens*
  - How to garden, seasonal home varieties, food forests, veggie share
  - Composting, worms, irrigation, water conservation
  - Aquaponics
- Cooking → *Outdoor kitchen, indoor kitchen, tasting events, solar oven?*
  - Nutrition: healthy meals
  - Recipes: sharing, global origins
  - Cooking from your backyard classes
- Food history → *Community building*
  - Native plants, people – ethnobotany → *Native plants garden*
  - LA agricultural development → *Fruit orchard*
- Food for habitat → *Community building*
  - Flora and Fauna (ecological community) → *Native plants garden, Native buffer*
  - Cycle of Life (interdependency)
  - Soil Fertility
  - Wildlife Corridors: residents, migrating

## Healthy Watershed

- Sustainability
  - Land conservation → *Bioswale, Detention basin, Permeable pavers*
  - Water supply and storage
  - Stormwater management
  - Rainwater capture
  - Clean rivers, tributaries, wetlands, bay
  - Species biodiversity
  - Habitat restoration

## Healthy Environment

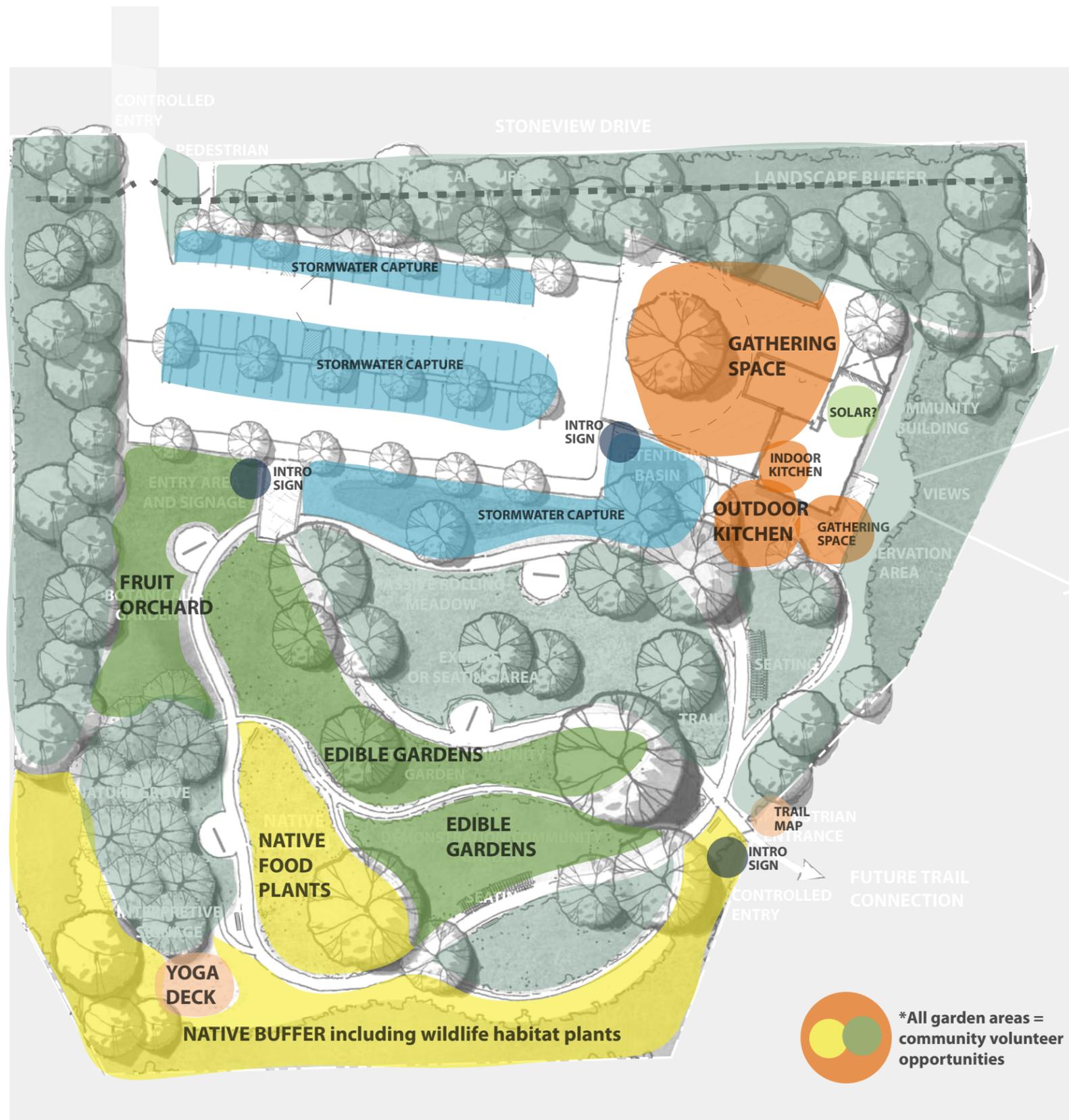
- Climate change adaptation
  - Urban forestry → *Street buffer, site*
  - Brush fire management → *Native buffer*
  - Carbon footprint reduction → *Community building*
  - Active transportation (bicycle, walking, public transit)

