

**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
\*\*CHANGE OF VENUE\*\***

The meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) will be held  
Friday, March 27, 2020 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**\*\*BALDWIN HILLS SCENIC OVERLOOK VISITOR CENTER\*\***

5300 Hetzler Road  
Culver City, CA 90232  
(310) 558-5547

Per Executive Order N-25-20, Paragraph 11, issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 12, 2020 and related to the State of Emergency declared as a result of the COVID-19 virus, board members and members of the public are temporarily allowed to attend the meeting via teleconference, and such teleconference locations need not be formally noticed and publicly-accessible as is normally required. The teleconference dial-in information is as follows:

**Teleconference #: (877) 456-1729 Passcode #: 7450269**

**10:00 AM - CALL TO ORDER – Keshia Sexton, Chair**

**MEETING AGENDA**

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE ROLL CALL

***Public Comment and Time Limits: If you wish to speak on an agenda item, please complete a speaking card available near the door to the meeting room. Individuals wishing to comment will be allowed up to three minutes to speak. Speaking times may be reduced depending upon the number of speakers.***

1. Roll Call – BHC Staff
2. Approval of Minutes (January) – Keshia Sexton, Chair
3. Public Comments – Keshia Sexton, Chair
4. Message from the Chair – Keshia Sexton, Chair
5. Consideration of Resolution # 20-02 Authorizing a BHC Proposition 1 Local Assistance Grant in an Amount Not to Exceed \$700,000 to the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation for the Green Valley Connection Refurbishment at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area – David McNeill, Executive Officer
6. Consideration of Resolution # 20-03 Adopting Amendments to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Proposition 68 Grant Application and Guidelines – David McNeill, Executive Officer
7. Discussion and Possible Action on the Draft Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2020 Strategic Plan Update – David McNeill, Executive Officer

8. Executive Officer Report: Legislative, Project Status, and Fiscal updates – BHC Staff Representatives

9. Board Member Announcements or Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings

*Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126, the Conservancy may hold a closed session to discuss and take possible action regarding instructions on real estate negotiations, on personnel matters and/or to receive advice of counsel on pending or potential litigation, among other permissible subjects. Confidential memoranda related to these issues may be considered during such closed session discussions.*

*\*Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **May 15, 2020.***

#### **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)

**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290

Los Angeles, CA 90056

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

**Friday, January 24, 2020**

**10:09 a.m. Call to Order – Keshia Sexton, Chair** – A public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) was assembled at 10:09 a.m. on Friday, January 24, 2020, at the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) Community Center located at 4100 South La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90056.

**I. Roll Call – David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Members Present:** Megan Cooper, Lloyd S. Dixon, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Peter Garcia, Robert L. Jones, Corey Lakin, Dr. Nicole Lawson, Christopher Lief, Jason Marshall, Amanda H. Martin, Patricia O'Toole, Sara Rascon, Kevin Regan, Craig Sap, Keshia Sexton, Dr. Raissa White.

**Staff Present:** David McNeill, Executive Officer; Gail Krippner, Grant Program Manager; Caroline Orija, Project Manager; Tiffany Jones, Project Manager.

**II. Public Comments – Keshia Sexton, Chair:**

Public comment was invited. No comment cards received.

**III. Special Recognition of Past Chair Craig Sap – Keshia Sexton, Chair**

**IV. Approval of Minutes (December 6, 2019) – Keshia Sexton, (Chair):**

With the arrival of Member Regan, there were enough members to have a quorum. Member Jones provided a motion to approve the minutes, Member Sexton seconded. There being no objections or questions, the Chair called for a vote to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved by roll call, with an abstention by member Rascon.

**V. Presentation on Proposed Legislation to Amend the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act – Shona Ganguly, Associate Director, The Nature Conservancy**

Ms. Ganguly spoke about the expansion of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, possible outreach to other cities and conservancies. She also spoke about concerns about the size of the Board of Directors, equity across the region, and how the boundaries were made through hydrological boundary unit codes. Questions were raised by Member Dixon about the Dominguez Water Shed and overlapping into other conservancy territories. Member Rascon asked about the existing boundaries. Ms. Ganguly spoke about investing in contract lobbyist, the time and resources that need to be allocated to urban conservancies, and how to leverage local Measures W, A and M.

Questions and comments were taken by the public. Elaine Warner, the Economic Development Project manager at the Culver City remarked that Culver City supported and encouraged this endeavor by engaging with the Rockefeller Fund. Chairman Sexton recommended that Ms. Ganguly return to report to the board in a few months, once more community engagement meetings were held.

Rex Frankel from the Sierra Club said he supported the BHC in their efforts to make inroads in the Ballona Creek area.

**VI. Message from the Chair – Keshia Sexton, Chair**

Chairman Keshia Sexton welcomed the Board to the first meeting of the new year and detailed her and Vice Chair, Dr. Raissa White's 3 goals for the year. 1) Building a community in the Baldwin Hills Parklands through nature, health, and culture prioritizing equity and access for communities of color. 2) Increasing Baldwin Hills Parklands visibility through marketing strategies, wearable merch, and community exposure. 3) Building a board community that is active and engaged in Baldwin Hills Conservancy work by rotating attendance at different Parkland events.

#### **VII. Discussion and Possible Action on the Draft Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2020 Strategic Plan Update – David McNeill, Executive Officer**

Executive Officer David McNeill discussed the modifications, improvements, and updates to the current Baldwin Hills Park Strategic Plan. Members Lawson and Rascon asked questions about the survey cited in the Strategic Plan. Mr. McNeill states that the purpose was to pull from local culture to ensure that the parks remained tied to the surrounding communities.

#### **VIII. Executive Officer Report: Legislative, Project Status, and Fi\$Cal updates – BHC Staff Representatives**

Member Rascon asked if the BHC was an ELPF budget. Member Dupont-Walker asked if the projected budget was 3 years out. Mr. McNeill responded the BHC had two support positions on ELPF, but one was out on disability. The BHC is on an annual appropriation budget but does a 5-year proposed budget needs analysis.

Gail Krippner, Grant Manager for BHC, provided updated on Propositions 40,1, & 68. Tiffany Jones, Proposition 84 Project Manager, provided an update on the LACC project at the BHSO.

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

Member Dupont-Walker reminded everyone to check their polling places, as they may have changed and to keep in mind the Census would be conducted soon. Member Sap announced his son graduated high school and will attend West Point. Member Rascon announce CicLAvia-South LA Ride would take place on February 23 from 9am-3pm. Member Regan thanked Shawn Mcadory for his work at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Event. Member Lawson announced that the Los Angeles Audubon Society will be honoring David McNeill at the BHSO on March 14th.

#### **X. Closed Session: No Close session held.**

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for **March 27, 2020**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no more business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately **11:54 a.m.**

Approved:

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Kesha Sexton, Chair

Date:

# BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056  
Phone: (323) 290-5270  
www.bhc.ca.gov

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## Memorandum

**To:** Governing Board

**From:** David McNeill, Executive Officer

**Date:** March 27, 2020

**Re:** Item #5: Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing a BHC Proposition 1 Local Assistance Grant in an Amount Not to Exceed \$700,000 to Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for the Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area

**Recommendation:** Approve Resolution 20-02, authorizing a grant of up to \$700,000 in BHC Proposition 1 Local Assistance funds for the Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA).

### **Background:**

Los Angeles County Parks has applied for Prop 1 grant funds to develop and implement the Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (See Attachment #1.) The proposed project is located in KHSRA and encompasses a 3.4-acre site that includes natural habitat and recreational footpaths connecting the upper and lower portions of the park. The project would address the need to sustainably manage wet and dry weather runoff, reduce erosion, stabilize exposed hillside slopes, and rehabilitate native habitat along portions of the Park to Playa Trail that currently buffer existing healthy native habitat zones.

The project goals and objectives include:

1. Protecting the Ballona Creek through urban greening to include installation of 200 to 400 trees and shrubs to help reduce soil erosion and capture carbon emissions
2. Fostering site wildlife biodiversity through native plant restoration
3. Upgrading site irrigation systems to promote efficiency and water savings
4. Renovating 1500 linear feet of natural swale drainage compromised by mudslides
5. Removing invasive eucalyptus trees and reducing wildfire fuel hazards along the corridor
6. Updating existing interpretive panels and installing new panels to promote watershed education and environmental stewardship

Pursuant to the BHC Prop 1 Guidelines, the proposal passed all screening requirements. The application met all the qualifications and scored highest in the following three (3) areas: 1) The extent to which the project achieves and demonstrates the purposes of Chapter 6 Prop 1; 2) The extent to which the project will deliver sustainable outcomes in the long-term; 3) The extent to which the project provides multiple benefits. It is also consistent with various State plans, including the Governor's Water Action Plan, California Wildlife Action Plan, Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan, and the Baldwin Hills Master Plan. The final average score of the evaluation was 78 out of 100 possible points. Scoring sheets and evaluations will remain on file.

If the proposal is approved, the results would include improving water quality in Ballona Creek through renovation of a natural swale to capture polluted runoff that would otherwise reach the Santa Monica Bay; increase in native plants and tree canopy with a 25% reduction in exotic eucalyptus trees and invasive weeds on the site; a habitat restoration plan for ongoing weed management and irrigation practice assessment; a biodiversity report of existing flora and fauna; and upgrades to public facing interpretive panels along the corridor.

**Green Valley Circle Connection Refurbishment  
at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area**

**PROP 1 LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

(For use in the determination of the priority of Conservancy grants and projects authorized under Division 22.7 of the California Public Resources Code)

**STANDARD REQUIREMENTS**

**a. Located within the BHC territory**

Site map and narrative identify project is within the Conservancy territory and boundaries as described in PRC 32553 (a).

**b. Promotion of the Conservancy's statutory programs and purposes**

*PRC 32555 (a)* The Conservancy shall provide recreational, open space, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and lands for educational uses within the area.

*PRC 32555 (c)* The Conservancy shall provide for the public's enjoyment and enhance the recreational and educational experience on public lands in the territory in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in the area.

*PRC 32565.5 (a)* The Conservancy shall develop and coordinate an integrated program of resource stewardship so that the entire Baldwin Hills area is managed for optimum recreational and natural resource values based upon the needs and desires of the surrounding community.

*PRC 32565.5 (b)* The Conservancy shall establish policies and priorities within the Baldwin Hills area, and conduct any necessary planning activities in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32555.

*PRC 32565.5 (c)* The Conservancy shall give priority to related projects that create expanded opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills area.

**c. Consistency with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan**

*Hydrology, Page 13-14, BHPMP:* The Baldwin Hills are the last large, undeveloped open space in the urban portion of the 127 square-mile Ballona Creek Watershed. The hills drain into both Ballona Creek and its tributary Centinela Creek, through the Ballona Wetlands and then into Santa Monica Bay. The quality of water flowing from the Baldwin Hills is important to water quality in Ballona Creek, the Ballona Wetlands and in Santa Monica Bay.

*Natural Habitat, Page 43, BHPMP:* Opportunities exist to create connections and produce much larger habitat areas, protect populations of native plants and animals unique to Southern California, establish large natural preserve areas, increase the diversity of plant and animal communities and preserve the overall environmental health of the region.

*Park Concept Description: One Big Park, Page 51, BHPMP:* Storm water on the site will be collected and treated to reduce potential pollutants from flowing into Ballona Creek. Storm water will also be collected as an irrigation source for high water use areas. Substantial areas of the site will be revegetated with drought tolerant native plant species.

*Education and Interpretation, Page 76, BHPMP:* Providing opportunities for outdoor education and use of the Baldwin Hills Park as a living laboratory is a primary management goal.

**d. Consistency with purposes of Prop 1 Statute**

WC 79732 (a): In protecting and restoring California rivers, lakes, streams, and watersheds, the purposes of this chapter are to: (2) Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on California's communities and ecosystems; (8) Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health (9) Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health, to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, stormwater resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction. (10) Protect and restore coastal watersheds, including, but not limited to, bays, marine estuaries, and nearshore ecosystems. (11) Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management.

**e. Support from the public (demonstrate)**

*(See Attachment #4, Support Letters from Second District, Sierra Club and Los Angeles Audubon Society)*

**f. Greater-than-local interest**

With nearly 3 million Californians residing in a five-mile radius of the Baldwin Hills territory (according to the 2000 census data), and over 58 million trip visits to the Los Angeles area annually by Californians alone; the land resources in the Baldwin Hills represent an extraordinarily unique value to the entire state. This project promotes and implements California's watershed conservation policies in one of the most densely populated areas of the country.

**g. Demonstrated expertise in the proposed program area**

Los Angeles County Parks has demonstrated a long history of service and collaboration to the benefit of Angelenos. Working in partnership with the State, County Parks manages and operates 183 facilities comprised of over 63,000 acres of parks, trails, entertainment venues and natural areas. Completed projects include over 1000 grants from various funding sources over the past five decades. County parks has a proven record of completing projects within its stated budget and the performance period end date. Similar recently completed projects include *Model Green Park at Eugene A. Obregon Park* and *Stoneview Nature Center in the Baldwin Hills Parklands*.

### **ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES**

**a. Urgency**

Existing conditions at the project site are not improving and will continue to deteriorate without the proposed renovations. Preserving the long-term sustainability of the corridor and its ecological biodiversity through habitat restoration, non-native tree removal and fire hazard fuel reduction would provide much needed watershed protection and reduce wildfire risk.

**b. Resolution of more than one issue (Multi-Benefit Project)**

The proposed project would manage the 3.4-acre site's dry and wet weather runoff by reducing erosion and stabilizing hillside slopes. The renovation of the natural swale and installation of native tree canopy and greening along the trail would benefit users and allow for environmental education through the new and updated interpretive signage.

**c. Readiness**

The County Parks staff is positioned to start the project in a timely manner. The project activities, specifically planning and design work, are ready to begin immediately. Construction would be completed in 2024. (See *Attachment #3*, CEQA Notice of Exemption).

**d. Cooperation**

County Parks has support from ecology experts at California State Parks as well as Los Angeles Audubon Society who will assist in obtaining the necessary permits and developing maintenance plans to ensure habitat values are upheld. California Conservation Corps will be utilized for labor and construction support (See *Attachment #2*, CCC Consultation).

## **BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY (BHC)**

### **RESOLUTION 20-02**

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$700,000 OF BHC PROP 1 FUNDS FOR THE GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

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, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section PRC 32555 (c) The Conservancy shall provide for the public's enjoyment, and enhance the recreational and educational experience on public lands in the territory in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in the area; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section PRC 32565.5 (a) The Conservancy shall develop and coordinate an integrated program of resource stewardship so that the entire Baldwin Hills area is managed for optimum recreational and natural resource values based upon the needs and desires of the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, the BHC has the authority, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 32569 (a), to make grants to local, public and state agencies to further the purposes of the Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation has a proven record of completing over 1000 grant projects from various funding sources during the past five decades within each project's stated budget and performance period end date; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation has submitted an application for BHC's Prop 1 local assistance grant program for the GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA.in the Conservancy territory consistent with the funding source and grant requirements adopted by the BHC in May of 2015; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Water Code 79732, funds from the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 are available to reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management; and Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on California's communities and ecosystems. Now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THE BHC GOVERNING BOARD:**

1. AUTHORIZES A GRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$700,000 OF BHC PROP 1 FUNDS TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA

2. ADOPTS THE STAFF REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS DATED MARCH 27, 2020 FOR THIS ITEM.
3. APPOINTS THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AS AGENT TO CONDUCT ALL NEGOTIATIONS, EXECUTE AND SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO AGREEMENTS, PAYMENT REQUESTS, AND CERTIFICATIONS WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PROJECT(S).

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

on March 27, 2020

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Keshia Sexton (Chair)

ATTEST:

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David Edsall, Deputy Attorney General



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA



GRANT PROPOSAL  
PROPOSITION 1 GRANT PROGRAM  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY  
FEBRUARY 27, 2020





# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA

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# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA

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**State of California — Natural Resources Agency  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

*GRANT APPLICATION FORM*

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	
Green Valley Connection Refurbishment at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area	\$700,000	
<b>APPLICANT (Org. Name and Address)</b>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT</b>	
County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation 1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Unit 40 Alhambra, CA 91803	\$700,000	
<b>APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE (Name, Title, Phone)</b>		
Alina Bokde, Deputy Director, Planning and Development (626)588-5322		
<b>PROJECT ADDRESS (Including Cross-Street)</b>		
4100 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056		
Cross-street: Obama Blvd.		
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>SENATE DISTRICT</b>	<b>ASSEMBLY DISTRICT</b>
Los Angeles	30	54
<b>PERSON W/ DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBLY FOR PROJECT (Name, Title, E-mail, Phone)</b>		
Kasey Dizon, Grants Manager kdizon@parks.lacounty.gov (626) 588-5360		
<b>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT</b>		
<p>The Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area will repair approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale which has been compromised by hillside runoff; clean-out and repair portion of the swale damaged by a 2018 waterline break and mudslide; repair and stabilize slope along swale to prevent sediment from entering the storm drain system; reduce the existing eucalyptus tree grove; reestablish California native plants to protect the soil from erosion and to foster wildlife habitat; update the existing interpretive panels and add additional new panels; and make improvements to the existing irrigation system to promote efficiency and water savings.</p>		

TASK / MILESTONE	COST ESTIMATE	COMPLETION DATE
1. Grant Award	n/a	May 2020
2. Board Letter	n/a	September 2020
3. Biological Resources Assessment	\$7,000	November 2020
4. Habitat Restoration Plan	\$19,000	January 2021
5. Cultural Resources Survey and Report	\$12,000	November 2021
6. Jurisdictional Delineation	\$11,000	January 2021
7. Construction	\$625,000	June 2024
8. Restoration Implementation Monitoring	\$19,000	June 2024
9. Plant Establishment Period Monitoring	\$7,000	June 2024
10. Close-out	n/a	December 2025

***I certify that the information contained in this project application form, including required attachments, is accurate.***

**NAME:** Alina Bokde, Deputy Director, Planning and Development

**SIGNATURE:**

*Alina Bokde*

**DATE:**

*2/27/2020*

## GRANT APPLICATION – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### **NEED AND URGENCY FOR THE PROJECT**

The Project is a multi-benefit watershed protection and habitat restoration project that will help to address water quality challenges and threats to the existing native ecosystem in the area. The Ballona Creek Watershed (Watershed), within which the Project is located, has undergone significant urban development. As a result, the area has become susceptible to water quality challenges, arising, in part, from infrastructure damage. In addition, urbanization threatens the ecological health within the Ballona Creek Watershed and, consequently, the Pacific Ocean.

The Project site is located 1.5 miles away from the Ballona Creek (Creek), an approximately nine-mile long flood protection channel in the Ballona Creek Watershed, a 130 square-mile area within which nearly two million people live, and more than 5,000 species of animals, fish, birds, and plants make their home. It is estimated that during storm events, as much as two billion gallons of water move through the Ballona Creek Watershed, and in fact—according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Flood Control District, which manages the Ballona Creek Watershed—during a 50-year frequency storm event, Ballona Creek is designed to discharge approximately 71,400 cubic feet of water per second into the Pacific Ocean. If left unprotected, the various creeks, channels, and storm drains within the Ballona Creek Watershed will transport considerable amounts of polluted runoff into the Pacific Ocean. Unfortunately, according to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, fecal coliform bacteria, heavy metals, and pesticides have been found in the Ballona Creek. The presence of these materials indicate that the Watershed has become impaired, and more troubling, that the residents and wildlife that live within the Watershed and along the Creek's path to the Pacific Ocean are in danger of becoming exposed to these pollutants. It is important, therefore, to implement actions to improve the ecological health of the Watershed.

The extensive engineered storm drain network in the Ballona Creek Watershed is the main reason for the increased runoff volumes in the area. Through the years, human development has transformed the Ballona Creek Watershed from open land to primarily residential, commercial, and industrial uses. According to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the agency charged with managing the Ballona Creek Watershed, only 17 percent of the land is still considered open green space. Moreover, most of the minor tributaries to Ballona Creek have also been destroyed by development or paved over to create a storm drain network. What was once pervious soil and natural water pools and ponds is now primarily impermeable surfaces and storm and street drains. As a result of urban development, the land has become more vulnerable to flooding and its ability for groundwater recharge—in which stormwater and runoff seep into the ground and collect into underground aquifers—has become severely diminished and, in some cases, eliminated altogether. In effect, the urbanization of the Watershed has led to degraded water quality in Ballona Creek. Now, instead of seeping back into the ground, water travels swiftly through the Creek's engineered channels, collecting trash, chemicals, waste, and debris from the streets and trails it crosses and depositing these pollutants throughout the Ballona Creek Watershed and, ultimately, into the Pacific Ocean. Consequently, dry weather urban runoff and storm water runoff are the primary sources of pollution in the Creek.

The Project site's current conditions do little to protect the Ballona Creek from existing ecological threats. According to studies, the highest rate of runoff occurs under two types of circumstances—steeply sloped hillsides and recent burn areas. The Project site is characterized by bare, steep slopes. Spanning several hundred feet along a hillside, the Project site encompasses several sloping areas, which are vulnerable to erosion. In 2016, in an effort to provide erosion protection to the area, work along a portion of the trail within the Project site included planting of vegetation along

the adjacent hillside slopes. When the hydroseed did not establish, this earlier effort to create a natural barrier along the site's steep slopes failed and, as a result, much of the Project site today remains vulnerable to flooding and erosion. Unfortunately, in 2018, a waterline break triggered mudslides along this exact portion of trail within the Project site, causing sediment and debris to enter into the drainage swale and retention pond.

The second condition for high erosion and runoff is recently burned areas. The Project site is populated by large expanses of eucalyptus tree groves, which are known to be extreme fire hazards. A National Park Service study of 50 California sites found that the fuel load (amount of available fuel per unit area) of non-native eucalyptus species is almost three times greater than that of native coast live oak. In addition, according to research conducted by both the University of California and California State University, oils produced by eucalyptus leaves are volatile and highly flammable and ignited trees have been known to explode. Furthermore, some eucalyptus species drop branches unexpectedly, and its fallen leaves and branches accumulate rapidly, are resistant to natural decomposition, and extremely combustible due to their high resin content and density. As previously mentioned, recent burn areas are one of two conditions in which a high rate of runoff occurs. The reason for this is that burn areas create soil that is less likely to allow water to permeate its surface. The eucalyptus groves within the Project site are susceptible to fire, and the current conditions within the Project site, if left unchanged, will lead to increased erosion and further reduction of water quality of the Ballona Creek.

Other issues associated with the urbanization of the Ballona Creek Watershed, for which this project seeks to alleviate, include significant habitat loss for both native flora and fauna in the area, including endangered, threatened, or migratory species. The native habitat within KHSRA is mostly coastal sage scrub, particularly in the Project site area, supporting gray foxes, raccoons, skunks, desert cottontail rabbits, opossums, and 41 species of birds (36 of which are native to California), including the California quail. Urban birds like the house sparrow, which has been known to attack native birds and steal their food, prevent healthy native bird populations from being re-established. In addition, the loss of native flora due to urbanization has also resulted in a reduction of native fauna dependent on coastal sage plants for food and shelter, including important pollinators like butterfly populations, which are necessary to supporting plant population growth. Restoration of this habitat type will also provide residents with a sustainable green, open space in the heart of urban Los Angeles. In doing so, the Project will help reduce urban heat island effects by replacing weedy areas of annual grasses with native trees and tree-sized shrubs with an understory of shrubs and grasses. This will create shady areas year-round, helping to offset longer-term climate change impacts. By increasing native habitat, the Project will restore native habitat lost to over a century of urban development.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- a.) The Project's goals focus on protection of the Ballona Creek Watershed and habitat restoration on the Project site while providing urban greening and other multi-benefits to the community. To achieve these goals, the Project will reestablish and enhance the California native plant population to protect the soil from erosion and to foster wildlife habitat, reduce the amount of invasive eucalyptus trees to reduce the risk of fire hazards, make improvements to the existing irrigation system to promote efficiency and water savings, in addition to repairing approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale compromised by hillside runoff, including clearing the portion damaged by a waterline break and mudslide, and repairing and stabilizing the adjacent slopes to prevent sediment from entering the storm drain system. The Project will also update the existing interpretive panels and add new interpretive panels to encourage learning and environmental stewardship.

Aligned with the purposes identified in Chapter 6 of Proposition 1, the Project will help to protect and restore the health of the Ballona Creek Watershed, an urban watershed, to improve forest health, stormwater resource management, greenhouse gas reduction, and, consequently, provide increased protection of life and property (9); achieve a reduction in pollution or contamination of the Ballona Creek and the surrounding Ballona Creek Watershed, and protect and restore natural system functions that contribute to water quality and flood management (11). The Project's watershed protection goals will address water quality challenges within the Ballona Creek Watershed through ensuring proper stormwater management practices and providing improvements to existing infrastructure, such as repairing and reestablishing the drainage swale that serves the Project area, including a segment with a retention pond used for water storage and groundwater recharge. The Project will also address excess runoff and erosion in the area to minimize the amount of debris and sedimentation entering into the stormwater system. Further, improvements to the existing irrigation system will allow for better control of applied water, resulting in less runoff and waste. The Project is also aligned with Proposition 1 purposes to assist in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health and inland wetland restoration, as well as through implementation of a natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan (12) and to protect and restore aquatic, wetland, and migratory bird ecosystems (4). The Project will increase and, therefore, restore native habitat by re-introducing native shrubs and groundcovers to provide slope stabilization and erosion control as well food and protection for location wildlife. The Project will plant approximately 200 to 400 California native evergreen and deciduous trees and plants, further increasing native plant population as well as providing erosion control measures benefiting the water quality. In addition, the existing 2.8 acres of invasive eucalyptus trees will also be reduced by up to 25 percent. By planting native and California-friendly vegetation along the Project's steep slopes, the Project will simultaneously provide water quality improvement opportunities, decrease erosion risk, improve drainage by mitigating flooding along the P2P Trail, increase the Park's native plant population, and restore native habitat.

The Project will meet other Proposition 1 purposes, including implementing fuel treatment efforts to reduce wildfire risks and promote watershed health (8) and protecting and increasing economic benefits arising from a healthy Ballona Creek Watershed (1). Fuel treatment efforts incorporated into the Project include reducing the eucalyptus tree population. In doing so, the Project will help reduce the amount of fallen eucalyptus leaves and branches—which are known to be highly flammable—and in turn, reduce wildfire risks in the area. An added multi-benefit of reducing the eucalyptus tree population is preventing damage to the Project or injury to visitors or wildlife from falling limbs. In addition, the Project will protect and increase economic benefits from a healthy Ballona Creek Watershed by enhancing the recreation value of the site, reducing maintenance or capital costs in the future, and stimulating community-level investment by providing learning and engagement opportunities as well as green jobs workforce training and programs. The Project will restore degraded areas on the site, which provides wildlife habitat and opportunities for outdoor education. In addition, site restoration also provides opportunities for green job workforce training. Both provide an investment in the community, which increases economic benefits for residents of the Ballona Creek Watershed, especially for those from nearby disadvantaged communities. Opportunities for education also improve engagement and instill a sense of community ownership of the area. Likewise, improvements to the stormwater management system also helps promote community-level investment by protecting park and trail features, thereby making it more desirable to live near KHSRA. Stormwater infrastructure improvements also reduce maintenance costs or future capital costs needed to upgrade. Furthermore, the Project will provide economic benefits by reducing landscape maintenance needs. By removing a significant portion of eucalyptus trees, the Project will convert high maintenance vegetation to lower maintenance native vegetation, and

therefore, reduce maintenance needs. Job skills and community investment also help to protect and maintain existing infrastructure, and therefore, offer economic savings in maintenance needs. In addition, the Project will refurbish a damaged swale leading to a retention pond. This will help to reduce future problems, including maintenance challenges, caused by high runoff or sedimentation of streams.