## Healthy Community

- Gathering place → *Outdoor kitchen, picnic tables*
- Storytelling
- Community gardens → *Edible gardens, Fruit orchard, Native gardens*
- History

## Healthy Mind + Body / Fitness

- Trail system: Park to Playa → *Trail map*
- Yoga, tai-chi → *Yoga deck*
- Gardening → *Gardens*

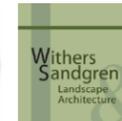


- ### PARK ELEMENTS
- CONTROLLED ACCESS/PARKING
  - LANDSCAPE BUFFER ALONG STONEVIEW DR.
  - ENTRY AREA AND INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
  - COMMUNITY BUILDING
  - OBSERVATION AREA
  - PARK TRAILS
  - PASSIVE MEADOW
  - NATIVE GARDENS
  - YOGA DECK
  - NATURE GROVE
  - SEATING/EXERCISE AREAS
  - DEMONSTRATION GARDENS
  - FUTURE TRAIL CONNECTION
  - STORMWATER TREATMENT

- ### INTERPRETIVE THEMES
- “Healthy Living” Introduction
  - Healthy Food
  - Natives
  - Healthy Watershed
  - Healthy Environment
  - Healthy Community
  - Healthy Mind+Body/Fitness
  - Unassigned area (per original concept design)

# STONEVIEW NATURE CENTER INTERPRETIVE PROGRAM: Conceptual Location Plan

October 2013



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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: Gail Krippner, Prop 40 Grant Program Manager**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Re: Item 5:** Consideration of a resolution to amend the Stoneview Nature Center agreement (#BHC12002), between the BHC and Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, to include a revised performance period and parking-related mitigations.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends adopting resolution 14-02, authorizing an amendment to BHC Grant Agreement BHC12002, between the BHC and Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, for extension of the Performance Period and parking-related mitigations for the Stoneview Nature Center Project.

### **Background:**

This month, County Parks officially requested a 12-month extension of the Performance Period for a new ending date of December 31, 2016. The extension is primarily due to the time required to address potential traffic issues near the planned park site. **See Attachment 1, letter from County Parks, including revised timeline.**

In April 2013, the Governing Board approved Resolution 13-05, authorizing a grant in an amount not to exceed \$5 million in BHC Prop 40 funds to the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County Parks) for the design and development of the Stoneview Nature Center Project.

BHC staff was informed by County Parks of the possibility an extension for the Stoneview Project Performance Period would be necessary due to delays in the environmental review approval. During the first quarter of project planning, a second round of public comment on the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was introduced in order to fully vet community and City Official's traffic concerns. Based on the input from the meetings, County Park's commissioned a new traffic study and a list of mitigations recommended by Culver City was developed into a

Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the City. The final IS/MND is scheduled to be completed by the end of March and will be sent to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for consideration this April.

Attachment 1



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

*"Parks Make Life Better!"*

Russ Guiney, Director

John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director

March 12, 2014

Mr. David McNeill  
Executive Officer  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056

Dear Mr. McNeill:

**STONEVIEW NATURE CENTER (BHC 12002)  
EXTENSION REQUEST**

Per the meeting at your offices on January 23, 2014, between the County of Los Angeles (Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Works and Chief Executive Office) and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, this letter is a request to extend the above contract's project performance date to December 31, 2016.

At the commencement of the project, the Blair Hills community and the City of Culver City requested that the public review of the Stoneview Nature Center Environmental Document be extended to 60 days from the 30 day minimum requirement of the California Environmental Quality Act. As a result and in light of the numerous comments received from the community, the public, and the City of Culver City, a traffic study was conducted and the Environmental Document was revised. The revised Environmental Document, which included the traffic study, was then re-circulated for another 60 days. Consequently, the revision of the environmental document and its extended public circulation and re-circulation impacted the original project schedule by adding approximately five months.

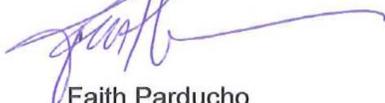
This project performance extension request to December 31, 2016 will account for the extra time needed for the County of Los Angeles to address the Blair Hills community and City of Culver City's concerns regarding potential traffic issues. Additionally, the extension will ensure that there will be adequate time for all financial paperwork processing and submission to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy at the completion of the project.

Enclosed with this letter is the revised timeline for this project outlining the milestones consistent with the extended project performance date.

Mr. David McNeil  
March 12, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

If you require additional information, please contact Ms. Imee Perius at (213) 738-2972  
or [iperius@parks.lacounty.gov](mailto:iperius@parks.lacounty.gov)

Sincerely,



Faith Parducho  
Special Assistant

FP:ip  
enclosure

**Stoneview Park Nature Center Development Project  
PROJECT TIMELINE**

<b>PROJECT MILESTONES</b>	<b>COMPLETION DATE</b>
Scoping Documents	<b>February 27, 2014</b>
Environmental Documentation	<b>March 28, 2014</b>
<b>Go Out to Bid:</b> Issue Design-Build RFP	<b>April 17, 2014</b>
<b>Award:</b> Design-Build	<b>September 18, 2014</b>
<b>Site Preparation:</b> Demolition	<b>September 26, 2014</b>
<b>Design:</b> Construction Documents 75%	<b>January 30, 2015</b>
<b>Design:</b> Construction Documents (100%)	<b>February 27, 2015</b>
<b>Permitting:</b> Jurisdictional Approval(s)	<b>May 8, 2015</b>
<b>Design and Construction:</b> Substantial Completion	<b>February 16, 2016</b>
<b>Design and Construction:</b> Construction Completion	<b>April 6, 2016</b>
<b>Design and Construction:</b> Project Acceptance	<b>May 27, 2016</b>
<b>Closeout:</b> Process invoices; Submit final Reimbursement Request and final report	<b>December 31, 2016</b>

**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY (BHC)**

**RESOLUTION 14-02**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO EXTEND THE PERFORMANCE PERIOD FOR PROP 40 GRANT AGREEMENT #BHC12002 WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE STONEVIEW NATURE CENTER**

WHEREAS, the BHC was created to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the Conservancy territory; and

WHEREAS, the BHC may undertake development activities with bond funds including, but not limited to, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, preservation, protection and interpretation of land and water resources pursuant to Public Resources Code 5096.650(b) of the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks and Coastal Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy may award grants to state, federal and local governments, public agencies or non-profits for the purposes of its division pursuant to Chapter 428 of Division 22.7 section 32569 of the California Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy entered into grant agreement # BHC12002 with the Los Angeles County Department of parks and Recreation pursuant to BHC Resolution 13-05, for the design and development of the Stoneview Nature Center Project; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation has requested a 12-month extension of the Performance Period as detailed in Item 5 of the BHC staff memorandum; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THE GOVERNING BOARD AUTHORIZES THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO AMEND BHC PROP 40 GRANT AGREEMENT #BHC12002 WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO INCLUDE A 12- MONTH EXTENSION OF THE PERFORMANCE PERIOD FOR DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE STONEVIEW NATURE CENTER

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Starlett Quarels (Chair)

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosana Miramontes  
Deputy Attorney General

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Re: Item 6:** Discussion and possible action on a draft comment letter regarding the Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan Update.

**Recommendation:** Approve staff's proposed comment submittal for the Los Angeles County 2035 General Plan Update

**Background:** The Los Angeles County is currently updating the 2035 General Plan <http://planning.lacounty.gov/generalplan> . The update allows stakeholders to revisit the General Plan's goals, objectives and priorities in light of changes that have occurred over the last 30 plus years. Over the next few four months, hearings are being held for public comment on the proposed updates for the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

The primary areas of the updated plan that relate to the Conservancy's mission include: 1) Planning Area Framework, 2) Air Quality, 3) Conservation and Natural Resource Element, 3) Parks and Recreation Element, and 4) Public Services and Facilities Element. Please see the draft comment letter enclosed as attachment #1.