- b.) The Project will plant approximately 200 to 400 new trees and plants on the Project site utilizing an ecosystem-based model that considers vegetation native or friendly to the Project site's particular Southern California region in addition to other factors, such as plant structures, including tree canopy and root systems, and a plant's capacity to form successful symbiotic relationships with other microorganisms. Aligned with the State's greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, the planned ecosystem-based approach will seek to optimize carbon sequestration to reduce greenhouse gases that contribute to pollution and climate change.

Native and California-friendly vegetation planned for the Project will include trees and large shrubs as well as smaller shrubs and grasses that have year-round leaf canopies above-ground and complex root systems with an associated soil biome below-ground. These include native coast live oak trees and shrubs such as laurel sumac, holly leaf cherry, and toyon. Extensive deep-root systems are important to providing support for the soil and for stabilization of trees and plants planted along the Project site's steep slopes. More support for the slopes will reduce soil erosion and water runoff, thereby improving water quality in the Ballona Creek and throughout the Ballona Creek Watershed. Vegetation will also be chosen, in part, for their capacity to form symbiotic relationships with other microorganisms—primarily fungi (mycorrhizal fungi) that help to stabilize plants' root systems by improving soil clumping and extending root lifespan—because these relationships can increase carbon sequestration. The symbiotic relationship between the plant and these types of microorganisms can improve carbon sequestration in both the plant canopy as well as the root biosphere by increasing overall plant productivity while reducing overall net carbon release into the atmosphere. This is important because scientists have discovered that increased levels of carbon in the atmosphere sometimes triggers plants to thicken their leaves, a reaction that makes plants less productive and, as a result, can reduce their total sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub>. Indeed, research shows that tree species, such as native coast live oak, that form symbiotic relationships with these types of microorganisms show an increase in energy production response to elevated carbon levels, regardless of the availability of nitrogen (fertilizer) in the soil.

The following quantification of carbon sequestration of native species is estimated based on previously published and reviewed methods, which calculate sequestered carbon based on the number of native plants to be planted by the type (tree, small tree/large shrub, shrub), and uses actual and estimated amounts of carbon sequestered from the carbon calculator developed from the Center for Urban Forest Research Tree Carbon Calculator, as applied to upland habitats per Community Conservation Solutions (2016). The following assumes trees/large shrubs are spaced approximately 15 feet from other trees/large shrubs, calculating 86 to 153 such large plants per acre. Spaces between these trees/large shrubs will be filled with small shrubs and perennial grasses.

Tons of Carbon Sequestered by Project Native Trees/Large Shrubs  
Over 10 Year and 20 Year Period

Range of Total Number of Native Trees/Large Shrubs	Range of Estimated Carbon Benefit	
	10-year tons CO2	20-year tons CO2
475 – 850	95 – 220	275 – 670

Note that since native grasses and small shrubs as well as below-ground mycorrhizal fungi are present and will sequester carbon but are not included in the calculation above, the amount of carbon tons sequestered by the Project as outlined above is a conservative estimate. Native habitat is long-lived, self-perpetuating, adapted to Southern California's hot climate, with leaf canopies and deep root systems that maximize carbon intake. It is likely that the Project will sequester more carbon than as outlined above.

c.) The Project will further objectives of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Strategic Plan, which prioritizes resource protection, habitat restoration, and urban greening, by providing a multi-benefit watershed protection and habitat restoration project that will address water quality and other site challenges related to habitat.

The Project will protect resources by addressing water quality challenges through stormwater management. The Project will repair and reestablish the drainage swale serving the Ballona Creek Watershed, including a segment of water storage and groundwater recharge via a retention pond. The Project will also address problems related to excess runoff and erosion to minimize the amount of debris and sedimentation entering into the stormwater system. Furthermore, improvements to the existing irrigation system will allow for better control of applied water, which also results in less runoff and waste.

The Project will help increase and restore native habitat by providing additional landscaping best suited for a coastal sage scrub environment, the predominant habitat within the Project site. On Project completion, the Project site will provide a resilient natural plant community with a diverse range of trees and tree-sized shrubs, as well as an understory filled with shrubs and grasses. The existing invasive eucalyptus trees will be significantly reduced—approximately 25 percent of the existing population—in order to prevent falling limbs from damaging the site or injuring visitors and park wildlife as well as to reduce the danger from fire. The native shrubs and groundcovers will mitigate stormwater runoff by providing slope stabilization and erosion control as well food and protection for location wildlife.

The Project will plant approximately 200 to 400 trees and plants, including California native evergreen and deciduous trees, providing urban greening opportunities to KHSRA, one of the largest urban parks and regional open spaces in Los Angeles County. This will help reduce heat island impacts by incorporating vegetation, especially trees, where weedy areas previously existed and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing biomass and sequestering carbon. In addition, new landscaping will provide erosion control measures benefiting the water quality in the Ballona Creek Watershed. The Project will also rehabilitate a major drainage swale, including a retention pond, which will provide water quality and watershed protection benefits to the urban Watershed by providing protection against runoff. Lastly, the existing interpretive signage system will be updated, and new interpretive signage will be added to provide more comprehensive engage opportunities for the public regarding topics such as native landscaping, urban greening, and watershed protection.

Other multi-benefits not already mentioned include public health benefits, improving overall environment, protecting sustainable greenspace, supporting local wildlife, and providing economic benefits. The native habitat restoration will create a permanent, functioning habitat that provides residents with a sustainable green, open space in the heart of urban Los Angeles. In doing so, the Project will help reduce urban heat island effects by replacing weedy areas of annual grasses with native trees and tree-sized shrubs with an understory of shrubs and grasses. This will create shady areas year-round, helping to offset longer-term climate change impacts. In addition, increased vegetation as well as access to hiking trails for exercise has been associated with lower levels of asthma and obesity, and there is strong evidence that support the idea that urban vegetation provides respiratory health benefits as well. The Project will also create attractive park features and enhance recreation value of the Park by introducing a diverse palette of native and California-friendly plants, which, in turn, attract beneficial wildlife like birds, butterflies and other pollinators. The new landscaping will also provide beneficial noise-reduction and visual amenities for public enjoyment of the Park. Furthermore, the Project will reduce maintenance requirements by reducing high-maintenance eucalyptus trees with lower-maintenance native landscaping. Improvements to the irrigation infrastructure will also help to reduce maintenance burdens and costs by providing opportunities to introduce new, healthy vegetation and improve the health of existing vegetation. Correspondingly, upgrades to the stormwater management systems will help to reduce maintenance costs or reduce capital costs to upgrade essential stormwater management infrastructure, resulting in an important economic investment. After completion, the Project will also stimulate more community-level investments in the Park and support KHSRA as a destination Park for residents to use and enjoy. Lastly, the Project will provide benefits to community members from the adjacent disadvantaged communities by providing potential opportunities for green jobs. County DPR will offer workforce training for green infrastructure maintenance for the Project by partnering with workforce development agencies, such as the California Conservation Corps or local conservation Corps, to provide access to operation and maintenance jobs with long-term career potential as well as landscaping, landscape design, engineering, and construction-related skills, including skilled workforce training for installation and maintenance from entry-level to highly skilled, for long-term, green job potential. Job skills training can further enhance a sense of community ownership of the Park.

- d.) County DPR, in coordination with the Los Angeles Audubon Society, will provide in-kind services in the amount of \$46,038, including project management, weeding training, weed control training, seed mix development, and volunteer hours.

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Project is in the is in the Ballona Creek Watershed in KHSRA, a 397-acre regional park within the Baldwin Hills Parklands. The Park includes areas of primarily native coastal sage scrub habitat with oak woodlands in the northern arroyos and bunch grass grasslands on the southwestern side. The Project is located along a central stretch of the P2P Trail within KHSRA, nine miles from Downtown Los Angeles and four miles from the Pacific Ocean. KHSRA is owned by the State of California and managed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation through a 50-year lease agreement.

The Project site is characterized by bare, steep slopes spanning several hundred feet along a hillside. These slopes are vulnerable to erosion, which would be remediated with this Project. As Ballona Creek is 1.5 miles away from the Project site, which includes a drainage swale and retention pond that eventually feed into the Ballona Creek, the Project will repair and rehabilitate the damaged

drainage swale to prevent stormwater runoff and sedimentation from entering into the Ballona Creek and from contaminating the 130-square mile Ballona Creek Watershed.

The vegetation that does exist on the Project site is primarily native coastal sage scrub habitat, though approximately 2.8 acres of exotic eucalyptus tree groves currently exist on the site. Unfortunately, the native coastal sage scrub habitat has decreased substantially and continues threatened by these exotic trees and plants, which also threaten native species, including birds and arthropods. The exotic eucalyptus trees will be reduced by approximately 25 percent, or 0.7 acres, as a result of the Project. Other invasive and non-native plants will also be removed. In addition, the Project will plant new native California or California-friendly trees, such as coastal live oak, and assume a 50 percent increase in trees, or approximately 200 new trees, over 3.4 acres within the project site.

## **SPECIFIC TASKS**

<b>#</b>	<b>Task Name</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Grant Award	Grant awarded, move forward with project.
2	Board Letter	Adoption of Board Letter by Board of Supervisors.
3	Biological Resources Assessment	A study will be conducted to identify existing biological communities with the project site.
4	Habitat Restoration Plan	Plan will be developed outlining prescriptive and performance specification for project execution.
5	Cultural Resources Survey and Report	A survey will be conducted resulting in the development of a report describing existing cultural resources in the project area.
6	Jurisdiction Delineation	A survey will be conducted outlining jurisdictional resources that are present in order to prepare a report in support of any potential regulatory permitting.
7	Construction	Physical restoration work as outlined in the restoration plan will be conducted; repair and reestablishment of the drainage swale; slope stabilization; updates and additions to existing interpretive panels; improvements to existing irrigation system.
8	Restoration Implementation Monitoring	A Restoration Ecologist (RE) will oversee the implementation of the restoration activities for the project.
9	Plant Establishment Monitoring	RE will monitor the progress of the restoration project.
10	Close-out	Project close-out

## **WORK PRODUCTS**

Project deliverables will include:

- Repair of damaged swale, which will allow County DPR to provide greater watershed protection and address any future water quality issues.
- An increase in native plants and a reduction of the existing exotic eucalyptus tree population. The Project will also eliminate other invasive and non-native plants present at the Project site.
- County DPR will work with a Restoration Consultant and Restoration Ecologist, who will be responsible for monitoring restoration work, to provide a report and habitat restoration plan for the Project site. The plan will be a guidance document for habitat restoration of the Project site and include a biological report of existing flora and fauna as well as an assessment of weed management, irrigation practices, and areas prone to erosion.
- Updated existing interpretive panels and new interpretive panels

## **MEASURING SUCCESS**

For habitat restoration, County DPR will partner with the Los Angeles Audubon Society (LA Audubon), an organization whose mission is to promote the study and protection of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats throughout Los Angeles, and to stimulate interest in and access to nature for all Los Angeles communities. LA Audubon will prepare a description of the work performed, including site preparation weed removal, number of trees/large shrubs planted, and hydroseed mix applied.

In Year 3 of the Project, LA Audubon will prepare a monitoring plan to assess the Project site annually. The monitoring plan will be implemented for five years after Project completion. The monitoring plan will contain accepted best scientific methods for assessing the survivorship and development of native habitats. The plan will also include approximately 15 transects through the Project in order to estimate the number and health of planted trees and large shrubs, as well as measure the absolute cover of native plants over the Project site. Weed management and irrigation management will be assessed during the annual post-grant monitoring, as well as any possible issues with erosion.

LA Audubon and County DPR will remain in communication to implement any needed adaptive management strategies for the long-term care of the Project site. County DPR will be responsible for the long-term maintenance of the restored areas and the trail.

As part of the Project, LA Audubon will:

### **Year 1**

- Assist in the identification of native plants to be saved and weeds to be removed with the project contractor and will assist with training of the project contractor 's crews for hand weeding the project areas.
- Compile a list of appropriate number, sizes, and species of native plants to be used for the project.

### Year 2 & 3

- Monitor the progress of weed eradication prior to seeding the native seed mix and coordinate with the County on any maintenance issues.
- Monitor plant establishment during the grant period, and coordinate with County DPR regarding any maintenance issues.
- Prepare a 5-year monitoring plan to track the progress of the site during the 5-year post grant period (with guidance from a professional restoration ecologist).

### Post Grant Period

- Work with West Los Angeles College student volunteers to implement the 5-year monitoring plan, providing an annual written report each year post grant for five years.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT  
AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

**PROJECT MAPS AND GRAPHICS**

**Regional Map**

**Site-scale Map**

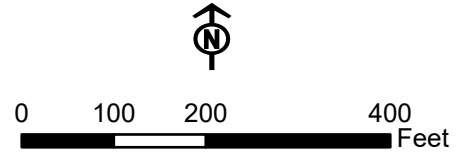
**Design Plan**

# Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project Site



County of Los Angeles

- Existing Storm Drain Inlet
- Existing Drainage Structure
- Existing Rock Lined Swale
- Trail
- Existing Retention Pond
- Proposed Restoration Area
- Proposed Audubon Restoration Area
- Kenneth Hahn SRA Boundary



County of Los Angeles  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Planning and Development Agency



Sources: Los Angeles County eGIS Data Repository  
Created: 2/20/2020 by J. Diaz  
DPR (Land Management and Compliance)



## EXHIBIT CALL-OUT LEGEND

- ① Existing Segment of Park to Playa Trail
- ② Existing Rock Lined Swale
- ③ Existing Retention Pond
- ④ Existing Drainage Structures
- ⑤ Existing Storm Drain Inlet
- ⑥ Proposed Restoration Area
- ⑦ Proposed Audubon Restoration Area

## PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK

In accordance with the **Baldwin Hills Conservancy Proposition 1** guidelines, this proposed project will satisfy several eligible project categories including *Resource Protection*; *Habitat Restoration*; and *Urban Greening*. This will be accomplished by addressing the some of the following, but not limited to, components of the Green Valley Connection:

- Slope repair and stabilization (*Resource Protection*)
- Erosion repair and debris clean-up (*Resource Protection*)
- Restoration of the drainage swale (*Resource Protection*)
- Replacement of existing eucalyptus trees (*Habitat Restoration*)
- Reestablishment of California native plants (*Habitat Restoration*)
- Replacement and update of existing interpretive panels (*Urban Greening*)
- Improvements to existing irrigation system (*Urban Greening*)



AREA MAP

# **PROP 1 PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK EXHIBIT** **KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA | Green Valley Connection Refurbishment**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT  
AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

**SITE PHOTOS**



Steep bare slopes alongside trail. Example of erosion and debris



Close-up of damaged swale filled with mud and debris. Clogged drainage structure and example of erosion of adjacent slope.



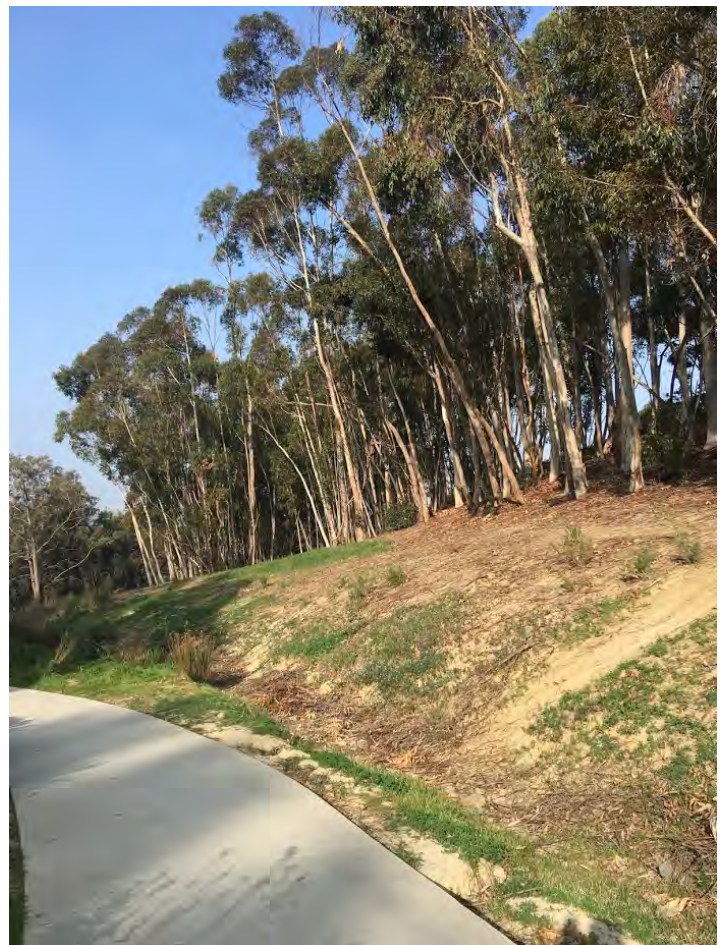
Fallen eucalyptus tree.



Missing interpretive panel to be replaced.



Example of invasive and non-native vegetation.



Invasive eucalyptus tree groves alongside trail.



Area affected by 2018 waterline break, 2018.

## GRANT APPLICATION – PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

<b>Task Number</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Applicant's Funding</b>	<b>Baldwin Hills Conservancy Funds</b>	<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
1.0	Grant Award	May 2020				<b>\$ 0</b>
2.0	Board Letter	September 2020				<b>\$ 0</b>
3.0	Biological Resources Assessment	November 2020		\$7,000		<b>\$7,000</b>
4.0	Habitat Restoration Plan	January 2020		\$19,000		<b>\$19,000</b>
5.0	Cultural Resources Survey and Report	November 2021		\$12,000		<b>\$12,000</b>
6.0	Jurisdictional Delineation	January 2021		\$11,000		<b>\$11,000</b>
7.0	Construction	June 2024		\$625,000		<b>\$625,000</b>
8.0	Restoration Implementation Monitoring	June 2024		\$19,000		<b>\$19,000</b>
9.0	Plant Establishment Monitoring	June 2024		\$7,000		<b>\$7,000</b>
10.0	Close-out	December 2025				<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$700,000</b>

### In Kind Services

County DPR, in coordination with the Los Angeles Audubon Society, will provide in-kind services in the amount of \$46,038, including project management, weeding training, weed control training, seed mix development, and volunteer hours.

## GRANT APPLICATION – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 1. Proposition 1 Goals:

☒ Protect and increase the economic benefits arising from healthy watersheds, fishery resources and in-stream flow.

☐ Implement watershed adaptation projects for which Grantee has consulted with the state and local conservation corps and included their services if feasible (for restoration and ecosystem protection projects only). Grantees must submit a completed Corps Consultation Review Document. The process for obtaining this required consultation is described in Appendix D.

☐ Restore river parkways throughout the state, including but not limited to projects pursuant to the California River Parkway Act of 2004 and urban river greenways.

☒ Protect and restore aquatic, wetland and migratory bird ecosystems including fish and wildlife corridors and the acquisition of water rights for in-stream flow.

☐ Fulfill the obligations of the state of California in complying with the terms of multiparty settlement agreements related to water resources.

☐ Remove barriers to fish passage.

Collaborate with federal agencies in the protection of fish native to California and wetlands in the central valley of California.

☒ Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities and promote watershed health.

☒ Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, storm water resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction.

☐ Protect and restore coastal watersheds including but not limited to, bays, marine estuaries, and near shore ecosystems.

☒ Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management.

☒ Assist in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health, in stream flows, fish passage, coastal or inland wetland restoration, or other means, such as natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan implementation.

☐ Assist in water-related agricultural sustainability projects.

## **2. Conservation Corps:**

Please refer to the following pages.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT  
AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

**CONSERVATION CORPS CONSULTATION**

## Kasey Dizon

---

**From:** Gabriel, Andrea@CCC <Andrea.Gabriel@CCC.CA.GOV> on behalf of Prop 1@CCC <Prop1@CCC.CA.GOV>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2020 2:24 PM  
**To:** Dore Burry  
**Cc:** Mark Glasscock; Kasey Dizon; Andrea Vona; Claudia Ayala; Inquiry@Prop1CommunityCorps.org; Wilson, Duane@CCC  
**Subject:** RE: Prop. 1 - Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area - Green Valley Connection Refurbishment  
**Attachments:** CCC Prop 1 Consultation Response - Feasible - Kenneth Hahn SRA - Green Valley Connection Refurbishment.pdf

**CAUTION:** External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hi Dore,

The CCC Los Angeles Satellite Center has reviewed your project and determined that it is feasible for CCC services to be used.

Corpsmembers can assist with repairing approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale, cleaning-out the drainage swale, repairing and stabilizing the slope along the swale to prevent sediment from entering the storm drain system, reducing the existing eucalyptus tree grove, reestablishing California native plants to protect the soil from erosion and to foster wildlife habitat, and conducting improvements to the existing irrigation system.

Please contact the District Director of the Los Angeles Satellite Center to discuss costs and coordinate the planning of CCC involvement in this project, and reach out again if your project receives funding:

Duane Wilson, District Director  
Email: Duane.Wilson@ccc.ca.gov  
Phone: (909) 594-4206

Thank you again for consulting with us on your Proposition 1 "Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area - Green Valley Connection Refurbishment" project. Please include the attached form with your application as official confirmation that you have consulted with the CCC.

Best regards,

### ANDREA GABRIEL

Bond Program Analyst & Corps Consultation Liaison  
Bonds & Grants Unit  
Emergency & Environmental Programs

1719 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95816

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[Andrea.Gabriel@ccc.ca.gov](mailto:Andrea.Gabriel@ccc.ca.gov)  
[Prop1@ccc.ca.gov](mailto:Prop1@ccc.ca.gov)  
[Prop68@ccc.ca.gov](mailto:Prop68@ccc.ca.gov)

[ccc.ca.gov](http://ccc.ca.gov)



Hard Work, Low Pay,  
Miserable Conditions and More

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**From:** Dore Burry <DBurry@parks.lacounty.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2020 10:06 AM  
**To:** Prop 1@CCC <Prop1@CCC.CA.GOV>  
**Cc:** Mark Glasscock <MGlasscock@parks.lacounty.gov>; Kasey Dizon <KDizon@parks.lacounty.gov>; Andrea Vona <AVona@parks.lacounty.gov>; Claudia Ayala <CAyala@parks.lacounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Prop. 1 - Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area - Green Valley Connection Refurbishment

Andrea,

We will soon be submitting a Prop. 1 application package for our Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area – Green Valley Connection Refurbishment project. The application will be sent to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

Please see the attached Corps Consultation Review Document and project map, and let us know if you have any questions.

We look forward to your response.

Thank you.

Dore

**Dore Burry | Park Project Coordinator | Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation**

Capital Projects Group  
1000 S. Fremont Avenue  
Building A-9 West, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – Unit #40  
Alhambra, California 91803

[dburry@parks.lacounty.gov](mailto:dburry@parks.lacounty.gov)

**Cell: 626-238-8274**

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## California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps

### Corps Consultation Review Document

### Proposition 1 – Water Bond – Chapter 6



Except for an exempted project, this Corps Consultation Review Document shall be completed by California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps staff and must accompany applications for funding through Proposition 1, Chapter 6, Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds. Applications that do not include Corps Consultation Review Documents demonstrating that both Corps have been consulted will be deemed noncompliant and will not be considered for funding. Please see the Corps Consultation Process for more information.

1. Name of Applicant: **County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation**  
Project Title: **Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area - Green Valley Connection Refurbishment**  
Department/Conservancy to which you are applying for funding: **Baldwin Hills Conservancy**  
Grant Program: **Proposition 1**

This Consultation Review Document is being prepared by:

- ☒ **The California Conservation Corps (CCC)**  
☐ California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC)

2. Applicant has submitted the required information by email to the Corps:

- ☒ **Yes, Applicant has submitted all necessary information.**  
☐ No, Applicant has not submitted all information or did not submit information to both Corps. Application is deemed non-compliant.

3. Determination:

- ☐ It is NOT feasible for Corps services to be used on the project (deemed compliant).  
☒ **It is feasible for Corps services to be used on the project. The following aspects of the project can be accomplished with Corps services (deemed compliant):**

**CCC Corpsmembers from the Los Angeles Satellite Center can assist with repairing approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale, cleaning-out the drainage swale, repairing and stabilizing the slope along the swale to prevent sediment from entering the storm drain system, reducing the existing eucalyptus tree grove, reestablishing California native plants to protect the soil from erosion and to foster wildlife habitat, and conducting improvements to the existing irrigation system.**

**Please contact the District Director of the Los Angeles Satellite Center to discuss costs and coordinate the planning of CCC involvement in this project, and reach out again if your project receives funding:**

**Duane Wilson, District Director**  
**Email: [Duane.Wilson@ccc.ca.gov](mailto:Duane.Wilson@ccc.ca.gov)**  
**Phone: (909) 594-4206**

#### Notes

*CCC and CALCC representatives will return a Corps Consultation Review Document to applicant via email within 10 business days of receipt of a complete consultation request as verification of consultation. Applicant will include a copy of the documents as part of the project application.*

*If the Corps determine it is feasible for their services to be used on the project, applicant will contact the Corps to discuss costs and coordinate the planning of Corpsmember involvement in the project and reach out again if the project receives funding.*

*Submission of past consultations does not satisfy the requirement to consult with the Corps. The Corps must be consulted each grant cycle prior to submitting a grant application.*

## Kasey Dizon

---

**From:** Prop1 Community Corps <[inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org](mailto:inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:08 PM  
**To:** Dore Burry  
**Cc:** Mark Glasscock; Kasey Dizon; Andrea Vona; Claudia Ayala; Prop 1@CCC  
**Subject:** Re: Prop. 1 - Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area - Green Valley Connection Refurbishment  
**Attachments:** CALCC Prop 1 Consultation Response - Feasible - (Rev. Dec. 2019).docx

**CAUTION:** External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hi Dore,

Bo Savage of the LA Conservation Corps has responded that they are able to assist with the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area- Green Valley Connection Refurbishment if the project receives funding. Please include this email with your application as proof that you reached out to the Local Conservation Corps.

Additionally, please feel free to contact Bo Savage ([bsavage@lacorps.org](mailto:bsavage@lacorps.org)) directly if your project receives funding.

Thank you,  
Morgan

On Fri, Feb 14, 2020 at 3:57 PM Prop1 Community Corps <[inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org](mailto:inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org)> wrote:

Hi Dore,

Thank you for catching that. Yes, I will ensure that you receive a response by 2/24.

Best,  
Morgan



# California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps

## Corps Consultation Review Document

### Proposition 1 – Water Bond – Chapter 6



Except for an exempted project, this Corps Consultation Review Document shall be completed by California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps staff and must accompany applications for funding through Proposition 1, Chapter 6, Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds. Applications that do not include Corps Consultation Review Documents demonstrating that both Corps have been consulted will be deemed noncompliant and will not be considered for funding. Please see the Corps Consultation Process for more information. A copy of the process can be requested from the state department administering the grant program.

1. Name of Applicant: **County of Los Angeles/ Department of Parks and Recreation**  
Project Title: **Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area- Green Valley Connection Refurbishment**  
Department/Conservancy to which you are applying for funding: **Baldwin Hills Conservancy**  
Grant Program: **Prop 1 Grant Program**

This Consultation Review Document is being prepared by:

- ☐ The California Conservation Corps (CCC)  
☒ **California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC)**

2. Applicant has submitted the required information by email to the Corps:  
☒ **Yes, Applicant has submitted all necessary information.**  
☐ No, Applicant has not submitted all information or did not submit information to both Corps. Application is deemed non-compliant.
3. Determination:  
☐ It is NOT feasible for Corps services to be used on the project (deemed compliant).  
☒ **It is feasible for Corps services to be used on the project. The following aspects of the project can be accomplished with Corps services (deemed compliant):**

**Corpsmembers from the LACC can assist with this project**

**Please contact the LACC to discuss costs and coordinate the planning of Corps involvement in this project, and reach out again if your project receives funding:**

**Bo Savage**

**Email: [bsavage@laccorps.org](mailto:bsavage@laccorps.org)**

**Phone: 213-210-7619**

#### Notes

*CCC and CALCC representatives will return a Corps Consultation Review Document to applicant via email within 10 business days of receipt of a complete consultation request as verification of consultation. Applicant will include a copy of the documents as part of the project application.*

*If the Corps determine it is feasible for their services to be used on the project, applicant will contact the Corps to discuss costs and coordinate the planning of Corpsmember involvement in the project and reach out again if the project receives funding.*

*Submission of past consultations does not satisfy the requirement to consult with the Corps. The Corps must be consulted each grant cycle prior to submitting a grant application.*

### 3. Consistency with other State Plans:

#### ☒ California @ 50 Million: The Environmental Goals and Policy Report

The California @ 50 Million Report outlines a strategy that includes five key areas to help achieve the State's climate change goals. The Project promotes two of these key areas, which are "build a resilient and sustainable water system" (Key Area 2) and "steward and protect natural and working landscapes" (Key Area 3). The Project will protect water resources for a more healthy and resilient water system in the Ballona Creek Watershed by addressing water quality challenges through stormwater management. The Project will also help to build resilience of natural habitats by eliminating a significant portion of existing eucalyptus tree groves—a fire hazard—and replacing them with native trees and plants.

#### ☒ CA Climate Adaptation Strategy/Safeguarding California: Reducing Climate Risk Plan

The CA Climate Adaptation Strategy/Safeguarding California Plan outlines strategies particular to parks and recreation. The Project will address several, including, in particular, actions to "secure sustainable funding for robust trail maintenance to prevent and respond to damage from rain, flooding, and storm impacts" (PC-2.1), "create job, training, and internship opportunities in urban forestry and park development, planting, and maintenance to ensure their upkeep long-term and to benefit local economies" (PC-3.4), "Prioritize conservation, protection and restoration of natural resources in climate change adaptation projects and planning to ensure sustainable recreational opportunities for the public." (PC-5.6), and "engage the public and foster ongoing and diverse partnerships to create a shared commitment to stewardship and to harness complementary skills, capacities, and support" (PC-6).

#### ☒ California Water Action Plan

The California Water Action Plan outlines goals to "strengthen resiliency and operational flexibility of existing and future infrastructure" (Goal 2); "facilitate multi-benefit water management projects" (Goal 3.2); and "expand water resource education" (Goal 6.6). The Project is aligned with these goals by implementing long-term solutions for water infrastructure and stormwater management, including for flood risk reduction; implementing watershed protection and habitat restoration project with multiple benefits; and including education and job training opportunities for community members.

#### ☒ CA Wildlife Action Plan

The CA Wildlife Action Plan outlines a framework, specifically to "maintain and enhance the integrity of ecosystems by conserving key natural processes and functions, habitat qualities, and sustainable native species population levels, so that California's ecosystems are resilient to shifting environmental conditions resulting from climate change and other causes;" "promote partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies; tribal governments; and nongovernmental organizations with aligned conservation goals to leverage efficient use of funding and other public resources;" "allocate sufficient water and manage water resources to maintain healthy ecosystems and fish and wildlife populations when considering state and regional water supply needs;" and "provide resources and coordinate efforts with partners to eradicate or control invasive species and prevent new introductions." The Project, which will restore native habitat, partner with nongovernmental

organizations, provide stormwater management strategies, and reduce invasive species, is aligned with these goals.

- ☐ California Essential Habitat Connectivity Strategy for Conserving a Connected California
- ☐ Habitat Conservation Plans/Natural Community Conservation Plans (specify the plan)
- ☒ Other relevant state or regional plan(s) (specify the plan, refer to Appendix C)

#### Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan

The Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan outlines specific management goals for sustainability and protection of natural lands. Aligned with these goals, the Project will provide water quality and sustainability as well as protection and restoration of natural habitat. The Plan also describes a “One Big Park” concept, which will create a coordinated, connected urban park, which will allow “natural areas to coexist with recreational, educational, and cultural resources.” The Project will help to rehabilitate a section of trail along the regional Park to Playa Trail, including providing stormwater management and native habitat restoration. In doing so, the Project will help support the viability of this portion of a regional trail that helps connect the one big park.

#### **4. California Water Action Plan:**

- a. The California Water Action Plan outlines goals to “strengthen resiliency and operational flexibility of existing and future infrastructure” (Goal 2); “facilitate multi-benefit water management projects” (Goal 3.2); and “expand water resource education” (Goal 6.6). The Project is aligned with these goals by implementing long-term solutions for water infrastructure and stormwater management, including for flood risk reduction; implementing watershed protection and habitat restoration project with multiple benefits; and including education and job training opportunities for community members.

Specifically, the Plan addresses poor water quality in California and actions to improve the organization of water quality programs and create new tools to help ensure access to safe water for California residents. The Project will address water quality challenges in the area by ensuring best management practices in stormwater management. The Plan also addresses loss of wildlife habitat and actions to implement aggressive ecosystem restoration that benefit wildlife. The Project will promote the Plan’s goals towards native habitat restoration, including planting 200 to 400 new trees and shrubs as well as removing 25% of the existing invasive eucalyptus tree population.

- b. Not applicable.

## **5. Best Scientific Practices:**

The Project is consistent with best scientific practices in that it will restore the functionality of the area's drainage swales and slope stabilization components, each of which are best management practices as it relates to ensuring appropriate water quality for site runoff.

Intense urbanization has caused the Ballona Creek Watershed to lose a significant amount of its open spaces. As a result, the Ballona Creek Watershed can no longer support many native fish and wildlife. The Project will use best scientific practices in an effort to reverse engineer the Watershed, restoring more natural functions and ecological integrity to the area. It is designed to solve issues of flooding and slope erosion by restoring the natural functions of slope stabilization and drainage swales. By employing best stormwater management practices, such as refurbishing a retention pond and providing native, drought-tolerant landscaping, tree planting, and a reduction of eucalyptus trees—which mimic natural processes that improve groundwater recharge, tree canopies, and a reduction of pollutants in runoff—the Project will provide native habitat and restore native biodiversity. These best scientific practices also offer multi-benefits critical to the health of the Ballona Creek Watershed by providing water quality improvement, groundwater recharge, slowing stormwater runoff volume, helping to prevent wildfire, and encouraging biodiversity. By mimicking natural processes, the Project will help to minimize negative impacts on the area's waters and biological habitats.

In addition, the Project will address existing scientific challenges in the area, such as a lack of data to measure the progress and successes of this type of capital investment. While numerous water quality-related projects include monitoring to report the reduced pollutants, groundwater recharged, and reduced water consumption, not many efforts have been made to document and monitor impacts on biodiversity and ecological health from a holistic perspective. The necessary first step to document the Project's progress is to gather baseline data to measure the region's biodiversity, area of native drought-tolerant landscapes, and number of fire-resistant trees. As these are not easily documented and monitored, however, the Project will include assessment data to establish a baseline to be used in short-term and long-term monitoring. County DPR will also develop a working relationship with environmental partners, such as the Los Angeles Audubon Society—which, in turn, partners with West Los Angeles College ecology students—to provide meaningful data meaningful for future use in the area. Experts, such as biologists, ecological restoration specialists, and environmental engineers as well as water quality monitoring engineers, will help to provide information for a biological resources assessment habitat restoration plan, a cultural resources survey, restoration implementation monitoring, horticultural monitoring, and botanical monitoring.

## **6. New Technology:**

For more than a decade, the Department has utilized smart controllers, efficient irrigation nozzles, drip irrigation systems, and solar powered irrigation equipment to increase efficiency in irrigation and energy. Smart controllers, and soil moisture sensors are operated in response to weather conditions and soil conditions to ensure vegetation health and to reduce chances of running irrigation during and before rain events. The Project will provide improvements to the existing irrigation system to promote efficiency and water savings as well as modifications to provide 100 percent coverage and to ensure that the native plant material receives the appropriate amount of water. Aligned with the Department's sustainable practices, a water-efficient irrigation system will be selected for the Project to minimize water waste. The Project's irrigation system will also be solar powered to reduce energy consumption and to be operable during power shut-offs/outages.

## 7. Sustainability:

The Project will aid in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health and inland wetland restoration, as well as through the implementation of a natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan. The Project will also protect and restore aquatic, wetland, and migratory bird ecosystems to ensure sustainable outcomes against climate change.

As KHSRA's water infrastructure continues to age, water waste will continue to occur through small leaks and major breaks. For instance, in 2018, the area experienced a waterline break and subsequent mudslides. In addition, as California experiences more severe and frequent droughts, KHSRA loses many of its mature trees, and these dead or dying trees that have made the area vulnerable to climate change. Limits to the amount of water used for irrigation worsen the situation, making the trees susceptible to infestation from bark beetles.

The Project will increase and, therefore, restore native habitat by re-introducing native shrubs and groundcovers to provide slope stabilization and erosion control as well food and protection for location wildlife. To do so, the Project will plant approximately 200 to 400 California native evergreen and deciduous trees and plants, further increasing native plant population as well as providing erosion control measures benefiting the water quality. In addition, the existing 2.8 acres of invasive eucalyptus trees will also be reduced by up to 25 percent. By replacing the water-intensive landscaping with drought-tolerant native landscaping, the Project will help restore the native habitat and make the area more able to withstand droughts. As the California native trees mature, they will become important natural measures to stabilize the slope, therefore reducing the risk of mudslides. The native trees will also be important in discouraging pests, like the bark beetle, and encouraging the growth of diverse native wildlife habitats, including for insects, butterflies, and hummingbirds, with minimal water use. In addition, the native trees will capture stormwater runoff, filter and retain the water to recharge into the ground, and prevent polluted runoff from contaminating Ballona Creek. By planting native and California-friendly vegetation along the Project's steep slopes, the Project will deliver long-term sustainable outcomes for the Ballona Creek Watershed by simultaneously providing water quality improvement opportunities, decreasing erosion risk, improving drainage by mitigating flooding along the P2P Trail, increasing the Park's native plant population, and restoring native habitat.

## 8. Project and Applicant History:

### Project Background

The Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project (Project) will provide watershed protection and habitat restoration to a segment of the Park to Playa Trail. The Project site is prone to erosion as well as dry weather urban runoff and stormwater runoff. In 2016, as part of the construction for Park to Playa Trail, efforts to provide erosion protection to the area included planting of vegetation along the adjacent hillside slopes. The hydroseed did not establish, however, and this earlier effort to create a natural barrier along the site's steep slopes failed. As a result, much of the Project site today remains vulnerable to flooding and erosion. A waterline break in 2018 triggered mudslides along this exact portion of trail within the Project site, causing sediment and debris to enter into the drainage swale and retention pond. Today, the swale still contains mud and debris, affecting the swale's ability to function properly and placing the Ballona Creek Watershed at risk for contamination. The Project site is also overrun by large areas of invasive eucalyptus trees, which competes with native trees and shrubs and presents a fire hazard to the area due to its high resin content. The Project was established to address water quality challenge and native habitat loss.

The Project is related to the Park to Playa Trail, a planned 13-mile regional trail that will connect a network of trails, parks, and open spaces from the Baldwin Hills Parklands to the Pacific Ocean. The existing segments of the Park to Playa Trail include Stocker Corridor, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Stoneview Nature Center, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Culver City Park, and Ballona Creek Bike Path. It is a multi-agency and jurisdictional project that includes coordination between the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, and the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy has funded portions of the Park to Playa Trail, including the recently-completed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tree Grove, which enhanced an existing 15,000 square-foot overlook with native coast live oak trees, native grass, and drought-tolerant California-friendly plants; concrete and decomposed granite pathways; and amenities like seating and obelisk monument with signage. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy has also most recently funded the Park to Playa Bridge: Stoneview to Hahn Project, a portion of connector trail that spans across La Cienega Boulevard, connecting Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area with Stoneview Nature Center and providing a pedestrian bridge and important wildlife habitat crossing.

### Applicant Capacity

Established in 1944, the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (County DPR) has a long history of service to Los Angeles County (County) and the State of California (State). With 183 facilities comprised of over 63,000 acres of parks, trails, natural areas, entertainment venues, and golf courses, County DPR is the largest local park agency in the State. County DPR also serves the nation's most populous county, with over ten million residents that call Los Angeles County home and over 20 million people that visit County DPR's facilities every year. Since its inception, County DPR remains committed to meeting the diverse and everchanging park and recreation needs of its communities as well as those of visitors from neighboring counties, from across the State, and from around the world.

**Completing Previous Grant-Funded Projects** - Under the leadership of County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, County DPR has extensive experience in completing projects funded through grant programs. Since 1965, County DPR has successfully administered and completed more than 1,000 grants from various funding sources, including the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, and other State,

local, and federal grant programs. County DPR has a proven record of completing projects within its stated budget and by the performance period end date. Similar recently completed projects include:

- Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park  
The Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park consisted of installation of storm water capture features in an existing 10-acre park site including detention basins, native plant vegetated swales, and rain barrels; replacement of traditional turf with deep-rooted grass species and native plants and planting of additional low-water use shade trees where there are existing gaps in the canopy; removal of impermeable concrete from the community building courtyard and parking area and replacement with a permeable material; and creation of a native plant demonstration garden adjacent to the community building entrance. The project was awarded \$836,625 and funded through the Urban Greening Program (Proposition 84) administered by the State of California Natural Resources Agency. Matching funds included \$289,036 in local Proposition A funding, \$100,000 in Proposition 84 funds from the State Coastal Conservancy, and \$50,000 from the applicant. The project was completed ahead of schedule in December 2018 and within the specified budget.
- Stoneview Park Nature Center Development Project  
The Stoneview Park Nature Center Development Project consisted of demolition of the existing structures and construction of a new 4,000 square-foot interpretive center, including a multi-purpose room, staff office area, storage, restrooms, observation area, outdoor terrace/yoga deck, landscape elements, interpretive signage for all landscape elements, and storm water management elements such as a bioswale and detention basin. The landscape elements included controlled access, parking, landscape buffer along Stoneview Drive, botanical garden, passive meadow, demonstration garden, native garden, native grove, park trails, future park connection to the regional Park to Playa trail, seating, mulching area, water storage/delivery area, plant shade structure area, and tool storage area. The project was awarded \$5,000,000 and funded with Proposition 40 funds administered by the State of California through the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. Matching funds included \$5,529,040 in local Proposition A funds. The project was completed in June 2017 and within the specified budget.

*Meeting Post-Award Requirements* - Throughout the almost 55 years that it has received grant funding, County DPR has continued to meet post-award requirements in a timely manner, including the submission of project status reports, the submission of payment requests, and other requirements that are specific to each grant program (e.g., appraisals that meet federal standards, federally regulated requirements, etc.).

*Operating and Maintaining Grant-Funded Sites* - County DPR currently owns 183 facilities, including local parks and community regional parks, wildlife sanctuaries and botanic gardens, pool facilities, more than 550 miles of trails, the largest public golf course system in the nation, and world-class entertainment venues such as the Ford Theatres and the iconic Hollywood Bowl. (A list of all County DPR's parks and facilities can be found on its website at [parks.lacounty.gov](http://parks.lacounty.gov).) Nearly all of County DPR's facilities have benefitted from grant funding for development and acquisition projects as well as other critical improvements, and County DPR is responsible for ensuring the operation and maintenance of all its facilities. All County DPR facility operation and maintenance services must be in compliance with mandated County facility operations practices to ensure that all sites are maintained to high standards. In addition, all County DPR facilities are inspected daily by experienced maintenance staff; all issues are documented, and written reports are submitted to the grounds maintenance management for resolution. In adherence to these standards, County DPR ensures that the proposed project site will be professionally operated and maintained by trained

County staff to ensure optimal operation. County DPR is committed to ensuring also that the proposed project site will be operated, maintained, and open to the public for at least 30 years.

The long-term funding for the operations, maintenance and recreational programming will be provided by the County. County DPR will submit to County governance a new facility request to for the funding needed for the long-term operations and maintenance of this new park.

## 9. Environmental Review:

The proposed project.... (select the appropriate answer):

☐ Is not a project under CEQA. Briefly specify why.

☒ Is exempt under CEQA. Provide the CEQA exemption number and specify how the project meets the terms of the exemption.

☐ Requires Negative Declaration, MND, or EIR. Specify the lead CEQA agency (the agency preparing the document) and the (expected) completion date. Please note that the Conservancy will need to review and approve any CEQA document and cannot present a project to the Conservancy Board for funding consideration without a completed CEQA document. For more information on CEQA, visit:

[http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env\\_law/ceqa/flowchart/index.html](http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/flowchart/index.html).

Please refer to the following pages.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT  
AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

Applicants will now demonstrate CEQA compliance by a certification form signed by the Authorized Representative, and by attaching a copy of the Notice of Exemption or the Notice of Determination, or other documentation of CEQA project approval by the Lead Agency, as appropriate. A copy of the revised form with the new certification language is attached, and is also available



**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**  
**Compliance Certification Form**

**Grantee/Applicant:** Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department

**Project Name:** Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project

**Project Address:** Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area  
4100 S. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90008

**When was CEQA analysis completed for this project? Date** 2/20/2020

**What document(s) was filed for this project's CEQA analysis: (check all that apply)**

☐ Initial Study   ☒ Notice of Exemption   ☐ Negative Declaration   ☐ Mitigated Negative Declaration

☐ Environmental Impact Report   ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach the Notice of Exemption or the Notice of Determination as appropriate. If these forms were not completed please attach a letter from the Lead Agency explaining why, certifying the project has complied with CEQA and noting the date that the project was approved by the Lead Agency.**

**Lead Agency Contact Information:**

**Agency Name:** Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department

**Contact Person:** Jui Ing Chien

**Mailing Address:** 1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Building A-9 West, 3rd Floor  
Alhambra, CA 91803

**Phone:** (626) 588-5317

**Email:** ichien@parks.lacounty.gov

**Certification:**

I hereby certify that the Lead Agency listed above has determined that it has complied with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the project identified above and that the project is described in adequate and sufficient detail to allow the project's construction or acquisition.

I certify that the CEQA analysis for this project encompasses all aspects of the work to be completed with grant funds.



Authorized Representative  
(Signature)

Date

**Alina Bokde, Deputy Director**

Authorized Representative  
(Printed Name and Title)

FEB 20 2020

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

LOS ANGELES, COUNTY CLERK

**To:** County of Los Angeles  
County Clerk  
Environmental Filings  
Attn: Ms. Darla Neal  
12400 Imperial Highway, Room 2001  
Norwalk, California 90650  
(562) 462-2122

**From:** County of Los Angeles  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
Planning & CEQA Section  
1000 South Fremont Avenue Unit #40  
A-9 West, Third Floor  
Alhambra, California 91803

**Project Title:** Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project

**Project Location - Specific:** Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area  
4100 S La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90056

**Project Location - City:** Los Angeles

**Project Location - County:** Los Angeles

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:**

The Green Valley Connection Refurbishment Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area will repair approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale compromised by hillside runoff, including clearing a portion damaged by a waterline break and mudslide; repair and stabilize the adjacent slopes to prevent sediment from entering the storm drain system; reduce the exotic eucalyptus tree population; reestablish and enhance the California native plant population to protect the soil from erosion and to foster wildlife habitat; update the existing interpretive panels and add new interpretive panels; and make improvements to the existing irrigation system to promote efficiency and water savings.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Los Angeles County

**Name of Public Agency Carrying Out Project:** Los Angeles County

**Exempt Status (check one):**

**Article 19. Categorical Exemptions**

- ☒ Categorical Section 15301  
Class 1 (d) (h)
- ☒ Categorical Section 15303  
Class 3 (e)
- ☒ Categorical Section 15304  
Class 4 (b)
- ☒ County CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemption  
Class 1 (c) (j)
- ☒ County CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemption  
Class 3 (b)
- ☒ County CEQA Guidelines Categorical Exemption  
Class 4 (c)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

### Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is consistent with State Guidelines for the implementation of CEQA. The repair of approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale and the adjacent slopes, improvements to the existing irrigation system, the reduction of exotic eucalyptus tree population, and the planting of California native plant population are consistent with Section 15301 Class 1, which provides for repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public facilities. This includes but is not limited to Class 1 (d) for restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety and (h) for maintenance of existing landscaping.

The installation of new interpretive panels is consistent with Section 15303 Class 3 which provides for construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This includes but is not limited to Class 3 (e) for small new structures.

The reduction of exotic eucalyptus tree population, and the planting of California native plant population, are consistent with Section 15304 Class 4 which provides for minor alteration to land. This includes but is not limited to Class 4 (b) for new gardening or landscaping.

The project is also consistent with the County CEQA Guidelines. The repair of approximately 1,500-feet of drainage swale and the adjacent slopes, improvements to the existing irrigation system, the reduction of exotic eucalyptus tree population, and the planting of California native plant population are consistent with Class 1 which provides for repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public facilities. This includes but is not limited to Class 1 (c) for restoration or repair of buildings, structures, equipment, and appurtenances required because of accumulated maintenance not performed, and (j) for maintenance of existing landscaping.

The installation of new interpretive panels is consistent with Class 3 which provides for construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. This includes but is not limited to Class 3 (b) for accessory structures.

The reduction of exotic eucalyptus tree population, and the planting of California native plant population, is consistent with Class 4 which provides for minor alterations to land. This includes but is not limited to Class 4 (c) for new gardening or landscaping.

The proposed use of Classes 3 & 4 Categorical Exemptions does not include activities that are excepted from the exemptions as defined in Section 15300.2 (a) of the CEQA Guidelines. Specifically, the specified activities do not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern designated, precisely mapped, or officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies.

The County has considered the cumulative impact of the proposed activities and determined that the cumulative impact of the specified activities will not result in significant impacts on the environment that would constitute an exception to Classes 3 & 4 Categorical Exemptions as described in Section 15300.2 (b) of the CEQA Guidelines.

The County has considered the potential for significant impacts on the environment resulting from the specified activities and determined that there are no unusual circumstances that would result in significant effects on the environment constituting an exception to Classes 3 & 4 Categorical Exemptions as described in Section 15300.2 (c) of the CEQA Guidelines.

The specified activities will not result in damage to scenic resources, such as trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings or similar resources or involve work within a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway that would constitute an exception to Classes 3 & 4 Categorical Exemptions as described in Section 15300.2 (d) of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 21084 (c) of the CEQA Statutes.

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

The specified activities do not involve work on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the Government Code relating to solid and hazardous wastes and do not constitute an exception to Classes 3 & 4 Categorical Exemptions as described in the Section 15300.2 (e) of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 21084 (d) of the CEQA statutes.

The specified activities would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as specified in section 21084.1 of the CEQA Statutes and do not constitute an exception to Classes 3 & 4 Categorical Exemptions as described in Section 15300.2 (f) of the CEQA Guidelines and Section 21084.1 of the CEQA Statutes.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Jui Ing Chien

**(Area Code) Telephone/Ext.** (626) 588-5317

**If Filed by Applicant:**

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding

2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public Agency approving the project? **Yes** No

*Jui Ing Chien*  
Signature, Jui Ing Chien

2/20/2020  
Date

Park Planner  
Title

Dean C. Logan  
Los Angeles County Registrar / Recorder  
12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk, CA  
(800)201-8999

BUSINESS FILINGS REGISTRATION

NORWALK DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTER

Cashier: C. MAFFITT



\* 2 0 2 0 0 2 2 0 1 2 3 0 0 3 9 \*

Thursday, February 20, 2020 3:47 PM

5018  
COUNTY OF LA - PARKS & RECREATION...

Item(s)

Fee	Qty	Total
NoE - County Posting Fee	1	\$75.00
2020043173		
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$75.00</b>

Total Documents: 1

Customer payment(s):

Billing \$75.00

## 10. **Support:**

Please refer to the following pages.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**  
  
**GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT**  
**AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**  
  
**SUPPORT LETTERS**



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

866 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 / (213) 974-2222

**MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

February 24, 2020

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

**RE: PROPOSITION 1 GRANT PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR THE GREEN VALLEY  
CONNECTION PROJECT AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

Dear Mr. McNeill:

I write to express my strong support of the County of Los Angeles (County) Department of Parks and Recreation's grant application to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Proposition 1 Grant Program for the Green Valley Connection Project (Proposed Project) at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (Park).

The Proposed Project will allow for critical improvements along the Park to Playa Trail, consisting of drainage swale repairs, slope stabilization and erosion control, a reduction of the existing eucalyptus tree grove, the reestablishment of California native plants, updates to the existing interpretive panels, and improvements to the existing irrigation system to promote efficiency and water savings with the Park.

The Proposed Project will help create more viable and sustainable communities by addressing water quality through stormwater management, restoring natural habitat, enhancing green spaces, promoting public health, and increasing environmental awareness.

I urge your support of the County's application for this significant project. Please contact my Associate Chief Deputy, Karly Katona, at (213) 974-2222 or [kkatona@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:kkatona@bos.lacounty.gov) should you have any questions. Thank you very much for your consideration.

With hope,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Ridley-Thomas".

**MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS**  
Supervisor, Second District



P.O. Box 411301, Los Angeles, CA. 90041

February 10, 2020

Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation

RE: KHSRA Green Valley Proposition 1 Grant Application

Los Angeles Audubon Society is writing in support of the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation's grant to improve water infiltration and reduce erosion for KHSRA's Green Valley, Park to Playa trail area. The proposed project will improve not only water quality through controlling erosion, but it will provide increased carbon sequestration through planting and seeding native plants. The native plants, in turn, will increase wildlife habitat, which will add to the benefit to park users.

Los Angeles Audubon Society will provide participate in the grant with our staff training contractors in effective, non-herbicide weed control around existing native plant species, and by monitoring irrigation of the installed native plants. In the final year of the grant, Los Angeles Audubon Society staff will create the project monitoring plan that will document the progress of the project's successful plant and tree establishment.

Additionally, Los Angeles Audubon Society will provide in-kind value through professional service for native habitat restoration by developing and reviewing seed mixes and plant palettes, and guiding development of the project post grant monitoring plan.

In the post grant period, Los Angeles Audubon Society staff will work with West Los Angeles College volunteers to provide five years of monitoring, including annual data collection and a written report.

Los Angeles Audubon Society is an independent 501c3 non-profit. Our mission is to promote the study and protection of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats throughout the diverse landscapes of the Los Angeles area, and to stimulate popular interest in and access to nature for all Los Angeles communities. We have worked to improve native habitat areas in KHSRA over the past 15 years, through volunteer programs, and we have developed education programs from elementary school through community college.

Sincerely,

Margot Griswold, Ph.D.

President, Los Angeles Audubon Society



**Santa Monica Mountains Task Force**  
**Angeles Chapter**  
9950 Farragut Drive  
Culver City CA 90232

February 15, 2020

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

**RE: PROPOSITION 1 GRANT - KHSRA GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION PROJECT**

Mr. McNeill:

The *Sierra Club* is pleased to support the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation's grant application to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Proposition 1 Grant Program for the *Green Valley Connection Project* at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. The proposed project will address a critical need along the popular Park to Playa Trail, and will consist of drainage swale repairs, slope stabilization and erosion control, reduction of the existing non-native eucalyptus tree grove, reestablishment of California native plants, updates to the existing interpretive panels, and improvements to existing irrigation system to promote efficiency and water savings.

Our organization has a several decades old relationship with KHSRA, as our volunteers have constructed over 8 miles of hiking trails in the park during this time. We are committed to the appreciation and preservation of wildlife habitats and the importance of recreational facilities, and we recognize that the County of Los Angeles shares this vision with projects such as the *Green Valley Connection Project*. The proposed project will help create more viable and sustainable communities by addressing water quality through stormwater management, restoring natural habitat, enhancing green spaces, promoting public health, and increasing environmental awareness.

We look forward to a positive funding decision in the near future for this very important project. If you have any questions, please contact me at 310-733-7042 or [mawebster1984@gmail.com](mailto:mawebster1984@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Webster  
Chair, Conservation Committee

## 11. Regional Significance:

The Project—located along the planned regional 13-mile Park to Playa Trail and within Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, a 397-acre regional, destination park—provides a service radius of up to 25 miles. The Project will serve approximately 8.5 million people within its 25-mile service radius, including approximately 1.9 million youth ages 0 to 18 and approximately 1.2 million adults over the age of 65.