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March 24, 2014

DRAFT

County of Los Angeles  
Department of Regional Planning  
General Plan Development Section  
320 West Temple Street, Room 1356  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Attention: Connie Chung, Supervising Regional Planner

Re: Los Angeles County General Plan 2035 (Revised Draft)

Dear Ms. Chung:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Revised Draft of Los Angeles County General Plan 2035. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy is a state agency with a mission to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the Baldwin Hills territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience. Through collaborative planning, our agency has implemented regional projects that demonstrate the capacity for best management practices to help address county-wide ecological issues in heavily urbanized areas. The Conservancy's multi-benefit recreation projects featuring storm-water management designs are enjoyed daily by residents, while new trails and urban tree canopy projects are helping to reduce green house gas emissions and improve air quality.

Moving forward, the Conservancy's role in preserving natural open space for species biodiversity in close proximity to a growing population is directly linked to the strategic goals of the updated 2035 General Plan. Please see our comments with reference to the following elements: Planning Area Framework, Air Quality, Conservation and Natural Resource, Parks and Recreation, and the Public Services and Facilities.

## Chapter 5: Planning Areas Framework

### 11. Westside Planning Area Issues – Page 59

There is mention of the local geography that includes Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area; however the planning area issues of the park are not discussed. Please revise to include the following:

*Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area is surrounded by public and private open space, businesses, utilities as well as residential housing, creating the potential for conflict between habitat protection and development. Maintaining open space recreational areas, protecting environmentally-sensitive lands, expanding public access to parkland and the Ballona Creek, and protecting residents from natural hazards are priorities in the Westside Planning Area.*

Chapter 8: Air Quality

Goal AQ 3: Implementation of plans and programs to address the impacts of climate change - Page 117

Climate change adaptation policy for unincorporated areas should include:

*AQ 3.7 Encourage native plant use in parks and residential area as well as use of plants as food sources*

*AQ 3.8 Increasing wildlife habitat through the strategic use of native vegetation*

Chapter 9: Conservation and Natural Resources Element

Goal C/NR 1: Open space areas that meet the diverse needs of Los Angeles County – Page 122

Revise C/NR 2.3 “Improve understanding and appreciation for natural areas through preservation programs, stewardship and educational facilities.”

Chapter 10: Parks and Recreation Element

Goal P/R 6: A sustainable parks and recreation system – Page 179

Sustainable Park System for unincorporated areas should include:

*P/R 6.6 Encourage the use of multi-benefit water quality park improvements in recreational facilities*

Chapter 13: Public Services and Facilities

Goal PS/F 6: A County with adequate public utilities - Page 221

Utility Infrastructure for unincorporated County should include:

*PS/F 6.9 Encourage safety assessment and upgrades of utility power poles in unincorporated areas designated as fire hazard severity zones*

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require clarification on any of the above recommendations.

Sincerely,

David McNeill  
Executive Officer

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Re: Item 7:** Discussion and possible action on a draft comment letter regarding the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District Periodic Review.

**Recommendation:** No action required. Staff is still receiving input to complete the draft comment letter. Once finalized, a draft copy will be available for review and input.

### **Background:**

The Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning is currently reviewing the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD). The CSD is an overlay zone established to provide a means of implementing County regulations, safeguards, and controls for activities related to drilling for and production of oil and gas within the Inglewood Oil Field. The ordinance has been in effect for five years since its adoption by the County of Los Angeles Board Of Supervisors on October 28, 2008. Under the provisions of the CSD, the L.A. County Department of Regional Planning is directed to conduct a review of the ordinance and, if necessary, make recommendations to improve its effectiveness.

The public draft document of the CSD Periodic Review recommendations was published on February 20, 2014 and is available on the Department of Regional Planning website: [http://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/bh\\_initial-periodic-review-draft.pdf](http://planning.lacounty.gov/assets/upl/project/bh_initial-periodic-review-draft.pdf). The review period includes a public meeting for submission of comments at the Community Advisory Panel meeting on April 24, 2014 at 7:00 pm inside the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area community room. Final public comments are due on April 28, 2014.

## BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Date: March 28, 2014**

**Re: Item 8: Executive Officer Report**

#### **Projects Status Report**

Please see the updated BHC Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report (attachment #1).

#### **Fiscal Update**

Please see BHC Summary Expenditure Sheet by Fund (attachment #2) and the BHC Prop 40 & Prop 84 Bond Cash Funds (attachment #3). The reports correspond with the end of month six (6) of the 2013-14 fiscal year.

#### **Legislative Update**

Water Bonds

**AB 1331 Rendon** – CLEAN SAFE AND RELIABLE DRINKING WATER ACT OF 2014 – Bill would enact the Clean and Safe Clean, Safe, and Reliable Drinking Water Act of 2014, which, if adopted by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$8,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a clean and safe clean, safe, and reliable drinking water program. This bill would provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election.