According to the 2016 Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment (Parks Needs Assessment), which quantifies the need for parks and recreation resources in Los Angeles County (County), KHSRA also serves a population with High park need, meaning that with only 0.7 park acres available for every 1,000 residents the area has significantly less available green space than the County average of 3.3 park acres. In addition, the Parks Needs Assessment study area where the Project is located only has five miles of trail, all of which are located within KHSRA. While County DPR continues to find new ways to expand park acreage in these and other areas of High and Very High park need, County DPR is committed to maximizing its existing parkland, including its trails, for the residents it serves. County DPR proposes restoring a portion of trail located along the planned Park to Playa Trail (P2P Trail), a regional trail that, when completed, will expand access to walking, biking, and hiking opportunities for County residents and visitors by creating 13 miles of continuous trail, 80 percent of the which will be ADA accessible and all of which will be dog friendly. The trail segment to be refurbished and rehabilitated by the Project, has become degraded from flooding, erosion, and excess dry weather urban runoff and stormwater runoff. If not addressed, this can become a hazard for visitors who recreate in the park and along the trail. The Project will stabilize the slopes adjacent to the trail, preventing runoff and debris from entering the trail and protecting trail users.

The Project will also increase native coastal sage scrub habitat on the site. Coastal sage scrub is of regional importance as this habitat type has been reduced to only 10 percent of its original extent,<sup>1</sup> and as a result, is now home to nearly 100 species classified as rare, sensitive, threatened, or endangered. Species supported by the coastal sage scrub habitat include gray foxes, raccoons, skunks, desert cottontail rabbits, opossums, and 41 species of birds (36 of which are native to California), including the California quail. The Project's habitat restoration will support native birds, butterflies, invertebrates and reptiles, and be a functional habitat link to other regional natural areas.

The native habitat restoration will also provide residents with a sustainable green, open space in the heart of urban Los Angeles. In doing so, the Project will help reduce urban heat island effects by replacing weedy areas of annual grasses with native trees and tree-sized shrubs with an understory of shrubs and grasses. This will create shady areas year-round, helping to offset longer-term climate change impacts. By increasing native habitat, the Project will restore native habitat lost to over a century of urban development.

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<sup>1</sup> Rubinoff D. Evaluating the California gnatcatcher as an umbrella species for conservation of Southern California coastal sage scrub. *Conserv. Biol.* 2001; 15: 1374–1383

## **12. Disadvantaged Communities:**

The Project—located along the planned regional 13-mile Park to Playa Trail and within Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, a 397-acre regional, destination park—provides a service radius of up to 25 miles. According to Community Fact Finder as well as the Department of Water Resources Online Mapping Tool, the Project is located adjacent to several disadvantaged communities, including census tracts within Crenshaw, Leimert Park, and West Adams. The Project will provide benefits to community members from the adjacent disadvantaged communities by providing potential opportunities for green jobs. County DPR will offer workforce training for green infrastructure maintenance for the Project by partnering with workforce development agencies, such as the California Conservation Corps or local conservation Corps, to provide access to operation and maintenance jobs with long-term career potential as well as landscaping, landscape design, engineering, and construction-related skills, including skilled workforce training for installation and maintenance from entry-level to highly skilled, for long-term, green job potential. Job skills training can further enhance a sense of community ownership of the Park.

In addition, the Project will enhance access to green space and a natural setting for residents in the disadvantaged communities surrounding KHSRA along its northern and eastern borders. As the trails within KHSRA are a popular amenity for residents, including for residents of disadvantaged communities, the Project will provide recreational and educational opportunities for the adjacent communities. Due to its proximity to these communities, the Project will provide local underserved residents with recreation opportunities like walking, hiking, and running—both to and from the site as well as at the site itself. These activities can increase health benefits, including, according to the CDC, weight control; reduced risk of developing chronic illness, like cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, as well as some cancers; increased bone and muscle strength; improved mental health and mood; improved ability to carry out daily activities and prevent falls, for older adults; and overall increased chances of living longer.

## **13. Need for Conservancy Funds:**

If no funds were available from the Conservancy to fund the Project, County DPR would not be able to implement the Project. County DPR would continue to seek other funding opportunities because the Project is significant to helping protect the health of the Ballona Creek Watershed and restoring the habitat within KHSRA. Without the Project, the site would experience continued degradation along the trail segment and drainage swale, continued degradation and loss of native habitat and wildlife, continued growth of invasive species like the eucalyptus trees that currently populate the area, and continued pollution to the Ballona Creek Watershed through the damaged storm drain system.

## **14. Vulnerability from Climate Change Impacts Other than Sea Level Rise:**

The Ballona Creek Watershed, a 130 square-mile area within which nearly two million people live, and more than 5,000 species of animals, fish, birds, and plants make their home encompasses the Baldwin Hills Parklands, which includes the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA) within which the Project is located. Over the years, the surrounding areas have undergone significant and rapid urban development, which threatens the ecological health within KHSRA and the Project site. The Project location is vulnerable to impacts from climate change associated with fire, drought, and species loss. The habitat restoration component of the Project will reduce the vulnerabilities of the site to these negative impacts by increasing species diversity, supporting a native landscape that has adaptation for droughts, and reducing fire fuel load.

The Project site is impacted by significant habitat loss of both native flora and fauna in the area, including endangered, threatened, or migratory species. Urban birds like the house sparrow, which has been known to attack native birds and steal their food, prevent healthy native bird populations from being re-established. In addition, the loss of native flora due to urbanization has also resulted in a reduction of native fauna dependent on coastal sage plants for food and shelter, including important pollinators like butterfly populations, which are necessary to supporting plant population growth. An example of the relationship between native habitat and species is the loss of the Cactus Wren, which has not been seen in the area in over 20 years. Cactus Wren prefer to nest in the prickly-pear cactus; unfortunately, the increase in exotic plants have caused a decrease in the prickly-pear cactus population and the loss of the Cactus Wren. The Project will increase and, therefore, restore native habitat by re-introducing native shrubs and groundcovers to provide food and protection for location wildlife. These native species include both drought deciduous and succulent plants that are adapted for longer periods of drought.

As climate change has increased fire frequency and fire severity, the reduction of the fuel load in the Project will decrease the Project site to the potential severity of wildfire in the area. The large expanses of eucalyptus tree groves on the Project site are known to be extreme fire hazards. A National Park Service study of 50 California sites found that the fuel load (amount of available fuel per unit area) of non-native eucalyptus species is almost three times greater than that of native coast live oak. In addition, according to research conducted by both the University of California and California State University, oils produced by eucalyptus leaves are volatile and highly flammable and ignited trees have been known to explode. Furthermore, some eucalyptus species drop branches unexpectedly, and its fallen leaves and branches accumulate rapidly, are resistant to natural decomposition, and extremely combustible due to their high resin content and density. As previously mentioned, recent burn areas are one of two conditions in which a high rate of runoff occurs. The reason for this is that burn areas create soil that is less likely to allow water to permeate its surface. These large expanses of eucalyptus groves within the Project site make current site extremely susceptible to fire. The Project will reduce the eucalyptus tree population by up to 25 percent. In doing so, the Project will help reduce the amount of fallen eucalyptus leaves and branches—which are known to be highly flammable—and in turn, reduce wildfire risks in the area.

## 15. Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change:

The Project will not result in production of greenhouse gas emissions. The Project will, however, minimize greenhouse gas emissions through design, implementation, and maintenance.

The Project will plant approximately 200 to 400 new trees and plants on the Project site utilizing an ecosystem-based model that considers vegetation native or friendly to the Project site's particular Southern California region in addition to other factors, such as plant structures, including tree canopy and root systems, and a plant's capacity to form successful symbiotic relationships with other microorganisms. Aligned with the State's greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, the planned ecosystem-based approach will seek to optimize carbon sequestration to reduce greenhouse gases that contribute to pollution and climate change.

Native and California-friendly vegetation planned for the Project will include trees and large shrubs as well as smaller shrubs and grasses that have year-round leaf canopies above-ground and complex root systems with an associated soil biome below-ground. These include native coast live oak trees and shrubs such as laurel sumac, holly leaf cherry, and toyon, which have extensive deep-root systems that are important to providing below ground carbon sequestration. Vegetation will also be chosen, in part, for their capacity to form symbiotic relationships with other microorganisms—primarily fungi (mycorrhizal fungi) that help to stabilize plants' root systems by improving soil clumping and extending root lifespan—because these relationships can increase carbon sequestration. The symbiotic relationship between the plant and these types of microorganisms can improve carbon sequestration in both the plant canopy as well as the root biosphere by increasing overall plant productivity while reducing overall net carbon release into the atmosphere. This is important because scientists have discovered that increased levels of carbon in the atmosphere sometimes triggers plants to thicken their leaves, a reaction that makes plants less productive and, as a result, can reduce their total sequestration of CO<sup>2</sup>. Indeed, research shows that tree species, such as native coast live oak, that form symbiotic relationships with these types of microorganisms show an increase in energy production response to elevated carbon levels, regardless of the availability of nitrogen (fertilizer) in the soil.

The following quantification of carbon sequestration of native species is estimated based on previously published and reviewed methods, which calculate sequestered carbon based on the number of native plants to be planted by the type (tree, small tree/large shrub, shrub), and uses actual and estimated amounts of carbon sequestered from the carbon calculator developed from the Center for Urban Forest Research Tree Carbon Calculator, as applied to upland habitats per Community Conservation Solutions (2016). The following assumes trees/large shrubs are spaced approximately 15 feet from other trees/large shrubs, calculating 86 to 153 such large plants per acre. Spaces between these trees/large shrubs will be filled with small shrubs and perennial grasses.

Tons of Carbon Sequestered by Project Native Trees/Large Shrubs  
over 10 Year and 20 Year Period

Range of Total Number of Native Trees/Large Shrubs	Range of Estimated Carbon Benefit	
	10-year tons CO <sub>2</sub>	20-year tons CO <sub>2</sub>
475 – 850	95 – 220	275 – 670

Note that since native grasses and small shrubs as well as below-ground mycorrhizal fungi are present and will sequester carbon but are not included in the calculation above, the amount of carbon tons sequestered by the Project as outlined above is a conservative estimate. Native habitat

is long-lived, self-perpetuating, adapted to Southern California's hot climate, with leaf canopies and deep root systems that maximize carbon intake. It is likely that the Project will sequester more carbon than as outlined above.

**16. Willing Seller:**

Not applicable. The Project does not involve acquisition of property.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**GREEN VALLEY CONNECTION REFURBISHMENT PROJECT  
AT KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA**

**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION PRE-AWARD QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Not applicable.**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF  
LOS ANGELES TO APPLY FOR AND EXECUTE GRANTS FROM THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA FOR PARK RELATED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS EFFECTIVE  
FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS FROM DATE OF ADOPTION**

WHEREAS, the State of California offers grants to support park and recreational projects and programs for the benefit of jurisdictions within the State and has delegated the responsibility for administration of these grants to different State agencies, including but not limited to, the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, Office of Traffic Safety, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Housing and Community Development, California State Parks, State Coastal Conservancy, Department of Conservation, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of Public Health, Department of Water Resources, Department of Parks and Recreation, Natural Resources Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, Air Resources Board, Baldwin Hills Conservancy, Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Water Commission, California Energy Commission, Department of Transportation, California Transportation Commission, Ocean Protection Council, Office of Grants and Local Services, San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, State Water Resources Control Board, California Strategic Growth Council, and Wildlife Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, State agencies established procedures governing the application and grant management process for jurisdictions for the grants; and

WHEREAS, State agencies require a resolution from a jurisdiction authorizing application for grants and execution of grant-related documents; and

WHEREAS, State agencies require a resolution from a jurisdiction authorizing it to act as the lead agency on behalf of itself and its participating jurisdictions in partnerships for regional grant projects.

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles (County) through its Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) desires to utilize State grants and is seeking a resolution from the County's Board of Supervisors to satisfy the State agencies requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County hereby:

1. Authorizes the submittal of grant applications to State agencies by the Department County through the Department for park and recreational projects and programs.
2. If applicable, certifies that Department understands the assurances and certification(s) in the applications.
3. Certifies that Department will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project or will secure the resources to do so.

4. If applicable, certifies that the project will comply with any laws and regulations, including but not limited to, legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled access laws, and environmental laws; and that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable permits will have been obtained.
5. Certifies that the Department will work toward the Governor's State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety.
6. If applicable, certifies that the Department will expend grant funds within the designated time frame.
7. If applicable, certifies that the Department has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the general provisions contained in the sample contract provided.
8. Authorizes and empowers the Director of the Department or his designee to execute all necessary applications, contracts, agreements, reports, and amendments thereto, and payment requests for the purposes of securing grants from the State.
9. Certifies that the resolution is effective for five years from the date of adoption.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles acting as the governing body of the Department of Parks and Recreation.



CELIA ZAVALA  
Executive Officer-Clerk of  
the Board of Supervisors of  
the County of Los Angeles

By [Signature]  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARY C. WICKHAM  
County Counsel

By [Signature]  
Casey Youn  
Senior Deputy County Counsel

Ayes: Spangars Solis, Ridley-Thomcs, Kuehl, Barger and Hahn

Noes: NONE

Absent: NONE

# BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056  
(323) 290-5270 Phone  
[www.bhc.ca.gov](http://www.bhc.ca.gov)

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## Memorandum

**To:** Governing Board

**From:** David McNeill, Executive Officer

**Date:** March 27, 2020

**Re:** Item 6: Consideration of Resolution #20-03 Adopting Amendments to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Proposition 68 Grant Application and Guidelines

**Recommendation:** Approve Resolution #20-03 Adopting Amendments to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Proposition 68 Application and Guidelines the BHC Prop 68 Grant Program Guidelines.

**Background:** In September 2018, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) adopted the BHC Prop 68 Grant Program Guidelines pursuant to Resolution #17-02. Since that time there has been new legal interpretation of the Statute as it relates to bond law impacting components of the Grant Program. Additionally, through this year's implementation of the current screening and scoring process, staff has developed recommendations for restructuring the Application (See Attachment #1) and Guidelines (See Attachment #2) to help improve the applicant experience.

### **General Application revisions proposed:**

- 1) Adding an Application Checklist of required contents into the application for easier applicant compliance with the Guidelines.
- 2) Removing the option for selection of multiple categories within the *Purposes of Proposition 68* and requiring a single category to assist development of a focused quality narrative.

### **General Guideline revisions proposed:**

- 1) Updating the language for Community Access, Education and Interpretation projects to specify the use of such funds is for capital assets with a useful life of 10 years and not eligible for a grantee's operational costs.
- 2) Increasing the maximum grant award from \$100,000 to \$200,000 contingent on the availability of fund appropriation.
- 3) Revising the score allocations to remove point value ranges and replace them with a fixed value point allocation.

The above amendments should improve narrative development and presentation for future proposals and also provide reviewers with greater efficacy in the screening and scoring process.

**State of California — Natural Resources Agency  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

*GRANT APPLICATION FORM*

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED</b>	
	\$	
<b>APPLICANT (Org. Name and Address)</b>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT</b>	
	\$	
<b>APPLICANT'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE (Name, Title, Phone)</b>		
<b>PROJECT ADDRESS (Including Cross-Street)</b>		
<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>SENATE DISTRICT</b>	<b>ASSEMBLY DISTRICT</b>
<b>PERSON W/ DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBLY FOR PROJECT (Name, Title, E-mail, Phone)</b>		
<b>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT</b>		

<b>TASK / MILESTONE</b>	<b>COST ESTIMATE</b>	<b>COMPLETION DATE</b>
1.		
2.		
3.		
Etc.		
<i>I certify that the information contained in this project application form, including required attachments, is accurate.</i>		
<b>NAME:</b>		
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>		<b>DATE:</b>

## GRANT APPLICATION FOR BHC PROP 68 FUNDS

Proposition 68: California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access  
for All Act of 2018

**Application Checklist.** All applications must be provided in 12-point font. The grant application must include the following:

		<b>INCLUDED</b>
<b>1.</b>	Cover page (no more than 1 page)	
<b>2.</b>	Table of Contents with corresponding page numbers.	
<b>3.</b>	A completed Application Checklist.	
<b>4.</b>	A completed grant application form. See P68 Grant Application on BHC website.	
<b>5.</b>	Identify only one (1) of the purposes of Chapter 8 of Proposition 68 Bond Law are achieved by the project and by which your application will be evaluated. <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Protection and Restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation Management and Fire Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Serving Development and Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects	
<b>6.</b>	A detailed scope of work, including a list of specific tasks, a detailed budget, and a timeline for project implementation (including an estimated completion date for each task)	
<b>7.</b>	Any preliminary project plans (i.e. drawings, conceptional or construction) as required	
<b>8.</b>	A detailed description of the need and urgency for the grant	
<b>9.</b>	A detailed description of how the project will provide multi-benefit ecosystem, water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and public benefits	
<b>10.</b>	A detailed description of how the project achieves one or more of the Purposes of Proposition 68.	
<b>11.</b>	A detailed description of how the project helps meet the State's greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, including a quantification of the metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> or CO <sub>2</sub> e removed or avoided, and an explanation of the methodology used to quantify this figure. <b>See Guidelines: Section 2, Item 2.4 and Section 5 Item 2.5 and Section 6 Item 6.0 and EXECUTIVE ORDER B-30-15 (Brown).</b>	
<b>12.</b>	A detailed description of how the project will promote and implement other relevant regional and state plans and policies. <b>See Guidelines: Section 2</b>	

13.	Indicate whether the project will have matching funds from private, local, or federal sources, and if so, to what extent (Include dollar amount.)	
14.	Indicate whether the project will benefit a disadvantaged community (Use the State Parks Community Fact Finder tool <a href="http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities">http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities</a> to determine Median Household Income)	
15.	A detailed description of any new or innovative technology or practices that will be applied to the project;	
16.	A detailed method for monitoring and reporting on the progress and effectiveness of the project during and after project implementation;	
17.	A description of how the scope of work will further the Conservancy's strategic objectives; <b>See Guidelines, Section 2.2. Strategic Objectives.</b>	
18.	A description of how the scope of work will protect or enhance Ballona Creek (if applicable).	
19.	Completed CEQA document. <b>See Attachment 1.</b>	
20.	For Nonprofit Organizations, please submit completed Nonprofit Organization Pre-Award Questionnaire. <b>See Attachment 2.</b>	
21.	Conservancy's procedures require the Applicant to certify, by resolution, the approval of the application before submission of said application(s) to the Conservancy. <b>See Attachment 3.</b>	
22.	A completed payee data record (STD. 204) <b>See <a href="#">Payee Data Form (STD. 204)</a> on BHC website.</b>	
23.	Corps Consultation Review Document (if applicable) <b>See Attachment 4.</b>	

**Applications may be submitted electronically or via U.S. Mail.**

**Electronic:** Send one PDF file (10 MB maximum size) to [info@bhc.ca.gov](mailto:info@bhc.ca.gov). If you are unable to e-mail your application, you may mail or deliver the electronic files on a CD or other common file storage device.

**U.S. Mail:** The printed documents to  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
**Attn: Grant Program Manager**  
5120 West Goldleaf Circle Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90056.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project scope is the part of project planning that involves determining and documenting a list of specific project goals, **deliverables**, features, functions, **tasks**, deadlines, and ultimately costs. In other words, it is what needs to be achieved and the work that must be done to deliver a project.

**Describe each of the elements of the project description below with clear, but detailed answers.**

1. **Need and urgency for the project.** Describe the specific problems, issues, or un-served needs the project will address. Include a detailed description of how the project will provide multi-benefit ecosystem, water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and public benefits.
2. **Goals and objectives.** The goals and objectives should clearly define the expected outcomes and benefits of the project. Include the following:
  - a.) A detailed description of how the project achieves one or more of the purposes of Proposition 68.
  - b.) A detailed description of how the project helps meet the State's greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, including a quantification of the metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> or CO<sub>2</sub>e removed or avoided, and an explanation of the methodology used to quantify this figure
  - c.) A detailed description of how the project will promote and implement other relevant regional and state plans and policies
  - d.) Indicate whether the project will have matching funds from private, local, or federal sources, and if so, to what extent (Include dollar amount.)
3. **Site Description.** Describe the project site or area, including site characteristics that are tied to your project objectives (i.e.: for acquisition of habitat, describe current vegetation assemblages, condition of habitats, known wildlife migration corridors, etc.). When relevant, include ownership and management information.
4. **Specific Tasks.** Identify the specific tasks that will be undertaken and the work that will be accomplished for each task.

#	Task Name	Description
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

*Add or delete rows as necessary.*

5. **Work Products.** List the specific work products or other deliverables in which the project will result.

6. **Measuring Success.** For projects involving restoration, construction or land acquisition, describe the plan for monitoring, evaluating and reporting project effectiveness, and implementing adaptive management strategies if necessary. Identify who will be responsible for funding and implementing ongoing management and monitoring.
7. **Project Maps and Graphics.** Provide the following project graphics with your application. Project maps and design plans should be combined into one pdf file with a maximum size of 5 MB. Project photos should be provided in jpg format.
- Regional Map – Clearly identify the project’s location in relation to prominent area features and significant natural and recreational resources, including regional trails and protected lands.
  - Site-scale map – Show the location of project elements in relation to natural and man-made features on-site or nearby. Any key features discussed in project description should be shown.
  - Design Plan – Construction projects should include one or more design drawings or graphics indicating the intended site improvements.
  - Site Photos – One or more clear photos of the project site.

## PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND SCHEDULE

In the budget matrix below, relist the tasks identified in #4 above and for each provide: 1) the estimated completion date for the task, 2) the estimated cost of the task, and 3) the funding sources (applicant, Conservancy, and other) for the task. The table will automatically sum the totals for each row and column. To do this, highlight the whole table and press the F9 key on your keyboard.

Task Number	Task	Completion Date	Applicant's Funding	Baldwin Hills Conservancy Funds	Other Funds	Total Cost
1.0						\$ 0
1.1						\$ 0
1.2						\$ 0
2.0						\$ 0
2.1						\$ 0
2.2						\$ 0
Etc.						\$ 0
						\$ 0
						\$ 0
						\$ 0
						\$ 0
						\$ 0
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0

## In Kind Services

*In-kind services or contributions include volunteer time and materials, bargain sales, and land donations. Describe and estimate the value of expected in-kind services.*

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Provide clear, concise answers to each question below. Unless otherwise specified, please limit your answer to one concise paragraph. See grant application instructions for more information. For question #4, limit your answer to 1-3 sentences per relevant plan. Most questions should be answered by all applicants, enter “**not applicable**” if a question does not pertain to your project.

- 1. Proposition 68 Goals.** Which of the following purposes of Chapter 8 of Proposition 68 are achieved by the project [**check only one (1) that most applies to your project**]:

Purposes of Proposition 68 include:

- ☐ **Resource Protection and Restoration.** The state provides funds which facilitate the protection and restoration of wildlife, habitat, and historical/archaeological resources, including habitat restoration projects.
- ☐ **Vegetation Management and Fire Safety.** The state provides funds which facilitate fire safety and any required or recommended fuel modification zones.
- ☐ **Visitor Serving Development and Improvement.** The state provides funds which provide for enhanced visitation, urban accessibility and safety to open space, parks and greenspace (including signage, restrooms, entrances, parking, trail building or repairs, etc...). This includes new projects to implement statutory requirements to provide better accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- ☐ **Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects.** The state provides funds which are required to achieve or expand the outreach mission of the Conservancy and provide interpretive programs and materials to substantially enhance knowledge, appreciation, and enjoyment of the natural environment, open space, parklands and waterways.

- 2. Consistency with other State Plans:** If the proposed project will help to implement or promote the goals of any of the State Plans listed below, check that plan and specify which goals, objectives, priority actions, etc. will be furthered by the project. Limit your answers to 1-3 sentences per plan.

- ☐ CA Climate Adaptation Strategy/Safeguarding California: Reducing Climate Risk Plan
- ☐ California Water Action Plan

- 3. California’s 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan.**

- a. Identify which goals of the California Climate Change Scoping Plan the project will promote or implement.
- b. Identify the climate change/global warming plan(s) and any other regional or plans that apply to the specific project area. For each, list those goals, objectives, priority actions, etc. that the project will promote or implement.

- 4. Best Scientific Practices.** Describe how the project is consistent with best scientific practices where achievable and appropriate.

5. **New Technology.** Does the project employ new or innovative technology or practices? If yes, describe those technologies and/or practices.
6. **Sustainability.** Describe how the project will deliver sustainable outcomes in the long-term.
7. **Project and Applicant History:** Provide a history of the project, and any background information not provided in the project description. Is the project related to any previous or proposed Baldwin Hills Conservancy projects? If so, which ones and how are they related?
8. **Environmental Review:** Projects funded by the Conservancy must be reviewed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"). CEQA does not apply to projects that will not have either a direct or indirect effect on the environment. For all other projects, if the project is statutorily or categorically exempt under CEQA, no further review is necessary. If the proposed project is not exempt, it must be evaluated by a public agency that is issuing a permit, providing funding, or approving the project, to determine whether the activities may have a significant effect on the environment. The evaluation results in a "Negative Declaration (Neg. Dec)," "Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)," or "Environmental Impact Report." **See CEQA Compliance Certification document in Attachment 2 to this application.**

**Please select the appropriate answer:**

The proposed project....

☐ Is not a project under CEQA. Briefly specify why.

☐ Is exempt under CEQA. Provide the CEQA exemption number and specify how the project meets the terms of the exemption.

☐ Requires Negative Declaration, MND, or EIR. Specify the lead CEQA agency (the agency preparing the document) and the (expected) completion date. Please note that the Conservancy will need to review and approve any CEQA document and cannot present a project to the Conservancy Board for funding consideration without a completed CEQA document.

9. **Support:** Obtain letters from the public agencies, identified project partners, park owner/operator non-profit organizations, elected officials and other entities and individuals that will support the project.
10. **Regional Significance:** Describe the regional significance of the project with respect to recreation (regional trails and parks, staging areas, environmental education facilities, etc.), agricultural resources, and natural resources (including listed species, identified high priority habitat, wildlife corridors, watersheds, and agricultural soils).
11. **Disadvantaged Communities.** Does the project benefit a disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged community? If yes, specify which community and how it will be benefited by the project.

**Disadvantaged Community (DAC)** — Census block-groups with a Median House Hold Income (MHHI) less than 80% of the California MHHI. The threshold is derived from American

Community Survey 5-year estimates at the block-group geographic level, per the California Public Resources Code (PRC), Section 75005(g).

**Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC)** — Census block-groups with a Median Household Income (MHHI) less than 60% of the California MHHI. The threshold is derived from American Community Survey 5-year estimates at the block-group geographic level, per the California Public Resources Code (PRC), Section 75005(g).

Use the State Parks Community Fact Finder tool to determine State Median Household Income (MHHI); Go here <http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities>

- 12. Need for Conservancy Funds:** What would happen to the project if no funds were available from the Conservancy? What project opportunities or benefits could be lost and why if the project is not implemented in the near future?
- 13. Vulnerability from Climate Change Impacts Other than Sea Level Rise:** Using the latest regional scenarios, predictions and trends, describe how the project objectives or project may be vulnerable to impacts (fire, drought, species and habitat loss, etc.) from climate change, other than sea level rise, coastal erosion or flooding. Identify design, siting, or other measures incorporated into the project to reduce these vulnerabilities.
- 14. Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Climate Change:** If the proposed project will result in production of greenhouse gas emissions (including construction impacts and vehicle miles travelled as part of a public access component), describe the measures your project includes to reduce, minimize or avoid greenhouse gas emissions through project design, implementation construction, or maintenance. What, if any, are the possible sources or sinks of greenhouse gases for your project, such as carbon sequestration from habitats at the site? If one of the project goals is to sequester carbon (reduce greenhouse gas concentrations), how do you intend to ensure continued long-term sequestration while achieving project objectives? Do you have any plans to seek carbon credits for the carbon sequestration activities on the project site?
- 15. Willing Seller:** Projects that involve acquisition of property must involve a willing seller. If your project includes property acquisition, please describe the status and expected conclusion of landowner negotiations.
- 16. Conservation Corps.** For restoration and ecosystem protection projects, Grantee to include Corps Consultation Review Document (if applicable); Indicate whether the project will use the services of local or state conservation corps **See Attachment 4** to this application.