*Bill is scheduled for Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Hearing on March 25, 2014.*

**AB 2554 Rendon** – BOND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT - Amends Sections 151 and 154 of the Water Code, relating to natural resources. This bill would create the Natural Resources Bond Accountability Commission, which would be responsible for providing independent review of all expenditures of natural resources-related bond funds. The bill also contains provisions related

to statewide natural resource priorities. Specifically, it would require state entities to report on how projects receiving bond funds would help achieve statewide natural resource priorities and would require the Natural Resources Bond Accountability Commission to conduct an annual review to determine whether statewide natural resource priorities are being achieved.

**SB 848 Wolk** - SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY, AND WATER SUPPLY ACT OF 2014 - Bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality, and Water Supply Act of 2014, which, if adopted by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,825,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe drinking water, water quality, and water supply program. The bill would provide for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election.

#### Oil Well Stimulation

**SB 1132 Mitchell** – OIL AND GAS: WELL STIMULATION TREATMENTS - Bill would require the scientific study to consider additional elements, including, among other things, evaluating various potential direct, indirect, and cumulative health and environmental effects of onshore and offshore well stimulation and well stimulation treatment-related activities, as specified. The bill would also prohibit all well stimulation treatments until the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency convenes a committee to review the scientific study, as specified, the Governor issues findings that specific measures are in place to ensure that well stimulation treatments do not pose a risk to, or impairment of, the public health and welfare or to the environmental and economic sustainability of the state, and, if applicable, those findings are affirmed by judicial review, as specified. The bill would also require the division to adopt a formal process to resolve any claims with respect to vested rights, as specified. Because a violation of the bill's requirements would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

*Bill is scheduled for Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Hearing on April 8, 2014*

#### Cap and Trade Proceeds

**AB 2348 Stone** - NATURAL RESOURCES CLIMATE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - This bill would establish the Natural Resources Climate Improvement Program, which would be administered by the state board, in coordination with the Natural Resources Agency, to assist in the development and implementation of highly-leveraged, regionally integrated natural resources projects that maximize greenhouse gas emissions reductions or sequestration. This bill would authorize moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the state board to implement the Natural Resources Climate Improvement Program.

#### Parks and Recreation

**AB 1359 Hernandez** - QUIMBY ACT: USE OF FEES AMENDS THE QUIMBY ACT - Authorizes fees paid pursuant to the Act to be used for the purpose of developing new or rehabilitating park or recreational facilities in a neighborhood other than that in which the subdivision for which the fees were paid as a condition to the approval of a tentative map or

parcel map is located. Requires holding a public hearing before using the fees in this manner. Authorizes the use of joint or shared use agreements of such facilities for residents in specified areas.

**SB 783 de Leon - CLEAN WATER, URBAN PARKS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACT -** Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would improve the economy, the natural environment, and increase and improve access opportunities to physical fitness, by enacting the California Clean Water, Safe Urban Parks, and Environmental Health Investment Act of 2014.

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy**  
**Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report**  
**3/28/14**

<b>Capital Outlay Grantee/Administrator</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>ContractID</b>	<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	<b>PROJECT STATUS</b>
City of Los Angeles	Outdoor Improvements at Norman O. Houston Park	BHC11002	Prop 40	\$1,800,000	<b>Amenities construction underway; sewer construction continues; Project completion expected June 2014.</b>
City of Culver City	Park to Playa Trail - Design Development of Pedestrian/Bicycle Ramp at Higuera	BHC11003	Prop 84	\$60,000	<b>Design complete; Project closeout Spring 2014.</b>
California Dept. of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)	Environmental Monitoring and Soil Management Plan Implementation	BHC11004	Prop 40	\$465,000	<b>DTSC will continue to monitor Soil Management Plan on upcoming construction projects.</b>
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)	Milton Street Park Construction	BHC12000	Prop 84	\$2,000,000	<b>Park portion of the Project will go out to bid Spring 2014; Green Street to go out to bid separately TBD</b>
Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks & Recreation	Stoneview Nature Center	BHC12002	Prop 40	\$5,000,000	<b>Park program planning and site design in-progress; Project bid advertisement expected Spring 2014.</b>
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)	Park to Playa Trail - Stocker Corridor Section	BHC12004	Prop 40	\$1,030,000	<b>Construction documents in review; obtaining permits in Spring 2014; Construction bid advertising TBD.</b>

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy**  
**Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report**  
**3/28/14**

<b>Capital Outlay Grantee/Administrator</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>ContractID</b>	<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	<b>PROJECT STATUS</b>
University of California (USC)	Baldwin Hills Biota Update	BHC13002	Prop 84	\$140,794	<b>Contract documents complete; Kick-off meeting held March 2014.</b>

<u>As of 12/31/2013</u>	<u>PCA #</u>	<u>Remaining Appropriation</u>	<u>EXP + ENC</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
<b>ELPF - #0140, Support</b>				
2013 Budget Act Item 3835-001-0140	10001	\$ 351,000.00	\$ 191,448.51	\$ 159,551.49
<b>Prop 40 - #6029, Support</b>				
2013 Budget Act Item 3835-001-6029	10005	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 38,067.10	\$ 76,932.90
<b>Prop 84 - #6051, Support</b>				
2013 Budget Act Item 3835-001-6051	10009	\$ 101,000.00	\$ -	\$ 101,000.00
<b>Total Support Balance:</b>				<b>\$ 405,245.80</b>
<b>Prop 40 - #6029, Capital Outlay</b>				
2005 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20003	\$ 8,648,000.00	\$ 2,975,288.19	\$ 5,672,711.81
2004 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20002	\$ 7,200,000.00	\$ 3,794,725.06	\$ 3,405,274.94
2003 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20001	\$ 7,200,000.00	\$ 5,199,999.11	\$ 2,000,000.89
2002 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	22000	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 14,473,955.70	\$ 526,044.30
<b>Total Prop 40 Cap Outlay Balance:</b>				<b>\$ 11,604,031.94</b>
<b>Prop 84 - #6051, Capital Outlay</b>				
2009 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30002	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 980,280.00	\$ 2,069,720.00
2008 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30001	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,050,000.00
2007 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30000	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 1,050,000.00
<b>Total Prop 84 Cap Outlay Balance:</b>				<b>\$ 6,169,720.00</b>

BOND CASH FUNDS

As of 12/31/2013

2010 SPRING BAB SALE		CASH ALLOCATED	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
PROP 40:		\$ 579,277.00	\$ 579,277.00	\$ -
PROP 84:		\$ 829,272.44	\$ 819,999.26	\$ 9,273.18
2010 DECEMBER BAB SALE				
PROP 40:		\$ 603,452.18	\$ 239,694.32	\$ 363,757.86
2010 DECEMBER TE SALE				
PROP 40:		\$ 60,547.82	\$ -	\$ 60,547.82
2010 SPRING TE SALE				
PROP 40:		\$ 1,415,869.68	\$ -	\$ 1,415,869.68
PROP 84:		\$ 2,473,145.41	\$ -	\$ 2,473,145.41
2009 OCTOBER TE SALE				
PROP 40:		\$ 782,332.87	\$ 307,995.21	\$ 474,337.66
PROP 84:		\$ 197,000.00	\$ 39,254.99	\$ 157,745.01
2009 MARCH SALE				
PROP 40:		\$ 901,961.01	\$ 901,961.01	\$ -
<b>Total Available Bond Cash:</b>				<b>\$ 4,954,676.62</b>

**Earth Day - Birthday - Restoration Celebration!**  
**Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook State Park**  
**April 26, 2014, 9:30am-12:30pm**



**Earth Day:** Dig in and join us for a day of native plant restoration at this breathtaking location.  
**Birthday:** Celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the opening of the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook.

Volunteers are needed to restore this section of one of the most beautiful parks in urban LA. With your help, wildlife and native plants will once again flourish on this spectacular hillside.

- Activities for adults include: Digging and planting, removal of weeds. We will provide tools and gloves.
- Attire: Sturdy closed-toe shoes, hat, sunscreen, reusable water bottle, jacket (it's breezy up there).
- Family activities: eco-art activities for kids, and bird-watching expedition through the park.

RSVP: Kindly rsvp to: [carolbabeli@laaudubon.org](mailto:carolbabeli@laaudubon.org) if you plan to participate in the restoration work so that we can arrange to have the appropriate number of tools on hand. **Please rsvp by April 18th.**

Meeting place: 6300 Hetzler Rd, Culver City, CA 90232. Meet at the top of the hill at the Overlook building.

**Parking:** Due to limited parking we highly recommend car-pooling. Get your free parking pass at the top of the hill and park in lot. If lot is full, there is street parking at bottom of hill.

Map of location, click here:

<http://bit.ly/1oFykd9>