# **BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

## **PROPOSITION 68**

### **GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

#### **APPLICATION DUE DATES (2020)**

**February 29**

**April 30**

**June 30**

**August 31**

**October 31**

**December 31**



Grants Funded by the the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018

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## Section 1. Introduction

1.0. *Preamble.* The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) is codified as Division 45 (commencing with Section 80000) and Sections 5096.611 and 75089.5 of the Public Resources Code and Section 79772.5 of the Water Code. Proposition 68 authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy's ("Conservancy") Proposition 68 Grant Program Guidelines ("Guidelines") specifically pertain to grants funded by Proposition 68 and administered by the Conservancy.

Section 80001. (b) It is the intent of the people of California that all of the following shall occur in the implementation of this division:

- (1) The investment of public funds pursuant to this division will result in public benefits that address the most critical statewide needs and priorities for public funding.
- (2) In the appropriation and expenditure of funding authorized by this division, priority will be given to projects that leverage private, federal, or local funding or produce the greatest public benefit.
- (3) To the extent practicable, a project that receives moneys pursuant to this division will include signage informing the public that the project received funds from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.
- (4) To the extent practicable, when developing program guidelines for urban recreation projects and habitat protection or restoration projects, administering entities are encouraged to give favorable consideration to projects that provide urban recreation and protect or restore natural resources. Additionally, the entities may pool funding for these projects.
- (5) To the extent practicable, a project that receives moneys pursuant to this division will provide workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.
- (6) To the extent practicable, priority for funding pursuant to this division will be given to local parks projects that have obtained all required permits and entitlements and a commitment of matching funds, if required.
- (7) To the extent practicable, administering entities should measure or require measurement of greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon sequestrations associated with projects that receive moneys pursuant to this division.

Chapter 8 of Proposition 68, entitled "State Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, and Authority Funding," allocates one hundred eighty million dollars (\$180,000,000) to state conservancies for projects according to their governing statutes for their specified purposes. **Six million dollars (\$6,000,000) of the funds available in Chapter 8 is allocated to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.**

1.1. *Purpose.* These guidelines advise grant applicants with respect to the requirements and expectations of Proposition 68 funds granted by the Conservancy.

1.2. *Definitions.* For purposes of these Guidelines, the following definitions shall apply:

*Community access:* engagement programs, technical assistance, or facilities that maximize safe and equitable physical admittance, especially for low-income communities, to natural or cultural resources, community education, or recreational amenities.

*Community Conservation Corps:* means a nonprofit public benefit corporation formed or operating pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 5110) of Division 2 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code, or an agency operated by a city, county, or city and county, that is certified by the California Conservation Corps as meeting all of criteria identified in Section 14507.5 of the Public Resources Code.

*Conservation actions on private lands:* projects with willing landowners that involve the adaptive flexible management or protection of natural resources in response to changing conditions and threats to habitat and wildlife. The actions may include the acquisition of conservation interests or fee interests in the land. These projects result in habitat conditions on private lands that, when managed dynamically over time, contribute to the long-term health and resiliency of vital ecosystems and enhance wildlife populations.

*Disadvantaged community:* a community with a median household income less than 80 percent of the statewide average.

*Severely disadvantaged community:* A community with a median household income less than 60 percent of the statewide average.

*Feasible:* Possible to do easily or conveniently.

*Interpretation:* includes, but is not limited to, a visitor-serving amenity that enhances the ability to understand and appreciate the significance and value of natural, historical, and cultural resources and that may utilize educational materials in multiple languages, digital information, and the expertise of a naturalist or other skilled specialist.

*Preservation:* rehabilitation, stabilization, restoration, conservation development and reconstruction or any combination of those activities.

*Protection:* those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to persons, property, or natural, cultural, and historic resources, actions to improve access to public open-space areas, or actions to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural, cultural, and historic resources, and includes site monitoring, acquisition, development, restoration, preservation, and interpretation.

*Potential:* Capable of becoming real, and plausible given regulatory, financial and physical conditions.

*Promote:* To give publicity toward so as to increase public awareness.

*Restoration:* The improvement of physical structures or facilities and, in the case of natural systems and landscape features, includes, but is not limited to, projects for the control of erosion, stormwater capture and storage or to otherwise reduce stormwater pollution, the control and elimination of invasive species, the planting of native species, the removal of waste and debris, prescribed burning, fuel hazard reduction, fencing out threats to existing or restored

natural resources, road elimination, improving instream, riparian, or managed wetland habitat conditions, and other plant and wildlife habitat improvement to increase the natural system value of the property or coastal or ocean resource. Restoration also includes activities described in subdivision (b) of Section 79737 of the Water Code. Restoration projects shall include the planning, monitoring, and reporting necessary to ensure successful implementation of the project objectives.

***Watershed Health:*** A condition achieved when a watershed's ecological systems are properly functioning, and the watershed is resilient to, and recovers rapidly from, risks such as wildfire, climate change impacts, and loss of biological integrity.

## Section 2. Eligibility and Priorities

**2.0. Eligible Grantees.** Applicants eligible to apply for Proposition 68 grant funding from the Conservancy include public agencies such as districts, joint powers authorities, cities and counties, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Indian tribes, and state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List.

**2.1. General Eligibility Requirements.** To be eligible for Proposition 68 grant funding, all projects must:

- Meet the required application and project selection criteria detailed in the subsequent sections;
- Be within the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Territory;
- Conform with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and Conservancy's Strategic Plan;
- Advance Baldwin Hills Conservancy statutory programs and mission;
- Meet one or more of the purposes of Prop 68;
- Contribute to the State's Climate Change Policies and Programs;
- Comply with General Bond Obligation Law, commencing with Government Code Section 16720

**2.2. Strategic Objectives.** The Conservancy's strategic objectives are guided by the goals of acquiring open space and managing public lands to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience. They are updated regularly to reflect the needs and desires of the public and provide guidance for successful implementation of the Conservancy's mission. The Conservancy's strategic objectives include:

### *Implement the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan*

- Increase active recreation opportunities for underserved communities
- Create a comprehensive trail system
- Provide for public access and entry way
- Protect and restore natural habitat
- Protect critical view sheds
- Protect and improve urban water quality
- Emphasize connections between existing parks, trails, and urban streams
- Restore industrial lands to park and open-space purposes
- Protect watersheds connecting to Santa Monica Bay

*Implement recommendations from the Ballona Creek Trail and Bikeway Environmental and Recreational Enhancement Study*

- Construct connections from the Baldwin Hills to Ballona Creek
- Install consistent signage for bike path
- Identify parcels for significant habitat restoration, recreation opportunities and or interpretive sites
- Implement monitoring program to evaluate Ballona Creek's water quality
- Establish education projects along Ballona Creek

*Expand Education, Public Access, and Resource Stewardship Components in a Manner That Best Serves the Public, Protects Habitat, and Provides Recreational Opportunities*

- Expand local government, school district, and nonprofit ventures to provide increased educational and access opportunities
- Restore habitat areas strategically to protect species and ecosystems through acquisition and cooperation with other resource management entities
- Increase resource stewardship capabilities within the territory
- Create comprehensive, regional, and integrated trails plan
- Develop long term capital improvement and maintenance plans

**2.3. Disadvantaged Community Investment and Co-Benefits.** The Conservancy will allocate at least 20 percent of the funds available for projects serving disadvantaged and severely disadvantaged communities, pursuant to section 8008(a)(1) of Proposition 68. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide information regarding this qualification.

People who live in disadvantaged communities face health disparities due to poor air quality, exposure to harmful pollution, and lack of public amenities and services. The Conservancy is committed to immediate investment in such areas to mitigate the disproportionate negative impacts felt in low-income and highly polluted areas. In addition to the required investment in defined disadvantaged communities, applicants are encouraged to submit projects that are identified as high or very high need in the Los Angeles County Park Needs Assessment or are located in or adjacent to a disadvantaged community as defined by [State Parks Factfinder Tool](#)

Applicants are also encouraged to describe non-climate related co-benefits, such as job creation, youth employment and job training, recreation, public health benefits, or programs that engage local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation, particularly as it relates to long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.

**2.4. Climate Change.** Concurrently with these efforts, the State is tackling the unprecedented set of challenges posed by climate change. The task is large but not insurmountable; the State has taken a leadership role with the passage of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Assembly Bill 32), Executive Order B-30-15, Safeguarding California – California's Climate Adaptation Strategy (Safeguarding California), the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan (Scoping Plan) and the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP). **The Conservancy's Guidelines and project scoring criteria are designed to fund projects that help achieve the State's foremost goals of outdoor access and reaching the State's greenhouse gas reduction targets in compliance with these guiding documents.**

Natural resource protection is identified as a critical component of the State's ability to adapt to climate change and growing population demands, as well as meet its short and long-term greenhouse gas reduction goals as articulated in the [Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 \(AB 32\)](#). AB 32 declares global warming a serious threat to the environment of California and requires California to reduce its total greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels to 1990 levels by 2020. With the passage of the AB 32, the State of California demonstrated early leadership in the challenging task of tackling global climate change.

[Executive Order B-30-15](#) (April 2015) established a new interim statewide greenhouse gas emission reduction target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 is established in order to ensure California meets its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 and provided directions to State agencies including:

State agencies shall take climate change into account in their planning and investment decisions, and employ full life-cycle cost accounting to evaluate and compare infrastructure investments and alternatives.

State agencies' planning and investment shall be guided by the following principles:

Priority should be given to actions that both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

Where possible, flexible and adaptive approaches should be taken to prepare for uncertain climate impacts;

Actions should protect the state's most vulnerable populations; and

Natural infrastructure solutions should be prioritized.

In addition to climate change mitigation and water conservation, the Governor's Executive Order B-30-15 specifically directs the California Natural Resources Agency to update and implement the State's Climate Adaptation Plan, [Safeguarding California](#), which highlights many of the cross-sectoral opportunities and benefits of reducing climate risks through natural resource protection. The update to Safeguarding is focused on six Comprehensive State Adaptation Strategies:

Consider climate change in all core functions of government.

Partner with California's most vulnerable populations to increase equity and resilience through investments, planning, research, and education.

Support continued climate research and data tools.

Identify significant and sustainable funding sources for investments that reduce climate risks, harm to people, and disaster spending.

Prioritize natural infrastructure solutions, actions that both build climate preparedness and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and projects that produce multiple benefits.

Promote collaborative adaptation processes with local and regional government partners.

Investment in natural resource preservation in the near term will accomplish many of the goals discussed in *Safeguarding California*. Protected open spaces contribute to the emergency management readiness of the state by acting as buffers for storm, flood, and fire impacts to developed communities. *Safeguarding California* also emphasizes the need to support climate research and data tools to inform policy and risk reduction activities, and prioritize climate risk communication, education, and outreach.

As the Air Resources Board's [California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan](#) emphasizes, climate change can be a great unifier. It gives us the opportunity to focus on doing more with less; to work across programmatic, policy and political boundaries; and to figure out ways to achieve various goals more quickly and more effectively. The Scoping Plan identifies the Natural and Working Lands (NWL) sector as a key contributor to achieving the state's 2030 GHG emission reduction goals through carbon sequestration and avoidance, and specifically targets a reduction of 15-20 million metric tons by 2030. The Scoping plan identifies the following framework for policy and programs related to land protection, carbon sequestration and innovative biomass utilization:

Protect land from conversion to more intensified uses by increasing conservation opportunities and pursuing local planning processes, and urban and infrastructure development patterns that avoid greenfield development. The latter is being done in coordination with transportation and infrastructure climate policy, as described in prior sections of this Proposed Plan.

Enhance the resilience of and potential for carbon sequestration on those lands through management and restoration, and reduce GHG and black carbon emissions from wildfire and management activities. This includes expansion and management of green space in urban areas.

Innovate biomass utilization such that harvested wood and excess agricultural and forest biomass can be used to advance statewide objectives for renewable energy and fuels, wood product manufacturing, agricultural markets, and soil health, resulting in avoided GHG emissions relative to traditional utilization pathways. Associated activities should increase the resilience of rural communities and economies.

The Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) developed the [Planning and Investing for a Resilient California: A Guidebook for State Agencies](#) prepared by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to provide state agencies with guidance on how to integrate climate change into planning and investment with the following strategies:

Identify how climate change could affect a project or plan by identifying impacts or concern and assessing the scale, scope and context of climate disruption.

Conduct an analysis of climate risks by selecting climate change scenarios for analysis and selecting an analytical approach.

Make a climate-informed decision by evaluating alternative or designs and applying resilient decision principles.

Track and monitor progress by evaluating and adjusting metrics.

These mandates, along with other policies and plans, require that the Conservancy fund projects which synergistically address climate change, while addressing the needs of California's most vulnerable populations and natural resources.

Natural spaces become long-term venues for on-going research, data collection, and monitoring of current and future climate conditions, while protecting precious biodiversity and public amenities. Urban green spaces decrease electricity consumption by reducing the heat island effect, sequester carbon, conserve water, and encourage non-motorized transportation. In addition, parks and open spaces improve public health and boost the resilience of communities by providing respite from urban environments, enhancing air and water quality, and promoting low-cost recreation for communities of all socio-economic levels.

The natural resources sector presents tremendous opportunities, because investment in open space and urban greening can yield outdoor access, water quality and quantity benefits, while mitigating climate change and achieving co-benefits such as job creation, investment in disadvantaged communities, and improving public health and recreation opportunities.

### Section 3. Eligible Project Categories

**3.0. *Eligible Project Categories.*** The Guidelines identify general project categories that may be eligible for funding. All eligible projects must meet the eligibility requirements in order to be considered for funding. Applicants are encouraged to work with Conservancy staff if a project does not fall within one of these categories, to determine if it may be otherwise eligible.

**3.1. *Resource Protection and Restoration Projects.*** Projects which facilitate the protection and restoration of wildlife, habitat, and historical/archaeological resources, including habitat restoration projects.

**3.2. *Vegetation Management and Fire Safety Projects.*** Projects which facilitate fire safety and any required or recommended fuel modification zones.

**3.3 *Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects.*** Projects which provide for enhanced visitation, urban accessibility and safety to open space, parks and greenspace (including signage, restrooms, entrances, parking, trail building or repairs, etc...). This includes new projects to implement statutory requirements to provide better accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**3.4. *Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects.*** Pursuant to Section 80008(c)(1), Up to 5 percent of funds available pursuant to each chapter of this division shall to the extent permissible under the State General Obligation Bond Law ... and with the concurrence of the Director of Finance, be allocated for community access projects..."

Upon direction of the Department of Finance, these funds should only be used to fund capital assets with a **useful life of at least 10 years**. Additionally, this funding should not be used for operating costs.

Projects which are required to achieve or expand the outreach mission of the Conservancy and provide interpretive programs and materials to substantially enhance knowledge, appreciation, and enjoyment of the natural environment, open space, parklands and waterways. There is no minimum grant amount, but the maximum grant award is \$200,000 contingent on availability of fund appropriation. If funding is available, the Conservancy will award these grants every year.

**Project examples include:**

**Training and Education**

Natural Science and/or Educational programs that provide access and education to local students to develop critical thinking skills and to inspire natural resource stewardship. The curriculum may feed into workforce development.

A training program or similar that focuses on developing, organizing and advocacy skills, civic engagement and local community action regarding natural resources.

Training that focuses on environmental justice, air quality, water quality testing and monitoring, rivers and streams, outdoor exploration, field trips, advocacy training, and exposure to outdoor careers

Water-focused education and training and trips throughout California to allow students to explore and learn about California's sources of water and meet with elected leaders, utility staff, and tribal leaders to develop a sense of water stewardship.

Training that focuses on how Los Angeles accesses water to be provided in multiple languages.

**Transportation**

Trips that provide an introduction to nature, physical exercise and healthy lifestyles through mountain bike rides in public open spaces.

Programs that provide bus transportation and a naturalist to facilitate a trip and provide resources interpretation to visitors who do not have the ability to visit a park.

Shuttle service to provide access to the trails.

**Workforce/ Career pathways**

Youth leadership programs that provide training that leads directly to job opportunities in the parks through both community organizations and partner park agencies.

Programs that provide job training and employment pathways for young adults and connects youth with park-based job training and employment. Graduates of this program may use the skills and experience gained to launch academic and professional careers in outdoor education and land management.

**Health and Physical activity**

Programs that provides ongoing outdoor recreation, education, therapy and environmental stewardship programs on public land at no cost to disadvantaged youth.

## Interpretation

Language services to allow access and provide multi-lingual and multi-ability signage at trailheads and on trails.

### Section 4. Grant Application Process

4.0. *Grant Cycle.* The Conservancy operates on a 6-times-a-year grant cycle. Final due dates for each round are February 28/29, April 30, June 30, August 31, October 31, December 31. Grants will be recommended to the Board at the earliest and applicable Board meeting. The Conservancy accepts grant applications at any time within the grant cycle but may not award grant funds for an application unless the Conservancy has been appropriated with sufficient unencumbered grant funds for the application in question. The Conservancy does not anticipate funding for a particular fiscal year and will proceed with consideration of grant applications only after the Governor has signed the budget for the fiscal year in question. The Legislature appropriates funds from bond acts on an annual basis; a legislative appropriation for projects is generally valid for a five-year period.

4.1. *Technical Assistance.* Pursuant to Section 8008(b)(1) of Proposition 68, up to 10 percent of the funds may be allocated for technical assistance to disadvantaged communities. The Conservancy will facilitate or provide access to a Technical Assistance Workshop to support direct application assistance with the goal of facilitating access to the Conservancy's funding programs. The Workshop creates a more equitable playing field by helping under-resourced applicants access Conservancy funds.

Workshop goals include:

Direct Assistance - Increase the number of successful applications from disadvantaged and low-income communities to Conservancy programs by providing direct assistance in preparing applications and quantifying greenhouse gas reductions.

Integrating Conservancy Programs - Align technical assistance efforts to facilitate an understanding of the full suite of programs available under the Conservancy umbrella and provide the services necessary to create multi-faceted projects that integrate more than one Conservancy program.

The Workshops will be available quarterly and will include outreach and programs to provide application assistance to eligible applicants, enabling them to positively impact their communities.

4.2. *Submission of Application.* As the initial, formal step in the Conservancy grant application process, the applicant shall submit an original copy of a fully completed grant application form to: **Baldwin Hills Conservancy 5120 West Goldleaf Circle, #290 Los Angeles CA 90056**

In lieu of hard copies, applications may be submitted via electronic mail in PDF format addressed to [info@bhc.ca.gov](mailto:info@bhc.ca.gov).

All applicants must have a contact e-mail address that is regularly monitored. Primary

communication regarding the status of an application will be via electronic mail. If an applicant does not have any access to email or is unable to use email due to a disability, the applicant should notify the Conservancy in order to develop an alternative communication protocol.

4.3. *Contents of Application.* All applications must be provided in at minimum 12-point font.

The grant application must include the following:

1. Cover page (no more than 1 page)
2. Table of Contents with corresponding page numbers.
3. A completed application checklist. See P68 Grant Application on BHC website.
4. A completed grant application form. See P68 Grant Application on BHC website.
5. Identify only one (1) of the following purposes of Chapter 8 of Proposition 68 Bond Law are achieved by the project and by which your application will be evaluated.

Purposes of Proposition 68 include:

- ☐ **Resource Protection and Restoration.** The state provides funds which facilitate the protection and restoration of wildlife, habitat, and historical/archaeological resources, including habitat restoration projects.
- ☐ **Vegetation Management and Fire Safety.** The state provides funds which facilitate fire safety and any required or recommended fuel modification zones.
- ☐ **Visitor Serving Development and Improvement.** The state provides funds which provide for enhanced visitation, urban accessibility and safety to open space, parks and greenspace (including signage, restrooms, entrances, parking, trail building or repairs, etc...). This includes new projects to implement statutory requirements to provide better accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- ☐ **Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects.** The state provides funds which are required to achieve or expand the outreach mission of the Conservancy and provide interpretive programs and materials to substantially enhance knowledge, appreciation, and enjoyment of the natural environment, open space, parklands and waterways.

The following shall occur in the implementation of this division:

- (1) The investment of public funds pursuant to this division will result in public benefits that address the most critical statewide needs and priorities for public funding.
- (2) In the appropriation and expenditure of funding authorized by this division, priority will be given to projects that leverage private, federal, or local funding or produce the greatest public benefit.
- (3) To the extent practicable, a project that receives moneys pursuant to this division will include signage informing the public that the project received funds

from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.

(4) To the extent practicable, when developing program guidelines for urban recreation projects and habitat protection or restoration projects, administering entities are encouraged to give favorable consideration to projects that provide urban recreation and protect or restore natural resources. Additionally, the entities may pool funding for these projects.

(5) To the extent practicable, a project that receives moneys pursuant to this division will provide workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.

(6) To the extent practicable, priority for funding pursuant to this division will be given to local parks projects that have obtained all required permits and entitlements and a commitment of matching funds, if required.

(7) To the extent practicable, administering entities should measure or require measurement of greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon sequestrations associated with projects that receive moneys pursuant to this division.

6. A detailed scope of work, including a list of specific tasks, a detailed budget, and a timeline for project implementation (including an estimated completion date for each task)
7. Any preliminary project plans (i.e. drawings, conceptional or construction) as required
8. A detailed description of the need and urgency for the grant
9. A detailed description of how the project will provide multi-benefit ecosystem, water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and public benefits
10. A detailed description of how the project achieves one or more of the purposes of Proposition 68. **See # 5 above.**
11. A detailed description of how the project helps meet the State's greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets, including a quantification of the metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> or CO<sub>2</sub>e removed or avoided, and an explanation of the methodology used to quantify this figure. **See Guidelines: Section 2, Item 2.4 and Section 5 Item 2.5 and Section 6 Item 6.0 and EXECUTIVE ORDER B-30-15 (Brown).**
12. A detailed description of how the project will promote and implement other relevant regional and state plans and policies. **See Guidelines, Section 2**
13. Indicate whether the project will have matching funds from private, local, or federal sources, and if so, to what extent (Include dollar amount.)
14. Indicate whether the project will benefit a disadvantaged community (Use the State Parks Community Fact Finder tool <http://www.parksforcalifornia.org/communities> to determine Median Household Income)

15. A detailed description of any new or innovative technology or practices that will be applied to the project;
16. A detailed method for monitoring and reporting on the progress and effectiveness of the project during and after project implementation;
17. A description of how the scope of work will further the Conservancy's strategic objectives; **See Guidelines, Section 2.2. Strategic Objectives.**
18. A description of how the scope of work will protect or enhance Ballona Creek (if applicable).
19. Completed CEQA document. **See Compliance Certification Form on BHC website.**
20. For Nonprofit Organizations, please submit completed Nonprofit Organization Pre-Award Questionnaire. **See Non-Profit Organization Pre-Award Questionnaire on BHC website.**
21. Conservancy's procedures require the Applicant to certify, by resolution, the approval of the application before submission of said application(s) to the Conservancy. **See Resolution Template on BHC website.**
22. A completed payee data record (STD. 204) **See Payee Data Form (STD. 204) on BHC website.**
23. Corps Consultation Review Document (if applicable); Indicate whether the project will use the services of local or state conservation corps **See Corps Consultation Process & Document on BHC website.**

4.4. *California Conservation Corps.* Section 80016 of the Public Resources Code states that, to the extent feasible, a project whose application includes the use of services of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) or certified community conservation corps, as defined in Section 14507.5, shall be given preference for receipt of a grant under this division." The Conservancy encourages the use of Conservation Corps whenever feasible when implementing restoration and ecosystem protection projects. To receive maximum additional points and preference, applicants should consult with the CCC and may use the Conservancy's process to engage consultation on the Conservancy's [website](#) or the CCC's website. This information will be available on the Conservancy's website and can be updated upon CCC's request.

4.5. *Review and Evaluation.* For those grant applications that are deemed complete after the initial review, legal review, policy review, and review of all application materials, the grant applications will then be evaluated and scored by professionals in the fields relevant to the proposed projects. Additional reviewers may be required if there is a large discrepancy in the individual scores of the proposed project. The final score of each grant application will be the average of the individual scores given by each reviewer to the grant application.

## Section 5. Application Evaluation

5.0. *Application Review.* Conservancy staff will evaluate the applications based on the project's relative significance and how well it meets the Selection Criteria stated below. Applicants may be contacted to provide additional information during the review process. Conservancy staff may seek assistance in evaluating the proposals from individuals and/or technical experts with pertinent expertise from other governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and other entities.

5.1. *Resource Protection and Restoration Projects.* Projects which facilitate the protection and restoration of wildlife, habitat, and historical/archaeological resources, including habitat restoration projects in urban or rural areas.

Detailed rating qualifications are available in Section 7. Appendix.

5.2. *Vegetation Management Projects.* Projects which facilitate fire safety and any required or recommended brush fuel modification opportunities.

Detailed rating qualifications are available in Section 7. Appendix.

5.3 *Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects.* Projects which provide for enhanced visitation, urban accessibility and safety to open space, parks and greenspace (including signage, restrooms, parking, trail building or repairs, etc . . .). This includes new projects to implement statutory requirements to provide better accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Detailed rating qualifications are available in Section 7. Appendix.

5.4. *Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects.* Projects which are required to achieve or expand the outreach mission of the Conservancy and provide interpretive programs and materials to substantially enhance knowledge, appreciation, and enjoyment of the natural environment, open space, parklands and rivers.

In addition to the ratings below, projects will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Achieve one or more of the identified community access priorities;
- Fills a documented and clearly defined need;
- Project description is clear and concise;
- All other project funding is available; and
- Project is ready to proceed in a timely manner.

Detailed rating qualifications are available in Section 7. Appendix.

5.5. *Climate Change Value.* Projects that conserve water and produce verifiable and quantifiable greenhouse gas reductions not only help achieve the state's foremost goals but will deliver tangible co-benefits to the communities in which the projects are built are eligible for additional consideration. As described in Section 2.5, the Conservancy is to consider climate change when evaluating projects in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the impacts of climate change on the state's natural resources. Therefore, all project applicants are required to demonstrate if and how their project yields measurable greenhouse gas reductions.

The principal goal of this Section is to ensure that the Conservancy funds the development and

implementation of projects that lead to significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in a manner consistent with the State Planning Priorities, AB 32, and other state and local Plans. It is meant to support strategic investment in natural resources projects that help cities address sprawl, incentivize urban infill, and create livable, walkable, healthy communities.

A non-exhaustive list of projects that demonstrate a quantifiable impact on greenhouse gas emissions can be found below. Projects should present innovative activities that reduce GHG emissions, and that are capable of replication in other project sites. Project applicants are encouraged to bring additional project ideas to Conservancy staff.

- Strategic acquisitions to reduce the impacts of development and vehicle miles traveled;
- Urban park or greenway projects with a water focus that are co-located with other public amenities to promote infill development by providing open space and public recreation;
- Multiple benefit projects that incorporate green infrastructure or water recycling and filtration techniques to produce verifiable water and energy savings;
- Projects that protect, enhance, or restore water resources including wetlands and urban riparian areas;
- Projects that enhance above and below ground carbon storage through planting trees and other vegetation;
- Projects that mitigate heat island effect and improve air quality through tree planting in urban areas dominated by hardscape;
- Project components that demonstrate a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills, or installing renewable energy technology at a project site.

Applicants may include the cost of implementing such technologies or techniques in their grant applications. This requirement applies to all projects receiving funds pursuant to these Guidelines.

## Section 6. Additional Information

6.0. *Ongoing Monitoring.* If selected, Grantees may be required to re-evaluate or update quantification metrics as the project reaches various milestones and/or as additional information or technology becomes available. If, during this process, a project is not successful in meeting its greenhouse gas reduction targets, the Conservancy reserves the right to work with Grantees to modify the project, if such modifications are within the scope of the Grant Agreement. If the Grantee is unable or unwilling to make such modifications in a time period established by the Conservancy, the Conservancy may withdraw funding. If necessary project modifications do not fall within the scope of the grant, the Conservancy will reevaluate the project type and methodology to ensure that future similar projects will be successful.

6.1. *Eligible Costs.* Proposition 68 grant funding may only be expended on eligible costs, pursuant to statute. Eligible costs are those which further the Purposes of Proposition 68, in compliance with the Conservancy's Grant agreement and the General Obligation Bond Law.

Pursuant to section 8008(c)(1), up to 5 percent of funds the funds awarded may be allocated

for community access costs that include, but are not limited to, transportation, physical activity programming, resource interpretation, multilingual translation, natural science, workforce development and career pathways, education, and communication related to water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and other outdoor pursuits. The Conservancy is committed to using the maximum (5%) allocation for community access projects. In addition to the community access project type category, the Conservancy encourages community engagement and participation in all projects. Therefore, such expenses are considered eligible costs as part of any awarded grant (up to 5 percent).

6.2. *Advance Payments.* Pursuant to Section 80030 of Proposition 68, for grants awarded for projects that serve a disadvantaged community, the Conservancy may provide advanced payments in the amount of 25 percent of the grant award to the recipient to initiate the project in a timely manner.

Additional requirements for any recipient or usage of grant advance payments:

Grantee must segregate advanced funds in its accounting records; individual accounts are to be kept separate and track each project's phases.

Interest earnings shall be allocated to each project's advanced funds. Should Grantee elect to segregate the funds with a separate bank account, banking costs in excess of interest earnings are an eligible grant expense.

Net Interest earnings on Grant Funds must be used on the Project or returned to the Conservancy.

If funds are advanced and not expended, the unused portion of the funds shall be returned to the Conservancy within 60 days of completion of the Project or the end of the project performance period as shown on the signature page, whichever is earlier.

The Grantee will provide a detailed budget, work plan and detailed site plan to Conservancy for review and approval. The Grantee should also include a revised quarterly payment schedule at this time, identifying any anticipated advances.

Prior to requesting an advance, Conservancy requires a copy of contracts for construction and/or materials (and other) vendors specifying projected payment schedules. Request for advances should be correlated with these contract schedules.

In addition to the above, requests for advances must include all documentation generally required for reimbursements, with the exception of a canceled check or warrant number.

Conservancy will issue the next advance only after receipt of evidence that the prior advance was disbursed. Evidence of disbursement can include a copy of the canceled check or warrant issued; or in lieu of a canceled check or warrant, copies of "paid" invoices from the contractors/vendors to which the advance was made.

Section 7. Appendix

*7.0 Project Rating Details.*

<b>Baldwin Hills Conservancy</b>		
<b>5.1 Resource Protection and Restoration</b>		
<b>Project Evaluation Criteria</b>		
<b>Prioritization Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
PV1	Project achieves 80001(b)(3)(4) by providing urban recreation and protecting or restoring natural resources.	3
PV2	Project achieves 80001(b)(6) by having already obtained all required permits and entitlements.	3
PV3	Project achieves 80001(b)(9) - advances solutions to prevent displacement if a potential unintended consequence associated with the project is an increase in the cost of housing.	3
PV4	Project achieves three or more actions listed in 80001(b)(8)(A through G).	3
PV5	Project achieves more than one of the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives.	3
PV6	Project addresses two or more of the elements of the BH Master Plan	3
<b>Total Prioritization Value</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Category Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
C1	The project will provide benefits to multiple values including water, recreation, habitat, and interpretation of natural resources.	4
C2	The site consists of primarily undisturbed habitat.	4
C3	The site contains largely undisturbed communities with species diversity.	4
C4	The site has documented use by an animal species that is a candidate for State or federal listing.	3
C5	The site contains a plant species that is a candidate for State or federal listing.	3
C6	The site contains a plant species that is rare or unusual in the region.	2
C7	The site contains an area of riparian or wetland habitat that integrates with upper watershed.	1
C8	The project results in new public access to a natural resource with high interpretive and/or educational value or enhances existing access.	4
C9	The project contains a link in a local trail system.	4
C10	The project provides a high-quality access point for nearby open space, parkland, regional multi-modal trails, or water-based recreation, including suitable area for parking and restrooms.	3
C11	The project protects critical viewshed within a major trail corridor.	3
C12	The project alleviates stress on other overburdened recreational resources within a 0.5-mile radius.	2

C13	Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.	4
C14	The project contains multi-modal accommodations that will benefit hikers, cyclists and equestrians.	3
C15	The project is designed to accommodate the needs of users from a variety of cultural and economic backgrounds.	3
C16	The project provides a new vista point or overlook for a significant scenic viewshed.	2
C17	The site contains a suitable area for a recreational facility—, campground, picnic area, or interpretive center; with existing road access.	4
C18	The site is easily accessible from urban communities and contains suitable areas for parking and restrooms.	4
C19	The site contributes to an existing or proposed corridor or greenway.	4
C20	The site contains substantial-sized or representative sample of a native plant community surrounded by dense urban development.	3
C21	The majority of the site is part of a watershed draining directly into an ecologically sensitive protected area.	4
C22	The site directly abuts and increases the ecosystem function of a protected habitat area.	3
C23	The site directly contributes to the connection of two habitat areas by serving as a habitat linkage or movement corridor for wildlife.	4
C24	The site provides a location for an environmentally-significant riparian or wetland restoration project.	3
C25	The site contains potential for restoration of natural vegetation.	3
C26	The habitat is partially degraded, but conditions are suitable for natural regeneration or restoration.	4
C27	The site is available under extraordinary bargain or opportunity sale conditions.	4
C28	Current appraisal has been done or is under review by Department of General Services.	1
C29	The owner of the site is a known willing seller.	1
<b>Total Category Value</b>		<b>91</b>
<b>Implementation Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
I1	Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.	3
I2	Applicant has financial and technical capacity to perform project.	3
I3	Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.	3
I4	The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.	2

I5	Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.	2
I6	Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience operating projects of similar size and scope.	1
I7	Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.	1
I8	Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.	1
<b>Total Implementation Value</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Climate Change Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
CC1	The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.	3
CC2	The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.	3
CC3	The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems.	2
CC4	The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.	2
CC5	The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.	2
CC6	The project implements water saving techniques that utilize nature-based solutions like wetlands, rain gardens, swales, berms, curb cuts with parkway basins, infiltration trenches, vegetation, tree planting, or stream daylighting/restoration.	3
<b>Total Climate Change Value</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Additional Consideration</b>		<b>Rating</b>
AC1	The site is subject to an imminent threat that would preclude future implementation value.	5
AC2	Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.	5
AC3	Project is within 0.25 miles of public transportation.	5
AC4	Project serves a disadvantaged community.	5
AC5	Project serves a severely disadvantaged community.	5
<b>Total Additional Consideration</b>		<b>25</b>
<b>Summary Resource Protection and Restoration Rating</b>		<b>Rating</b>
Prioritization Value		18
Category Value		91
Implementation Value		16

Climate Change Value	15
Additional Consideration	25
<b>Total Resource Protection and Restoration Rating</b>	<b>165</b>
* = <i>only as applicable</i>	
<b>Matching Funds</b>	
<b>Total Matching Funds Rating</b>	2

<b>Baldwin Hills Conservancy</b>		
<b>5.2 Vegetation Management</b>		
<b>Project Evaluation Criteria</b>		
<b>Prioritization Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
PV1	Project achieves 80001(b)(3)(4) by providing urban recreation and protecting or restoring natural resources.	3
PV2	Project achieves 80001(b)(5) by providing workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.	3
PV3	Project achieves more than one of the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives.	3
PV4	Project addresses two or more of the elements of the BH Master Plan	3
<b>Total Prioritization Value</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Category Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
CV1	The project implements public safety practices by reducing wildfire risk.	4
CV2	The project implements fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds and promote watershed health.	4
CV3	The project substantially restores a site by removal of exotic species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.	4
CV4	The project substantially restores a site by reestablishment of native species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.	4
CV5	The project will provide benefits to multiple resource areas including water, recreation, habitat, and interpretation of natural resources.	3
CV6	The project employs new or innovative technology or practices.	5
CV7	The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.	2

<b>Total Category Value</b>		<b>26</b>
<b>Implementation Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
I1	Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.	3
I2	Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.	3
I3	Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.	3
I4	The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.	2
I5	Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.	2
I6	Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience operating projects of similar size and scope.	1
I7	Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.	1
<b>Total Implementation Value</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Climate Change Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
CC1	The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.	3
CC2	The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, including climate resilient and native landscaping whenever possible, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces, green roofs and other forms of water capture and storage.	3
CC3	The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.	3
CC4	The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.	2
CC5	The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.	2
CC6	The project implements water saving techniques that utilize nature-based solutions like wetlands, rain gardens, swales, berms, curb cuts with parkway basins, infiltration trenches, vegetation, tree planting, or stream daylighting/restoration.	3
<b>Total Climate Change Value</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Additional Consideration</b>		<b>Rating</b>
AC1	Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.	5
AC2	Project serves a disadvantaged community.	5
AC3	Project serves a severely disadvantaged community.	5
<b>Total Additional Consideration</b>		<b>15</b>

<b>Summary Vegetation Management Rating</b>		<b>Rating</b>
Prioritization Value		12
Category Value		26
Implementation Value		15
Climate Change Value		13
Additional Consideration		15
<b>Total Vegetation Management Rating</b>		<b>81</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
	<b>Total Matching Funds Rating</b>	2

<b>Baldwin Hills Conservancy</b>		
<b>5.3 Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects</b>		
<b>Project Evaluation Criteria</b>		
<b>Prioritization Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
PV1	Project achieves 80001(b)(3)(4) by providing urban recreation and protecting or restoring natural resources.	3
PV2	Project achieves 80001(b)(5) by providing workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.	3
PV3	Project achieves 80001(b)(6) by having already obtained all required permits and entitlements.	2
PV4	Project achieves 80001(b)(9) - advances solutions to prevent displacement if a potential unintended consequence associated with the project is an increase in the cost of housing.	3
PV5	Project achieves three or more actions listed in 80001(b)(8)(A through G).	3
PV6	Project achieves more than one of the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives.	3
PV7	Project addresses one or more of the elements of the BH Master Plan	3
<b>Total Prioritization Value</b>		<b>20</b>
<b>Category Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
CV1	The project will provide benefits to multiple values including water, recreation, habitat, and interpretation of natural resources.	4
CV2	The project implements a major component of an existing relevant plan related to a major recreational facility, regional ecosystem restoration, or land protection.	4
CV3	The project provides a plan or feasibility study to advance cooperative watershed health protection activities or recreation goals important to two or more organizations.	2
CV4	Applicant has a realistic plan for serving disadvantaged communities upon completion of the improvements.	2
CV5	The project uses renewable or non-potable water sources of water, such as reclaimed water, captured stormwater, or other method.	2
CV6	Project implements Best Management Practices (BMP) to treat stormwater.	2
CV7	Project provides safe and reliable drinking water supplies to park and open space visitors.	2
CV8	The project provides a high-quality access point for nearby open space, parkland, regional multi-modal trails, or waterway.	2

CV9	The project completes a new, significant link in a regional trail system.	2
CV10	Project adds new trail or recreational resources not available within a 0.5-mile radius.	4
CV11	The project contains multi-modal accommodations that will benefit hikers, cyclists and equestrians.	3
CV12	The project results in new public access to a natural resource with high interpretive and/or educational value or enhances existing access.	3
CV13	The project provides interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a natural resource.	2
CV14	The project creates a new venue, <u>or enhances an existing venue</u> , for education and/or interpretation activities that promote natural resources stewardship.	3
CV15	The project alleviates stress on other overburdened recreational resources within a 0.5-mile radius.	2
CV16	The project provides a new vista point or overlook for a significant scenic viewshed.	3
CV17	The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to existing parkland.	3
CV18	Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.	2
CV19	The project is designed to accommodate the needs of users from a variety of cultural and economic backgrounds.	3
CV20	The project directly abuts and increases the ecosystem function of a protected habitat area and wildlife corridors.	2
CV21	The project includes restoration, protection or enhancements of a native ecosystem appropriate to the site.	3
CV22	The project employs new or innovative technology or practices.	1
<b>Total Category Value</b>		<b>56</b>
<b>Implementation Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
IV1	Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.	3
IV2	Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.	3
IV3	Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.	3
IV4	The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.	2
IV5	Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.	2
IV6	Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.	1

IV7	Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.	1
IV8	Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.	1
<b>Total Implementation Value</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Climate Change Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
CC1	The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.	3
CC2	The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, including climate resilient and native landscaping whenever possible, stormwater filtration, impervious surfaces, green roofs and other forms of water capture and storage.	3
CC3	The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.	3
CC4	The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.	2
CC5	The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.	2
CC6	The project implements water saving techniques that utilize nature-based solutions like wetlands, rain gardens, swales, berms, curb cuts with parkway basins, infiltration trenches, vegetation, tree planting, and stream daylighting/restoration.	3
<b>Total Climate Change Value</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Additional Consideration</b>		<b>Rating</b>
AC1	The site is subject to an imminent threat that would preclude future implementation value.	5
AC2	Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.	5
AC3	Project is within 0.25 miles of public transportation.	5
AC4	Project serves a disadvantaged community.	5
AC5	Project serves a severely disadvantaged community.	5
<b>Total Additional Consideration</b>		<b>25</b>
<b>Summary Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects Rating</b>		<b>Rating</b>
Prioritization Value		20

Category Value	56
Implementation Value	16
Climate Change Value	13
Additional Consideration	25
<b>Total Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects Rating</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Matching Funds</b>	
<b>Total Matching Funds Rating</b>	<b>2</b>

<b>Baldwin Hills Conservancy</b>		
<b>5.4 Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects</b>		
<b>Project Evaluation Criteria</b>		
<b>Prioritization Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
PV1	Project achieves 80001(b)(3)(4) by providing urban recreation and protecting or restoring natural resources.	3
PV2	Project achieves 80001(b)(5) by providing workforce education and training, contractor, and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities.	3
PV3	Project achieves three or more actions listed in 80001(b)(8)(A through G).	3
PV4	Project achieves more than one of the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives.	3
PV5	Project achieves more than two of the BH Master Plan guiding principles.	3
<b>Total Prioritization Value</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Category Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
CV1	The project serves communities defined no less than 81% disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 tool.	5
CV2	The project will improve or significantly enhance access to open space parkland from a disadvantaged community.	5
CV3	The project is designed to accommodate the needs of users from a variety of cultural and economic backgrounds.	4
CV4	The project provides educational and interpretive experiences that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a resource.	4
CV5	The project implements a major component of an existing relevant plan related to a major recreational facility, regional ecosystem restoration, or land protection plan.	1
CV6	The project includes interpretive programming or personal interpretation, and a plan to reach community audiences with meaningful information about a natural resource.	2

CV7	The project includes education programs that provide access and education to low-income student to develop critical thinking skills and to inspire natural resources stewardship	3
CV8	The project includes trips that provide an introduction to nature, physical exercise and healthy lifestyles through natural spaces.	3
CV9	The project includes youth leadership programs that provide training that leads directly to job opportunities in the parks.	2
CV10	The project provides outdoor recreation, education and environmental stewardship programs on public land at no cost to disadvantaged youth.	3
CV11	The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a natural resource.	2
CV12	The project will provide park information materials and/or educational and interpretive information, appropriate for users from a variety of backgrounds.	3
CV13	The project provides informational materials but to more limited audience.	2
<b>Total Category Value</b>		<b>39</b>
<b>Implementation Value</b>		<b>Rating</b>
IV1	Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.	3
IV2	Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.	3
IV3	Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.	3
IV4	The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.	2
IV5	Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience operating projects of similar size and scope.	1
<b>Total Implementation Value</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Summary Community Access, Education and Interpretation Projects Rating</b>		<b>Rating</b>
Prioritization Value		15
Category Value		39
Implementation Value		12
Climate Change Value		2
Additional Consideration		20
<b>Total Visitor Serving Development and Improvement Projects Rating</b>		<b>77</b>
* = only as applicable		
<b>Matching Funds</b>		
<b>Total Matching Funds Rating</b>		<b>2</b>

<b>Baldwin Hills Conservancy</b>		
<b>5.4 Climate Change Value</b>		
<b>Project Evaluation Criteria</b>		
		<b>Rating</b>
CC1	The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.	2
<b>Total Climate Change Value</b>		<b>2</b>
<b>Additional Consideration</b>		<b>Rating</b>
AC1	Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.	5
AC2	Project is within 0.25 miles of public transportation.	5
AC3	Project serves a disadvantaged community.	5
AC4	Project serves a severely disadvantaged community.	5
<b>Total Additional Consideration</b>		<b>20</b>

# BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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## Memorandum

**To:** Governing Board

**From:** David McNeill, Executive Officer

**Date:** March 27, 2020

**Re:** Agenda Item 7: Discussion and possible action on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2020 Strategic Plan Update

**Recommendation:** Staff submits the draft document for review and consideration. Staff is allocating time for feedback and further recommendations from the Board and key stakeholders prior to finalization and publishing of the plan. It is anticipated that revisions will be made, and a final draft will be submitted for adoption by the Board prior to the close of the first quarter of this year.

**Background:** The purpose of the strategic plan is to set out achievable goals for the agency while maintaining consistency with applicable statutory authorities. Staff has updated the applicable sections to include planning studies, policies and initiatives undertaken for the purposes of the agency's mission. These revisions reflect the current priorities impacting planning and development within the territory. Updates to the Strategic Plan generally occur every three years; however, the content can be revisited by the Board at any time, as needed.

An overview of the updates to two main elements of the 2020 Strategic Plan Update (See *Attachment #1*) is outlined below:

Planning and Development - Improvements projects to date have focused on increasing public access to park amenities in and around the two-square mile territory. Nearly 1.2 million people live within a short 10-20-minute bus ride of the parklands. Investments in Park to Playa pedestrian and bicycle friendly infrastructure will remain a priority as we advance the final project priorities from the Baldwin Hills Linkage and Access Study.

Climate change adaptation guidelines developed by the Natural Resources Agency offer effective policies for regional entities to improve air and water quality. The updated plan includes \$6 million for projects that feature urban re-forestation, storm-water capture and non-vehicular mobility as a part of their design benefits. These investments will have the cumulative effect of improving carbon sequestration as well as reducing urban run-off into local waterways.

An additional investment of future Prop 1 appropriations will be applied to the retro-fit of the Parklands to deliver recycled water for irrigation in the Baldwin Hills Area. Over four-miles of purple pipe is planned for construction pursuant to the West Basin Metropolitan Water District's 10-year plan. Approximately \$14 million in federal and local funds are being earmarked to finance the infrastructure for the Kenneth Hahn Lateral pipe connection and pump station. Staff is working with area stakeholders to help leverage the planned connection.



**DRAFT**

**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY 2020  
STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The detailed strategies and policies for watershed protection and land conservation within the Conservancy's geographic area are instrumental in delivering a cohesive message reflecting statewide priorities for California's environmental health. Since its inception, the Conservancy has served as a successful demonstration of effective collaboration with federal, state, and local agencies. Regional planning decisions are influenced by the state's conservation goals through the multi-jurisdictional decision-making forum created by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act. The Conservancy leverages expertise and resources to acquire lands and implement projects of statewide significance through local assistance grants and program delivery support. Ultimately, the Conservancy is responsible for implementing the state's innovative conservation policies and making them available to the neighboring underserved communities in the region; as well as the millions of area voters who approved initiatives aimed at preserving, protecting, and enhancing the state's natural resources

The *Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2020 Updated Strategic Plan* describes current and proposed resource allocation by the Conservancy; public needs served by the agency; policies and principles guiding the Conservancy and its staff; and the proposed course of the agency's efforts. The plan begins with background on the Conservancy, including its statutory authorities. The legislative mandates have been applied in three main themes of the agency's current work program:

- Conservation
- Planning and Development
- Interpretation and Education

The program descriptions in the pages to follow are meant to describe issues and opportunities, not just statutory authorities. In some cases, these issues may be addressed under a range of adopted policies available to the Conservancy. As the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* is the principle reference for selecting projects, the Conservancy has identified program priorities that are consistent with the plan's objectives. Additional projects will be considered under criteria adopted by the Conservancy Board. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are targeted for completion during the Conservancy's statutory existence, which will either expire or be extended on or before January 1, 2026 (reference: Public Resources Code Section 32580). The *Strategic Plan* is a "living" document, intended for reference in the course of conducting the daily activities of the Conservancy. The plan will be subject to a process of evaluation and updating every two to three years.

## BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY'S MISSION

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy's mission is 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 territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience.

## SUMMARY OF STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

The three core programs that make up the Conservancy's strategic plan are supported by the statutory authorities contained in Division 22.7 of the Public Resources Code. To carry out the statutory mandates in a cost-effective manner and be responsive to the needs of local communities, there are additional legislative mandates that drive the work of the Conservancy as documented below:

### **Land Conservation** (reference: Public Resources Code Section 32566):

The Conservancy shall determine acquisition priorities and may acquire real property or any interest in real property within the Baldwin Hills area from willing sellers and at fair market value or on other mutually acceptable terms, upon a finding that the acquisition is consistent with the purposes of the Conservancy. The Conservancy may acquire the property itself or may coordinate the acquisition with other public agencies with appropriate responsibility and available funding or land to exchange. The overall objectives of the land acquisition program shall be to assist in accomplishing land transactions that are mutually beneficial to the landowners and the Conservancy, and that meet the Conservancy's purposes.

### **Planning and Improvements** [reference: Public Resources Code Sections 32565.5 (b) and (c), 32568 (a)]:

The Conservancy establishes policies and priorities within the Baldwin Hills area, and conducts any necessary planning activities in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32555 and; give priority to related projects that create expanded opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills area.

The Conservancy may, within the Baldwin Hills area, undertake site improvement projects; regulate public access; re-vegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with other public agencies with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise; upgrade deteriorating facilities; and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resource protection. These projects shall be directed by the Conservancy and undertaken by other public agencies, with the Conservancy providing overall coordination through setting priorities for projects and assuring uniformity of approach.

**Recreation & Interpretation** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 32555 (c)]:

The Conservancy is created to provide for the public's enjoyment, and to enhance the recreational and educational experience on public lands in the territory in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in the area.

**Management of Public Lands** [reference: Public Resources Code Sections 32566, 32569 (a)]:

The Conservancy may direct the management, operation, administration, and maintenance of the lands and facilities it acquires. The Conservancy may initiate, negotiate, and participate in agreements for the management of land under its ownership or control with local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, individuals, or other entities and may enter into any other agreements authorized by state or federal law. Local public agencies may enter into an agreement to transfer responsibility for the management of the land located within the Baldwin Hills area to the conservancy.

**Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan** [reference: Chapter 752 of the Statutes of 1999 Section 1 (c) and Public Resources Code Section 32656.5 (f)]:

Notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the Government Code, the Secretary of Resources, in conjunction with the Director of Parks and Recreation, shall, not later than January 1, 2002, prepare and submit to the Legislature a master plan for the expansion and development of the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area that is designed to accomplish all of the following goals:

- 1) Increase active recreation opportunities for underserved communities.
- 2) Create a comprehensive trail system.
- 3) Provide for public access and entry ways.
- 4) Protect and restore natural habitat.
- 5) Protect critical view sheds.

- 6) Protect and improve urban water quality.
- 7) Emphasize connections between existing parks, trails, and urban streams.
- 8) Restore industrial lands to park and open-space purposes.
- 9) Protect watersheds connecting to Santa Monica Bay.

The Conservancy shall approve the master plan and prioritize and implement the following in accordance with the master plan and with the master plan recommendations: (1) The acquisition of additional recreational and open space and a plan for the management of lands under the jurisdiction of the Conservancy, including additional or upgraded facilities and parks that may be necessary or desirable. (2) The planned conveyance of lands acquired and restored, or lands acquired, restored, and developed, to the Department of Parks and Recreation or to any other public agency once the acquisition and improvements have been finalized.

**Grants** (reference: Public Resources Code Section 32569 (a)):

The Conservancy may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of its division. The Conservancy shall administer any funds appropriated to it and any revenue generated by public agencies for the Baldwin Hills area and contributed to the Conservancy, and may expend those funds for capital improvements, land acquisition, or support of the Conservancy's operations.

**Prop 40: California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 5096.650 (b)]:

**Prop 84: The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 75060(d)(2)]:

**Prop 1: Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014** [reference: California Water Code (CWC) Division 26.7; §79730 and §79731(d); Water Code Section 79732(a)]:

**Prop 68: California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 80110 (b)(1)]:

Appropriations from the above bond acts may be spent in accordance with the particular provisions of the statute creating the Conservancy for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, preservation, interpretation, restoration and protection of land and water resources.

# CONTEXT FOR STRATEGIC PLAN

## **How We Work**

The Conservancy protects, restores, and enhances natural resources, while creating places for residents to connect with nature close to home. We work closely with state policymakers to encourage equity in funding allocations and facilitate on the ground investments in partnership with local NGO's, community stakeholders and public agencies.

- The Conservancy invests millions of dollars in projects that restore or protect urban open space and natural wildlife areas
- The Conservancy stewards hundreds of acres of land and ensure public access to those lands
- The Conservancy protects critical urban watershed lands and water resources
- The Conservancy collaborates with and supports community-based groups and stakeholders in the most vulnerable regions
- The Conservancy promotes land and water conservation along with local stewardship of area ecosystem biodiversity
- The Conservancy aligns statewide conservation priorities with regional stakeholders such as districts, counties, cities, and non-profits
- The Conservancy develops partnerships to leverage area resources and expertise in planning, funding, research, and advocacy
- The Conservancy furnishes opportunities for access to healthy outdoor recreation, cultural and educational experiences to all residents regardless of physical or financial capability

## **Stakeholder Survey**

The Conservancy commissioned a user survey which was conducted by the Center for Urban Resilience at Loyola Marymount University in 2017. This two-year study of the Baldwin Hills Parklands aimed to provide the Conservancy and its stakeholders with a comprehensive understanding of the Parkland's visitor population's experience. In total, 1,747 surveys were collected from 14 sites over the four comprehensive field seasons. The survey results yielded three planning objectives linked to the drivers of the Conservancy's strategic objectives.

## 1. Infrastructure Improvements

### a. Reduce barriers for bikes and pedestrians.

Despite the majority representation by drivers, 41% of park visitors reported that they would prefer to access the park by bicycling or walking. Increasing bicycle infrastructure, including well-marked lanes and connection points, and installation of more bicycle racks at entrances may help encourage bicycling. Increasing connectivity between the parks through the *Park to Playa* project will also allow more visitors to use bikes or walk to the Baldwin Hills Parklands. Creating safer pedestrian access in certain locations, such as the Five-Points intersection at Stocker and Overhill and the main entrance to Kenneth Hahn SRA would help promote walking. Increasing the publicity for the free shuttle and alternative transportation options will also decrease the number of individuals driving to the parks.

### b. Increase tree canopy in the parklands.

Tree canopy is a vital asset that reduces stormwater runoff, improves air quality, reduces the region's carbon footprint, enhances quality of life, contributes to savings on energy bills, and serves as a habitat for wildlife. Where possible and suitable, tree canopy should be increased within the parklands.

### c. Improve parking alternatives.

Since 84% of visitors arrive by car, parking is an important amenity in the Baldwin Hills Parklands. While 72% of users found parking to be convenient, improvements can be made in parks that did not receive high ratings. The locations that visitors found parking somewhat inconvenient were Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook State Park, Culver City Park, Gwen Moore Lake and the Eastern Ridgeline at Kenneth Hahn SRA, and Norman O. Houston. Making off-site or remote parking available may help alleviate some of the issues. Electric vehicle parking can also be created in parks where it is not currently available.

## 2. Educational Efforts

### a. Install additional signage.

Nearly half of the park users reported they would use educational signs throughout the Park if they were available. Signs and displays could be used to inform visitors on topics they seem less aware of (the Ballona wetlands and native plant species), as well as programs or initiatives the park is implementing. Improved signage for general informational and way-finding purposes may also be considered; including greater advertising of the park shuttle service and providing more signs along well-traveled destinations and entrances.

### b. Distribute promotional materials.

Information about *Park to Playa* and the Parklands' existing transportation access mapping should be updated and distributed widely. The Conservancy may consider sending materials to residents in the 1-mile radius around the parks and sharing with other agencies and stakeholders with websites and social media platforms. Additionally, the branding of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and Parklands should expand to raise awareness of the ongoing investment of improvements and amenities.

### c. Expand use of Spanish-language materials.

Nearly a third of the respondents indicated that they speak Spanish while a lower than expected percentage of users reported that they are Latino or Hispanic. Providing Spanish signs, promotional materials, and other information would serve the Spanish speakers already visiting the park, but also may help increase the visitation from other members of the Latino and Hispanic communities.

### d. Implement formal education programs.

More than one quarter of park visitors said they would use formal programming or education opportunities. The facilities in the parklands can be places for activities such as lectures and performances for youth and families to learn more about culture and the environment. Users who visited more frequently and participated in formal activities expressed stronger place attachment. Those who indicated that they were interested in volunteering opportunities in the parks rated both place attachment factors significantly more than those who were not interested.

These results suggested that place attachment may be a motivator for increased stewardship development and community participation.

### **3. Targeted Outreach**

#### **a. Balance between serving frequent users and recruiting new users.**

The responses to the survey indicate that most visitors are coming from outside of the 1-mile radius zone considered a walkable range. This creates an opportunity to conduct more localized outreach to area residents to encourage them to visit (and ideally walk) to the Parklands. Adding both the frequent users with the new adjacent users to outreach efforts would yield the best possible outcome. Many respondents reported that they would participate in seasonal activities such as group meet-ups and events. Because the average visitor is younger (approximately 35 years old), offering programming aimed towards that age range (such as yoga or music in the parks) may be an effective way to further bolster visitation rates.

#### **b. Support increased visitation by African-American and Latino populations.**

Groups such as Outdoor Afro and Latino Outdoors exist because African-American and Latino communities are often underrepresented in outdoor recreation. This study found that while the Baldwin Hills Parklands do receive high visitation from these communities, their representation is low when compared to the demographics of the neighborhoods surrounding the Parklands. The Conservancy should consider supporting meet-up groups or other programming aimed directly at increasing park use by neighboring African-American and Latino residents.

## CONSERVATION

### Land Preservation

The geographic area outlined in the authorizing statute features approximately 2,065.31 acres of land within the Baldwin Hills Conservancy boundaries. This includes some oil drilling lands and adjacent communities as well as the Ballona Creek, which contains four miles of channel, public trail and bikeway with private frontage parcels extending west from the Baldwin Hills' northwest foothill as defined by the Conservancy Act. The acreage calculation for the territory is based on digital polygons from Geographic Information System (GIS) two dimensional maps of the area. The Baldwin Hills area, which includes open space contiguous and or adjacent to Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHRSA), totals 1,428.13 acres of protected, private or unprotected land as compiled by parcel data supplied by the Los Angeles County Assessor's public records. Current GIS mapping of the parcel fee ownership indicates that of this acreage, approximately 654.48 are private or unprotected lands with major portions of the surface area dedicated to active oil operations. In accordance with Chapter 428, Statutes of 2000, it is the responsibility of the Conservancy to acquire the remaining privately held acreage. (see Figure 1).



**Figure 1**

Owner	Property Name	Parcel Count	Acres	Total Acreage
<b>BHRCA</b>				
	Finley & Lloyd properties - BHRCA	3	20.8600	
	Inglewood Hills - BHRCA	3	100.0400	
			<b>BHRCA Total</b>	<b>120.90</b>
<b>County Parks</b>				
	Ball fields - County Parks	3	30.4872	
	East La Brea Greenbelt - County Parks	1	22.0500	
	Ruben Ingold Park & Stoneview Park - County Parks	2	7.4000	
			<b>County Parks Total</b>	<b>59.94</b>
<b>County Parks Easement</b>				
	Sentinel Peak Resources	4	142.5700	
			<b>County Parks Easement Total</b>	<b>142.57</b>
<b>Culver City Parks</b>				
	Culver City Park - Culver City Parks	2	41.3200	
			<b>Culver City Parks Total</b>	<b>41.32</b>
<b>LA City Parks</b>				
	Norman O. Houston Park - LA City Parks	1	9.7000	
			<b>LA City Parks Total</b>	<b>9.70</b>
<b>California State Parks</b>				
	Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook - California State Parks	17	57.2840	
	KHSRA – California State Parks	20	309.0785	

Stocker Corridor - California State Parks	5	32.8600	
		<b>State Parks Total</b>	<b>399.22</b>
<b>Private/Unprotected (all others)</b>			
Private	25	654.3594	
Public Unprotected	1	5.1200	
		<b>Private/Unprotected Total</b>	<b>654.48</b>
<b>TOTAL Baldwin Hills Parklands (Proposed)</b>			<b>1,428.13</b>
<b>*Total Land within BHC boundaries (including creek and other communities)</b>			<b>2,065.31</b>

The Conservancy's acquisition strategy evaluates opportunities that will allow for increased recreation activities, habitat protection, interpretive and cultural facilities, environmental interpretation as well as park-related economic sustainability. Working in conjunction with three primary agencies: California State Parks, State Lands Commission, and the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (a joint powers authority, or JPA), the Conservancy will continue to optimize relationships, expertise and financial resources to engage in a manageable acquisition strategy. Since the majority of the remaining open space in the Baldwin Hills is encumbered with active oil extraction infrastructure, and under current conditions oil and gas production could continue for more than thirty years, the Conservancy must remain flexible in its approach. A thorough economic evaluation of all viable options for financing and acquiring property interests in the Baldwin Hills has been developed as an integral part of the planning strategy to ensure the optimum use of available funding resources.

Since the implementation of the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District ordinance by the County of Los Angeles in 2008, ongoing dialog with the field operator, landowners and community stakeholders has been fostered through a Community Advisory Panel. Conservancy participation in these public meetings has resulted in an increased stakeholder understanding of the complex issues related to development of mineral resources, land and water conservation, and public confidence in the long-term compatibility of land use in the area.

Acquiring surface rights for the remaining 654 acres of private land within the active oil field would insure the land is protected for future park use. However, the vast majority of the parcels will remain inaccessible until it is feasible to arrange for improvements that do not interfere with operator and mineral holder interests. The approach applied by land trusts for successful preservation of privately owned active agricultural land utilizes acquisition options that include developing conservation easements. Efforts to develop a suite of easement options that create revenue generating preservation mechanisms, such as wetlands or native chaparral within the developed areas, may create the proper incentive for landowners to either become land stewards or willing sellers. The goal of the easements is to structure a palatable tool to aid landowners in monetizing their property's surface while creating an environmental benefit consistent with the preservation objectives of the Conservancy. With a private or public company selected by the landowner handling the terms of payment and management of preserved land, the implementation of a conservation easement project could be achieved independent of the Conservancy. This model is being adapted for use within the Conservancy's acquisition strategy.

The balance of the acreage in the area is protected public land, including 631.08 acres held in fee by the Conservancy's partner public agencies and an additional 142.57 acres of active oil drilling land under a conservation easement held by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. The Conservancy has authorized an agreement with the Department of Toxic Substances Control to oversee due diligence on targeted parcels being considered for conversion to public property over the next three years under the easement option for fee title. To date, the Conservancy's acquisition work program has resulted in a 33% increase in public land, or 154.95 acres (see figure 2). Since the boundaries of the Conservancy include an unincorporated part of Los Angeles County, which

touches the cities of Inglewood, Culver City, and Los Angeles, partnerships with all the stakeholders working in the Baldwin Hills area remain critical to successfully implementing our long-range acquisition objectives.

**Figure 2**



## Habitat Preservation

The slopes and canyons of the western and eastern ridgelines of the Baldwin Hills are host to a vast oasis of natural flora composed mainly of native California coastal sage scrub and associated chaparral habitat. Protecting the existing biodiversity of plant and animal species is a priority for the Conservancy. Studies conducted by biologists from the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum and University of California's School of Architecture and Spatial Sciences document the Baldwin Hills area as home to a wide range of California native wildlife. The study reported vast species populations of over 166 birds, 21 mammals, 12 reptile, and 12 butterflies <http://bhc.ca.gov/2017/11/nature-of-the-baldwin-hills-parklands/>. Invasive plants and fragmentation from development and industry have compromised the integrity of the surviving native habitat. These ecosystems are the primary indicators for a healthy environment and are vulnerable due to human population growth and the heat island effect of urban infrastructure. California's Climate Change Adaptation Strategies have particular resonance with preserving biodiversity in highly urbanized regions of the state. With over 9.8 million people residing within greater Los Angeles County, the Parklands present an opportunity to showcase statewide policies through ongoing restoration of the remaining habitat and creation of migratory wildlife corridors that connect to the coastal zone. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Culver City Park and the remaining privately held habitat regions beginning at Holy Cross Cemetery and continuing north behind West Los Angeles College. Collaborative restoration programs with City, State and County Parks continue, while the Los Angeles Archdiocese is being pursued to develop a preservation program consistent with the Conservancy's mission.

Working in coordination with the appropriate regulatory agencies, watershed managers, and educational institutions, the Conservancy will continue to advance its goals of habitat restoration, interpretation and protection while incorporating state promulgated considerations for climate adaptation.

## Conservation Matrix

Conservation priorities are identified through the use of a matrix developed for analysis of the parcels that are targeted for purchase (see figure 3). The five property parcels with the highest point total on the conservation matrix are labeled numbers: 23(C), 23(A), 28, 1 and 8(A) on the parcel map (figure 4). Each of these parcels meets vital criteria for prioritization including adjacency to existing publicly owned land or native habitat value. Nearly 140 acres of natural habitat area with existing healthy native coastal sage scrub are included in the priority parcels list.

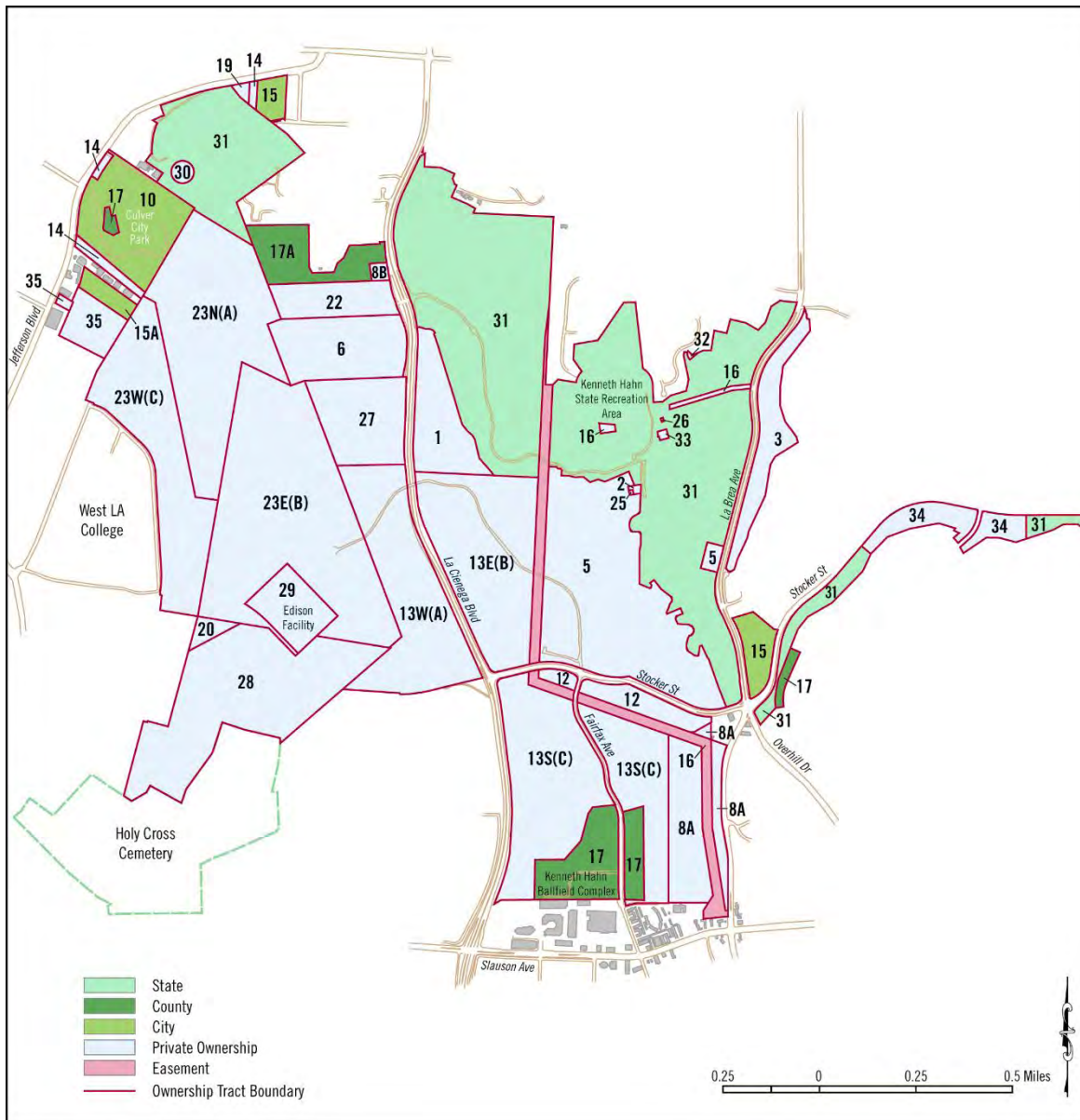
**Figure 3**

Property Number	23(C)	23(A)	28	8 (A)	1
<b>Point Criteria</b>					
<b>Development Threat (5 pts)</b>					
Immediate (4 pts)	0	0	0	0	0
Long-term (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Improvement Potential (4 pts)</b>					
Minimal Mitigation Need (1 pt)	0	0	1	0	0
Few Physical Constraints (1 pt)	1	1	1	0	0
Program Continuity (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
Independent Capacity (1 pt)	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Accessibility (3 pts)</b>					
Connectivity to Existing Public Land (2 pts)	2	2	2	2	2

<b>Property Number</b>	<b>23(C)</b>	<b>23(A)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>8 (A)</b>	<b>1</b>
Multi-Transportation Accessible (1 pt)	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Recreation Potential (6 pts)</b>					
Active Recreation (2 pt)	0	0	0	2	2
Passive Recreation (2 pt)	2	2	2	2	2
Educational (2 pt)	2	2	2	0	2
<b>Habitat (6 pts)</b>					
Corridor Potential (2 pt)	2	2	2	0	2
Eco-system Viability (2 pt)	2	2	2	0	0
Evidence of Sensitive Species (2 pt)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Public Value (2 pts)</b>					
Local Benefit (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
Regional Benefit (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
<b>POINT TOTALS</b>	17	15	18	10	14

**Figure 3 (continued)**

**Figure 4**



## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Conservancy has an opportunity to redefine what a park in an urban setting can be; establishing an exciting new model for restoring large expanses of natural open space and creating new recreation amenities, and programming in the heart of an urban area. With population density increasing in urban areas, the demand for high-quality outdoor recreation in natural settings has intensified. With this population boom there is a heightened focus on planning for transformation of blighted areas in urban communities into recreational resources.

### Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan

Pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section 1 of Chapter 752 of the Statutes of 1999, a master plan has been developed for the expansion of KHSRA. The plan was the result of an extensive two-year public planning process commissioned by California State Parks from 2000-2001. Eight community workshops were held from which the conceptual design and park components were derived. The *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* was adopted by the Conservancy in September 2002. It provides the conceptual guidelines for the Conservancy to expand on the acquisition and development efforts initiated by the County of Los Angeles and the California State Parks in 1971.

The *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* specifies that the park that will result from the Conservancy's efforts will provide "active and passive recreation facilities" and "educational and cultural facilities."

Strategies for site improvements in the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* focus on the following: 1) the potential of the park to provide access to recreation and interpretation opportunities for millions of people within a 10-mile radius, 2) the many scenic vista points from which most of the Los Angeles Basin, Pacific Ocean and local canyons and mountains can be viewed, and 3) a balanced environment with sensitive natural habitat restored to improve wildlife connectivity. For the five-year plan, key capital improvement projects have been culled from the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* (see figure 5).

The land proposed for site improvements as described in this document are mandated by the Conservancy's mission. The expansion of KHSRA and the Parklands is being approached as a single strategic project: with acquisition of parcels and improvement of publicly held properties fulfilling steps to the stated goal. The Conservancy's priorities will vary depending on leveraging of resources, project readiness, public demand, and the preservation of specific habitat areas. Each of these factors are separate and independent and can take precedent over the other.

**Figure 5**

<b><u>Master Plan Project Priorities</u></b>	<b><u>Project Location</u></b>
Habitat Restoration and Trail Enhancement @ Lloyd Property/Finley Fee*	Park to Playa segment C
Habitat Restoration (Phase I)*	Baldwin Hills parklands
Jefferson Boulevard Streetscape and Access Improvements*	Jefferson Blvd between Obama Blvd and Duquesne Ave
Baldwin Hills Parklands Branding and Wayfinding*	Perimeter of parklands
Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook (BHSO) Culver City connection to Ballona Creek*	Park to Playa Segment D
Stocker Corridor Trail and Bike path*	Park to Playa Segment A
Eastern Ridgeline Expansion*	KHSRA
Ballona Corridor Improvements	Ballona Creek
Ballona Creek Outdoor Classroom*	Milton Street
Multiple-use Athletic Fields Expansion	SE portion of KHSRA
Stocker Street Pedestrian Crossing	Stocker Corridor and Norman Houston Park
Stoneview Nature Center*	Stoneview Drive

Eastern Gateway at Don Lorenzo Drive Access and Streetscape*	La Brea Corridor and Don Lorenzo
Ingold Park Connection to Stocker Trail*	Stocker Corridor Trail at Ingold Park
KHSRA and P2P Trail /Access/ Way finding*	Park to Playa Segment B
KHSRA Habitat Restoration & Existing Trail Improvements	Central KHSRA
La Cienega Pedestrian Bridge*	Park to Playa Segment C
Sports Complex Stormwater and Access Improvements*	SE portion of KHSRA
Culver City Skate Park (Phase II)*	Culver City Park
Culver City Dog Park (Phase II)	Culver City Park
* Indicates completed or currently being implemented	

**Figure 5 (continued)**

## Improving Existing Facilities

KHSRA (319 acres) is managed by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation and includes large areas of native coastal sage scrub habitat, lawns and landscaped areas, picnic sites, tot lots, one half-basketball court, a fishing lake, a lotus pond, visitor center, six restrooms and five miles of trails. The visitor center has four administrative offices and a small meeting room. The sports complex is located at the southern end of the park and includes baseball diamonds and soccer fields with four restrooms.

Priorities for improvements at KHSRA include: upgrades to existing facilities for improved sustainability; expansion of sports facilities; creation of new cultural exhibits and programming; buffering habitat areas with transitional landscaping; turf removal to lower maintenance costs; securing recycled water infrastructure; mitigate off-road biking and unleashed pets to recover natural habitat and reduce erosion; and improving park visitor vehicle access and circulation. As the park expands, these and other future opportunities remain available for the Conservancy to prioritize and implement in collaboration with our partner agencies.

## Public Access

Maximizing the public use of existing acreage is imperative. The Conservancy has awarded grants and supported projects for sustainable infrastructure improvements on acres of public land throughout the Parklands. The projects will reduce vehicle miles traveled and make the Baldwin Hills Parklands a convenient destination for underserved visitors approaching from adjacent parks, communities and public transportation stops.

### Transit to Parks:

In May of 2019, Los Angeles Metro published the *Transit to Parks Strategic Plan (T2P)*. The plan describes Metro's vision for coordinating transportation access goals and strategies at the local and county levels so people can better access the region's parks as well as much needed funding for upgraded transit to parks. Among the initiatives in the plan, the Baldwin Hills Parklands were selected for a specific priority pilot proposal. As part of the *Community to Parks Connection*, Metro Line 212 Extension is targeted for improvement for direct access to Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area from surrounding communities; including Inglewood, Lakewood, Hawthorne, and the South Bay. Route improvements would include transfer access from Inglewood transit center by increasing service levels and adding weekend bus service to the Parklands.

Engagement in the planning and execution of this priority pilot is underway in collaboration with Conservancy, LA County Regional Park and Open Space District and Los Angeles Metro's planning leadership. Metro's commitment to implementing the pilot are outlined below:

1. Designate a Metro *Transit to Parks* liaison
2. Create marketing/promotional materials for transit lines serving parks/open space – including an interactive web-based access tool
3. Outreach to Councils of Government (COGs), parks organizations, municipal bus operators, and other partner agencies to promote the Transit to Parks
4. Contribute \$1 million for grants for cities and nonprofits transit to parks programs – to be done in conjunction with the [L.A. County Regional Park and Open Space District](#) (RPOSD)
5. Pursue funding for Transit to Parks activities; including providing grant writing assistance to eligible partner agencies and non-profit organizations
6. Collaborate with L.A. County Parks and Recreation Department to document data on park access
7. Incorporate Transit to Parks in the NextGen Bus service reorganization
8. Make recommendations on integrating transit-to-parks into 28 by 2028 and Measure M project planning

The planning efforts of T2P will identify new mobility investments for the Parklands such as off-site parking; regular shuttle connections from the Metro's Expo Line to the regions park amenities; improving walkways, sidewalks, shared-use paths, and trails which are the most fundamental elements of a pedestrian network. Public Access improvements will contribute to the character and identity of the Parklands and will be complimented with climate resiliency infrastructure such as cooling stations, rest areas, shade, age-friendly seating, as well as bicycle storage.

### **Park to Playa:**

The Conservancy and its partners in the Los Angeles County Second District will celebrate the completion of the first regional trail in Southwest Los Angeles County by the close of 2020. The installation of the La Cienega Pedestrian Bridge this September will finish the 13-miles of contiguous trail connecting the Stocker Corridor, Reuben Ingold Park, Norman Houston Park, Kenneth Hahn SRA, Stoneview Nature Center, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook and Culver City Park to the Ballona Creek Bike Path, and finally to the Coast. The Park to Playa Trail establishes a seamless corridor with a strong sense of place that connects upland urban residents with California's coast and wetlands. Implementation of this long-term infrastructure improvement demonstrates a successful collaboration of the region's partners to help improve local access and mobility while reducing carbon emissions and improving public health.

## **Habitat Restoration**

Three plant communities native to Southern California are found in the Baldwin Hills Parklands: coastal sage scrub, riparian woodlands and grasslands. Existing healthy natural habitat areas are located on the steep slopes and canyons on the exterior faces of the east and west ridgelines. These existing areas are presently separated, creating habitat islands. Restoring a total of 300 acres to mend habitat fragments can increase re-colonization rates of flora and fauna, thereby improving long-term viability of existing native species. Working in partnership with local education institutions, County and State Parks, the Conservation Corps, non-profits and community volunteers, the Conservancy will focus its efforts on coordinating and funding projects that address preservation of species biodiversity throughout the Parklands.

Non-native and invasive plant mapping, suppression and eradication are the first phase of the Conservancy's habitat restoration efforts. The work is time-sensitive and seasonally dependent. Targeted areas include highly visible corridors leading into the park and on the most popular trail sites. All work is currently being coordinated with departments that have jurisdictional control or management responsibilities for their respective properties.

Projects of immediate interest include the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, at the northern tip of the western ridge of the Baldwin Hills, the Stocker Corridor on the eastern end of KHSRA and the East and West La Brea Greenbelts. The habitat on each of these properties was severely degraded prior to acquisition. The Conservancy continues the process of restoring land at these sites through grants to groups such as the Los Angeles Audubon Society, Northeast Trees, California Conservation Corps, and Los Angeles Conservation Corps. Significant visual results continue to be achieved over the course of the past five-year term. Ongoing efforts will complement the current improvements managed by State and County Parks and will include the following ongoing programs:

- Removal of non-native plant species
- Re-vegetation of degraded areas with native habitat
- Urban forestry
- On-site propagation of native plants
- Development of a weed management plan
- Invasive species GIS mapping
- Creation of California friendly landscape buffers between habitats and pedestrian thoroughfares
- Inventory wildlife and habitat areas
- Involving the public in protecting and restoring natural plant and animal communities

## **Storm Water Management & Recycled Water Infrastructure**

The Conservancy's plans for water infrastructure improvement are based on our region's water resource management goals to help mitigate the toxins and pollutants released into the watershed. The Porter-Cologne Act, a policy focusing on protection of the water quality in the state through regulation of all activities and factors that affect it, is one of the guiding documents impacting County and City stormwater management. Through this policy, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) set forth regulations specifically for facilities that discharge water directly into watersheds. The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits (NPDES), and waste discharge requirements (WDRs) are examples of the regulations already being utilized within the Parklands to combat the continued degradation of water quality. The Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) has placed focus on collaborative efforts between water managers in the region, defining a clear vision and direction from which to accomplish sustainable management practices for our water resources.

As water demands continue on a substantial upward trend, innovative practices must be implemented to keep pace with these escalating needs. Renewed water allows us to conserve, and maximize our resources, helping to create a sustainable water table supply for Los Angeles County.

Plans for bringing recycled/renewed water to the Parklands are being conducted in collaboration with West Basin Municipal Water District (MWD). MWD completed the first planning stages for the Kenneth Hahn Park Recycled Water Pipeline Feasibility Study in May of 2019. The study investigates the cost and timeline for an estimated \$10 million in initial funds to connect the Parklands with the existing recycled water distribution station approximately 4-miles south of the area near Florence Avenue Inglewood. The proposed first phase connection to KHSRA and the Inglewood Oil Field (IOF) has a purple pipeline length of 22,000 ft. KHSRA's infrastructure improvements would include a one-million-gallon storage tank and retrofitting of the park with purple pipe for irrigation and related water feature use. The IOF currently has purple pipe irrigation installed for recycled water delivery pursuant requirements pursuant of the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District Zoning Ordinance. The Second phase would go North into Culver City and the City of L.A., with the third phase heading west, to supply the local cemeteries and possibly West Los Angeles College.

The Conservancy will continue to implement projects that combat the effects of drought, capture pollutant laden storm water run-off, and contribute to groundwater recharge. Utilizing Low Impact Development (LID) projects with green infrastructure techniques, the Conservancy can continue setting the standard for parks in the region, while providing a guide for urban communities to follow. These developments can help raise awareness, bolster stakeholder participation, educate, and set the bar for how the next generations will think about water.

The Conservancy will allocate funds from the Proposition 1 and Prop 68 Bond Funds to implement projects with a goal of delivering sustainable water conservation and climate change adaptation projects in the parklands over the next five years. Funding will include multi-benefit projects which promote stewardship through community activation; from educational programs promoting water infrastructure improvements such as the Recycled Water Pipeline to the Parklands and surrounding cities; to interpretive signage demonstrating each project's function in relation to climate change adaptation. Current resiliency projects contain features to help divert, capture, and treat run-off; as well as promote groundwater recharge. The Milton Green Street Project is one example of only three (3) innovative "Green Streets" in Los Angeles which will serve to redirect highly contaminated first flush storm water toward Vegetated Stormwater Curb Extensions (VSCes) with the purpose of urban greening, flood management and ground water recharge.

The Conservancy has made it a priority to educate stakeholders and solicit proposals for California's recent Water Bond mandates highlighting the following programmatic elements:

- Watershed adaptation projects to increase climate resiliency

- Smart irrigation
- Habitat restoration
- Increase wildlife corridors
- Eradication of invasive plants
- Mapping and monitoring of native flora and fauna
- Storm water capture and infiltration
- Protect and increase the economic benefits arising from healthy watersheds
- Restore urban river greenways
- Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks
- Increase tree canopy

## INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION

### **Science:**

Providing opportunities for outdoor education and use of the Baldwin Hills and Ballona Creek as living laboratories are among the primary management goals of the Conservancy. The Conservancy can serve as a unique bridge to raise awareness and understanding of how state-directed watershed preservation efforts, including land acquisition, habitat restoration, and water quality enhancement, relate to communities that exist in Los Angeles' urban core. Working with a range of education partners, the Conservancy developed an Environmental Interpretation Initiative (Initiative) focused on serving the needs of area students and teachers beyond the classroom.

Over the past five years, the Conservancy has successfully implemented a Conservation Studies Certificate Pilot Program in partnership with Los Angeles Audubon Society, West Los Angeles College and Dorsey High School. A successful stewardship and workforce development pipeline has been facilitated through the Initiative's curriculum and education modules for science education in the Parklands. The measured outcomes include over 2900 service hours with nearly 100 participants working in the Parklands during the last two seasons of the program. Additionally, opportunities in post-secondary education for science, planning and landscape architecture as well as new jobs in teaching and program leadership have helped to quantify the investment in the pilot program.

Interpretive modules for the Baldwin Hills, Playa Del Rey and Venice Beach continue to be created by the Conservancy's non-profit partners, specifically for elementary, middle school and high school students. Using the outdoors as a teaching resource, the Parklands are available to serve students and teachers in LAUSD Local Districts D, G and I, and Compton, Inglewood and Culver City school districts. Local teachers can facilitate student understanding of statewide environmental concepts and issues, and how they relate to students in the inner-city. The curricula fosters an awareness among students and their teachers that park habitats are dynamic ecosystems, increase knowledge about the impact humans and human behavior have on an urban ecosystem, promote stewardship of the land, and encourage students to make informed decisions about improving the environment. Specific class modules include science investigations, environmental action projects, cross-cultural and literacy activities.

### **Cultural Arts:**

Collaborative opportunities are also available for implementing new cultural events with greater inroads into communities of color. The focus on Cultural Recreation and Interpretation is consistent with the Conservancy's mission and will enhance the Parkland's recreational, scenic, cultural, and educational significance. Improving access to outdoor programming opportunities within region will accommodate the vision of a recreation and cultural nucleus easily accessible to approximately 3-million residents who live within twenty minutes of this highly under-served area.

Grant resources for the arts have not been accessed in any consistent manner, particularly for performances in KHSRA. Many events have been programmed in the western part of the Parklands through the efforts of Culver City's Cultural Affairs Commission. The series of events at the Scenic Overlook were sponsored in part by the California Arts Council, Sony Pictures Entertainment, BMI, Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, Los Angeles and County Community Impacts Arts Grants.

**Partners of the Parklands (PoP)** is a non-profit organization created to assist in accessing much needed resources for programming to address the underserved neighborhoods, schools, and community organizations surrounding the Baldwin Hills. Programming concepts in 2019 have included:

- LA Opera in the Park
- Movies in the Park
- Outdoor Concert Series
- Shakespeare in the Park
- Hike to Yoga
- Astronomy in the Park

The Conservancy's outreach and community building has been initiated in partnership with PoP. The objective is to develop community through programs in the Parklands. Outreach to key stakeholders including area schools, churches, community groups and associations will help build the necessary constituency to support an ongoing robust cultural program. A stakeholder advisory group will be established to assist in bringing a consistent theme of programming to reflect the needs and desires of the surrounding communities. This group will help bridge cultural gaps and infuse local creativity into proposed concepts.

## SUMMARY OF FIVE-YEAR GOALS AND EXPENDITURES

Program	Objective	Units	Approximate Cost
Conservation	Land Conservation	135 Acres	\$9,300,000
Planning and Development	Resiliency and Stormwater Management	4 Projects	\$4,000,000
	Habitat Restoration	1 Project	\$500,000
	Sports Complex Improvements	1 Projects	\$500,000
	Mobility and Public Access Infrastructure	2 Projects	\$2,000,000
Interpretation and Education	Resource Stewardship & Interpretation Projects	2 Projects	\$500,000
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,800,000</b>

# BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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## Memorandum

**To:** Governing Board  
**From:** David McNeill, Executive Officer  
**Date:** March 27, 2020  
**Re:** Item 8: Executive Officer Report

### **Projects Status Report**

Please see Attachment # 1 for the updated Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) Local Assistance/Capital Outlay Project Status Report.

### **Fiscal Update**

Attachments anticipated to be delivered prior to the meeting date: Attachment #2 - BHC Summary Expenditure Sheet by Fund, and Attachment #3 - BHC Prop 1, Prop 40, Prop 84 and Prop 68 Bond Cash Funds.

### **Legislative Update**

Kamler-Dove AB2000 – The Baldwin Hills Conservancy: Urban Watersheds Conservancy Expansion bill is tentatively scheduled for an April 14th hearing in the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources when the legislature returns from recess. The purpose of the legislation is to expand the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) territory to include underserved regions of the Ballona Creek and Upper Dominguez Hills Watersheds (see Attachment #4).

**BHC Project Status Report  
for 3/27/20**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Contract ID</b>	<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	<b>Agreement Expiration</b>	<b>PROJECT STATUS</b>
<b>La Cienega Pedestrian Bridge Project</b>	Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation	BHC17003	Prop 40	\$3,900,000	12/31/2020	Contractor started on-site 12/11/19; Grading and drilling for vertical structures complete; Grading for retaining walls complete; Formwork and rebar installation for retaining wall is on-going; bridge is set to be delivered in August; Substantial completion planned for November 2020; Estimated project completion in December 2020; Complete project close-out expected March 2021.
<b>Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook Trail and Stormwater Improvement Project</b>	Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC)	BHC1708	Prop 84	\$830,684	6/30/2020	Culvert and trail sections 1-4 are completed, and crews are currently working on trail sections 5 and 6; habitat restoration completed in 3 sections and ongoing in other sections; State Parks and LACC coordinating work, supplies and equipment; Project completion expected Summer 2020; Complete project close-out expected September 2020.

**BHC Project Status Report  
for 3/27/20**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Contract ID</b>	<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	<b>Agreement Expiration</b>	<b>PROJECT STATUS</b>
<b>Water Capture Project for Yvonne B. Burke Sports Complex</b>	California Conservation Corps Foundation (CCCCF)	BHC1800	Prop 1	\$1,500,000	1/31/2021	Construction documents in development with engineer; 1st community outreach meeting held 2/28/20; Project Completion expected January 2021; Complete project close-out expected April 2021.

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

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## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2000

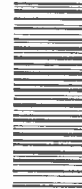
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2019–20 REGULAR SESSION

### ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2000

Introduced by Assembly Member Kamlager

January 28, 2020



RN2010629

An act to amend Sections 32550, 32551, 32553, 32555, 32556, 32565, 32565.5, 32567, 32568, 32571, 32573, 32574, and 32575 of, to amend the heading of Division 22.7 (commencing with Section 32550) of, to add Section 32573.1 to, and to repeal Section 32580 of, the Public Resources Code, relating to conservancies.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2000, as introduced, Kamlager. Baldwin Hills Conservancy: urban watersheds conservancy expansion.

(1) ~~Existing law, the~~ *The Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act, Act* establishes, until January 1, 2026, in the Natural Resources Agency, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, created with the purpose, among other purposes, to acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area, as defined.

This bill would expand the area covered by the conservancy to include ~~the~~ southern Ballona Creek Watershed, as defined, and the Upper ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel, as defined. The bill would rename the conservancy the Baldwin Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy and make conforming changes.

The bill would repeal the January 1, 2026, sunset date, thereby extending the act indefinitely.

(2) The act requires the conservancy's board to consist of 13 voting members, including one member from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors within whose district the majority of the Baldwin Area

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

AB 2000

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is located. The act requires 6 of these members to be appointed by the Governor with 4 out of that 6 to be residents of specified areas.

This bill would delete the above provisions relating to those members and expand the voting membership of the conservancy's board to consist of ~~19~~ 15 voting members by including the mayors of the Cities of Los Angeles, Culver City, Santa Monica, Inglewood, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, and Hawthorne, *Angeles and Culver City, an appointee from the South Bay Cities Council of Governments*, and a member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors representing District 2. The bill would require the governor to appoint 5 of the voting members, who are nominated by a city council or a neighborhood empowerment group, as provided.

The act requires the conservancy's board to also consist of 7 nonvoting members, ~~including one member from the Department of Conservation members.~~

This bill would delete the above provision relating to the Department of Conservation member and expand the nonvoting membership of the conservancy's board to consist of ~~11~~ 12 nonvoting members by including the director of the Los Angeles County Public Works Department, among others, as provided.

(3) The act requires the conservancy to do certain things, including ~~developing~~ *develop* and ~~coordinating~~ *coordinate* an integrated program of resource stewardship so that the entire area is managed for optimum recreational and natural resource values, as provided.

This bill would also require ~~that~~ the entire area ~~is~~ to be managed for optimum climate resilience.

The act also requires the conservancy, as part of its duties, to approve conservancy funded projects, enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Parks and Recreation, and approve specified master plans, among other things, as provided.

This bill would delete these duties and would instead require the conservancy to carry out projects and activities to further the purposes of the act, study the potential environmental and recreational uses of the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper Dominguez Channel area, and develop and adopt a proposed watershed and open-space plan for improvements in the conservancy territory, as provided. The bill would require *a report on* this plan to be submitted to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2022.

(4) The act requires the conservancy to administer any funds appropriated to it and any revenue generated by public agencies for the

Baldwin Hills area and contributed to the conservancy, and authorizes the conservancy to expend those funds for capital improvements, land acquisition, or support of the conservancy's operations.

This bill would require the conservancy to additionally administer any funds appropriated to it for these purposes from any future bond act or local initiative measure, as provided.

(5) In addition, this bill would establish the Baldwin Hills, Southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper Dominguez Channel Urban Watershed Improvement Program, to be administered by the conservancy, for climate change adaptation improvements, to protect, conserve, and restore the health and resilience of the watersheds and communities of the region, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

Page 3 1 SECTION 1. The heading of Division 22.7 (commencing with  
2 Section 32550) of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

3  
4 DIVISION 22.7. BALDWIN HILLS AND URBAN  
5 WATERSHEDS CONSERVANCY ACT  
+

7 SEC. 2. Section 32550 of the Public Resources Code is  
8 amended to read:

9 32550. This division shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
10 Baldwin Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy Act.

11 SEC. 3. Section 32551 of the Public Resources Code is  
12 amended to read:

13 32551. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of the  
14 following:

15 (a) The Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and  
16 Upper ~~Dominquez~~ Dominguez Channel area within the County of  
17 Los Angeles and the cities of Los Angeles and Culver City, among  
18 other cities, constitutes an area with unique and important cultural,  
19 scientific, educational, recreational, and scenic resources, and  
20 includes land with the highest elevation in the Los Angeles Basin.

21 (b) The state recognized the importance of, and the need for,  
22 recreational venues in this area by purchasing and establishing the  
23 Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area in 1983, which is under the

| Amendment 1

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Page 3 24 jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation. The County  
25 of Los Angeles operates the state recreation area pursuant to a  
26 contract with the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Page 4 1 (c) In recognition of the evolving community needs in the  
2 Baldwin Hills area, in 1999 the Legislature directed the review  
3 and revision of the master plan for the existing state recreation  
4 area as well as the acquisition of other lands in the Baldwin Hills.

5 (d) As one of the last remaining urban open spaces in Los  
6 Angeles County, the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek  
7 Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~ Dominguez Channel area should  
8 be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment  
9 of, and appreciation by, present and future generations.

10 (e) The Baldwin Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy  
11 should be created to develop and coordinate an integrated program  
12 of resources stewardship so that the Baldwin Hills, southern  
13 Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~ Dominguez  
14 Channel area is managed for its optimum recreational and natural  
15 resource values based upon the needs and desires of the  
+ surrounding community.

16 SEC. 4. Section 32553 of the Public Resources Code is  
17 amended to read:

18 32553. As used in this division, the following terms have the  
19 following meanings:

20 (a) (1) "Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and  
21 Upper ~~Dominquez~~ Dominguez Channel area" means the land area  
22 currently from the Santa Monica Freeway (Interstate 10) to the  
23 Harbor Freeway and Transit Way (Interstate 110), to Manchester  
24 Boulevard and Firestone Boulevard to Lincoln Boulevard (or  
25 Interstate 105), which includes the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation  
26 Area, the southern portion of the Ballona Creek Watershed, Upper  
27 Dominguez Channel, and the Baldwin Hills community. "Baldwin  
35 Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~  
36 Dominguez Channel area" also includes Ballona Creek and adjacent  
37 property within 50 yards of Ballona Creek on either side, from the  
38 Santa Monica Freeway (Interstate 10) to the Marina Freeway  
39 (Interstate 90). Ballona Creek is included in the Baldwin Hills,  
40 southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~

Page 5 1 Dominguez Channel area for purposes of connectivity.

3 (2) For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms shall  
4 apply:

| Amendment 2

| Amendment 3

| Amendment 4

| Amendment 5

| Amendment 6

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

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AB 2000

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Amendment 7

Page 5 5 (A) ~~“Southern Ballona Creek Watershed” means the area of~~  
6 ~~land with the hydrologic unit code of 180701040300 and is a~~  
7 ~~nine-mile long flood protection channel that drains the Los Angeles~~  
8 ~~basin, from the Santa Monica Mountains on the north, the Harbor~~  
9 ~~Freeway (Interstate 110) on the east, and the Baldwin Hills on the~~  
10 ~~south. The Ballona Creek Watershed totals approximately 130~~  
11 ~~square miles. The ridgeline of the Santa Monica Mountains, from~~  
12 ~~Sepulveda Canyon (Sepulveda Boulevard/405 Freeway) east of~~  
13 ~~the Silverlake neighborhood, marks the northern divide of the~~  
14 ~~watershed. Mulholland Drive approximates much of the Ballona~~  
15 ~~Creek Watershed. Ballona Creek Watershed’s southern boundary~~  
16 ~~includes parts of the City of Inglewood, including the drainage~~  
17 ~~area of Centinela Creek, and the Westchester Bluffs. It includes~~  
18 ~~all of the City of West Hollywood, all of the City of Beverly Hills,~~  
19 ~~portions of the City of Culver City, some of the City of Inglewood,~~  
20 ~~the unincorporated portion of the County of Los Angeles, a portion~~  
21 ~~of the City of Santa Monica, and a large part of the Los Angeles~~  
22 ~~basin. The eastern end of the watershed includes MacArthur Park~~  
23 ~~and the entertainment complex known as Staples Center, but~~  
24 ~~excludes the high rises included in the downtown area of the City~~  
25 ~~of Los Angeles. The western boundary is marked by a rise in the~~  
26 ~~land between the Cities of Santa Monica and Venice and parts of~~  
27 ~~West Los Angeles down to the Pacific Ocean or the mouth of~~  
28 ~~Ballona Creek in the City of Playa del Rey. The Ballona Creek~~  
29 ~~Watershed is comprised of all or parts of the Cities of Beverly~~  
30 ~~Hills, Culver City, Inglewood, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, West~~  
31 ~~Hollywood, and unincorporated portions of the County of Los~~  
32 ~~Angeles.~~

33 (B) ~~“Upper Dominguez Channel” means the area of land with~~  
34 ~~the hydrologic unit code of 180701060101 and includes~~  
35 ~~approximately 33.1 square miles of land. West Florence Avenue~~  
36 ~~in the City of Inglewood is the northern boundary, while Route 1~~  
37 ~~forms the western boundary, including the Los Angeles~~  
38 ~~International Airport and the Cities of El Segundo and Manhattan~~  
39 ~~Beach. The eastern boundary is at Vermont Avenue through~~  
40 ~~portions of Westmont in the northern part of the City of Los~~  
Page 6 1 ~~Angeles (to the north) and south midway through the City of~~  
2 ~~Hawthorne above Rosecrans Avenue (to the south).~~  
+ (A) *“Southern Ballona Creek Watershed” means an*  
+ *approximately 40 square-mile portion of the area of land with the*

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

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+ hydrologic unit code of 180701040300 including the Ballona  
+ Creek, a nine-mile long flood protection channel, including 50  
+ yards on both sides of the channel for right of way, trail access,  
+ and greening. The physical boundaries are reflected in the Baldwin  
+ Hills and Urban Lands Conservancy maps and are described as  
+ follows: The northern boundary is the Santa Monica Freeway  
+ (Interstate 10); the eastern boundary extends to approximately  
+ San Pedro Street and continues down S. Avalon Boulevard to  
+ approximately Slauson Avenue, then recedes to approximately  
+ Western Avenue; the southern boundary aligns slightly above  
+ Manchester Avenue beginning in the City of Inglewood and  
+ continues to Playa Vista, veering south along Pershing Avenue to  
+ Imperial Highway. The watershed is composed of all or parts of  
+ the Cities of Culver City, Inglewood, Los Angeles, and Santa  
+ Monica, and unincorporated areas of View Park, Windsor Hills,  
+ and Ladera Heights.

+ (B) "Upper Dominguez Channel" means an approximately  
+ 33-square-mile portion of the area of land with the hydrologic  
+ unit code of 180701060101 including the Laguna Dominguez Trail,  
+ a one-mile long portion of the flood protection channel that drains  
+ the Los Angeles basin. The physical boundaries are reflected in  
+ the Baldwin Hills and Urban Lands Conservancy maps and are  
+ described as follows: The southern boundary aligns slightly above  
+ Manchester Avenue beginning in the City of Inglewood and  
+ continues to Playa Vista veering south along Pershing Avenue to  
+ Imperial Highway; the eastern boundary extends from S. Van Ness  
+ Avenue beginning in the City of Inglewood and progresses  
+ diagonally southeast to approximately Vermont Avenue at  
+ Interstate 105, and then receding back diagonally to Western  
+ Avenue at W. 135th Street; the southern boundary follows W. 135th  
+ Street and bisects the City of Hawthorne heading west to  
+ approximately S. Douglas Street into the of City of El Segundo,  
+ excluding El Segundo Beach and Dunes, the Hyperion Water  
+ Reclamation Plant, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and  
+ Power Scattergood Generating Station, as well as any land or  
+ facilities included in the Chevron Products Company El Segundo  
+ Refinery, then continues into a portion of the City of Manhattan  
+ Beach bounded by approximately Rosecrans Avenue on the north,  
+ Highland Avenue to the west, and Pacific Coast Highway (Highway  
+ 1) on the east, with Gould Avenue at the southernmost point. As

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+ *described, the watershed is composed of all or parts of the Cities*  
+ *of Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, and Manhattan Beach, and*  
+ *unincorporated areas of Del Aire, Lennox, and Westmont.*

3 (b) "Board" means the governing board of the Baldwin Hills  
4 and Urban Watersheds Conservancy.

5 (c) "Conservancy" means the Baldwin Hills and Urban  
6 Watersheds Conservancy.

7 (d) "Fund" means the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and Urban  
8 Watersheds Fund created pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section  
9 32574.

10 (e) "Nonprofit organization" means an exempt organization  
11 under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

12 (f) "Territory" means the land in the Baldwin Hills, southern  
13 Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper-Dominquez Dominguez  
14 Channel area that is under the jurisdiction of the conservancy.

15 SEC. 5. Section 32555 of the Public Resources Code is  
16 amended to read:

17 32555. There is in the Natural Resources Agency, the Baldwin  
18 Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy, which is created for  
19 the following purposes:

20 (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin  
21 Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper-Dominquez  
22 Dominguez Channel area, and to provide recreational, open space,  
23 wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and lands for educational  
24 uses within the area.

25 (b) To acquire lands for open space within the territory of the  
26 conservancy.

27 (c) To provide for the public's enjoyment, and to enhance the  
28 recreational and educational experience on public lands in the  
29 territory in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and  
30 resources in the area.

31 SEC. 6. Section 32556 of the Public Resources Code is  
32 amended to read:

33 32556. (a) The board shall consist of ~~19~~ 15 voting members  
34 and ~~11~~ 12 nonvoting members.

35 (b) The ~~19~~ 15 voting members of the board shall consist of the  
36 following:

37 (1) The Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, or the  
38 secretary's designee.

Amendment 8

Amendment 9

Amendment 10  
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Page 6 39 (2) The Director of Parks and Recreation, or the director's  
40 designee.

Page 7 1 (3) The Director of Finance, or the director's designee.  
2 (4) The Director of the Los Angeles County Department of  
3 Parks, or the director's designee.  
8 (5) The Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, or the mayor's  
9 designee.  
10 (6) The Mayor of the City of Culver City, or the mayor's  
11 designee.  
12 ~~(7) The Mayor of the City of Santa Monica, or the mayor's~~  
13 ~~designee.~~  
14 ~~(8) The Mayor of the City of Inglewood, or the mayor's~~  
+ ~~designee.~~  
15 ~~(9) The Mayor of the City of El Segundo, or the mayor's~~  
16 ~~designee.~~  
17 ~~(10) The Mayor of the City of Manhattan Beach, or the mayor's~~  
18 ~~designee.~~  
19 ~~(11) The Mayor of the City of Hawthorne, or the mayor's~~  
20 ~~designee.~~  
+ ~~(7) An appointee from the South Bay Cities Council of~~  
+ ~~Governments.~~  
21 ~~(12)~~  
+ (8) A member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
22 representing District 2, or the member's designee.  
23 ~~(13)~~  
24 (9) Five members of the public appointed by the Governor who  
25 are residents of Los Angeles County, as nominated by a city council  
26 or a neighborhood empowerment group, and who represent the  
27 diversity of the community surrounding the Baldwin Hills, southern  
28 Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez Dominguez~~  
+ Channel area.  
36 ~~(14)~~  
+ (10) A resident of Los Angeles County appointed by the Speaker  
37 of the Assembly, and a resident of Los Angeles County appointed  
38 by the Senate Committee on Rules.  
39 (c) The ~~11~~ 12 nonvoting members shall consist of the following:

Page 8 1 (1) The Secretary of the California Environmental Protection  
2 Agency, or the secretary's designee.  
3 (2) The Executive Officer of the State Coastal Conservancy, or  
4 the executive officer's designee.

Amendment 13

Amendment 14

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Page 8    5    (3) The Executive Officer of the State Lands Commission, or  
6    the executive officer's designee.  
7    (4) An appointee of the Governor with experience in developing  
8    contaminated sites, commonly referred to as "brownfields."  
9    (5) The Executive Director of the Santa Monica Mountains  
10    Conservancy, or the executive director's designee.  
11    (6) The Director of the Culver City Human Services Department,  
12    or the director's designee.  
13    (7) The Director of the Los Angeles County Public Works  
14    Department, or the director's designee.  
15    (8) The Director of the City of Los Angeles Recreation and  
16    Parks Department, or the director's designee.  
17    (9) The Director of the City of Inglewood Parks, Recreation  
18    and Community Services *Department or the Director of the City*  
19    *of Inglewood Public Works* Department, or ~~the director's~~ *their*  
+    designee.  
20    (10) The President of the Board of Airport Commissioners of  
21    Los Angeles World Airports, or the president's designee.  
22    (11) The Director of the City of Los Angeles Public Works  
23    Department, or the director's designee.  
+    (12) *The Director of Conservation, or the director's designee.*  
24    (d) A quorum shall consist of ~~to eight~~ *eight* voting members of the  
25    board, and any action of the board affecting any matter before the  
26    board shall be decided by a majority vote of the voting members  
27    present, a quorum being present. However, the affirmative vote  
28    of at least ~~eight~~ *five* of the voting members of the board shall be  
29    required for the transaction of any business of the board.  
30    (e) The board shall do both of the following:  
31    (1) Study the potential environmental and recreational uses of  
32    Ballona Creek and the adjacent property described in subdivision  
33    (a) of Section 32553.  
34    (2) Develop a proposed map for that area.  
35    SEC. 7. Section 32565 of the Public Resources Code is  
36    amended to read:  
37    32565. The jurisdiction of the conservancy shall include only  
38    those lands or other areas that are donated to, or otherwise acquired  
39    by, or are operated by the conservancy, that are located in the  
Page 9    1    Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper  
2    ~~Dominquez Dominguez~~ *Dominquez Dominguez* Channel area.

Amendments 19 & 20

Amendment 21  
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Amendment 23

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Page 9    3    SEC. 8. Section 32565.5 of the Public Resources Code is  
4    amended to read:  
5    32565.5. The conservancy shall do all of the following:  
6    (a) Develop and coordinate an integrated program of resource  
7    stewardship so that the entire Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona  
8    Creek Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel area  
9    is managed for optimum climate resilience and recreational and  
10    natural resource values based upon the needs and desires of the  
11    surrounding community.  
12    (b) Establish policies and priorities within the Baldwin Hills,  
13    southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~  
14    *Dominguez* Channel area, and conduct any necessary planning  
15    activities in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section  
16    + 32555.  
17    (c) Give priority to related projects that create expanded  
18    opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and  
19    wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek  
20    Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel area.  
Page 10    12    (d) Carry out projects and activities to further the purposes of  
13    this division throughout the region and, in doing so, the board shall  
14    make every effort to ensure that, over time, conservancy funding  
15    and other efforts are spread equitably across each of the various  
16    subregions and among the stated goal areas, with adequate  
17    allowance for the variability of costs associated with individual  
18    regions and types of projects.  
19    (e) Study the potential environmental and recreational uses of  
20    the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper  
21    Dominguez Channel ~~area described in subdivision (a) of Section~~  
22    ~~32553.~~ *area.*  
23    (f) (1) Develop and adopt a proposed watershed and open-space  
24    plan for improvements in the conservancy territory.  
25    (2) (A) A report on the plan shall be provided to the Legislature  
26    on or before January 1, 2022.  
27    (B) A report submitted pursuant to this paragraph shall be  
28    submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government  
29    Code.  
30    (C) This paragraph shall become inoperative on January 1, 2026,  
31    pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.  
32    SEC. 9. Section 32567 of the Public Resources Code is  
33    amended to read:

|    Amendment 25

|    Amendment 26

|    Amendment 27

|    Amendment 28

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

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Page 10 34 32567. The conservancy shall determine acquisition priorities  
35 and may acquire real property or any interest in real property within  
36 the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper  
37 ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel area from willing sellers and at  
38 fair market value or on other mutually acceptable terms, upon a  
39 finding that the acquisition is consistent with the purposes of the  
40 conservancy. The conservancy may acquire the property itself, or  
Page 11 1 may coordinate the acquisition with other public agencies with  
2 appropriate responsibility and available funding or land to  
3 exchange. The overall objectives of the land acquisition program  
4 shall be to assist in accomplishing land transactions that are  
5 mutually beneficial to the landowners and the conservancy, and  
6 that meet the conservancy's purposes. Neither the conservancy  
7 nor the State Board of Public Works shall exercise the power of  
8 eminent domain for the purposes of this division. The conservancy  
9 shall have the first right of refusal to acquire, at the cost of  
10 acquisition, surplus public lands suitable for park and open space  
11 within the conservancy's territory, and may accept private or public  
12 lands offered for recreational trails.

13 SEC. 10. Section 32568 of the Public Resources Code is  
14 amended to read:

15 32568. (a) The conservancy may, within the Baldwin Hills,  
16 southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper~~Dominquez~~  
17 *Dominguez* Channel area, undertake site improvement projects;  
18 regulate public access; revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate  
19 degraded areas, in consultation with other public agencies with  
20 appropriate jurisdiction and expertise; upgrade deteriorating  
21 facilities; and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor  
22 recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural  
23 resource protection. These projects shall be directed by the  
24 conservancy and undertaken by other public agencies, with the  
25 conservancy providing overall coordination through setting  
26 priorities for projects and assuring uniformity of approach.

27 (b) The conservancy shall not, under any circumstances, extend  
28 the road designated as "Stocker Street" to Overland Avenue or to  
29 any street within the boundaries of Culver City without the prior  
30 written approval of the city council.

31 SEC. 11. Section 32571 of the Public Resources Code is  
32 amended to read:

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Amendment 30

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Page 11 33 32571. (a) Local public agencies may enter into an agreement  
34 to transfer responsibility for the management of the land located  
35 within the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and  
36 Upper ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel area to the conservancy.

| Amendment 31

37 (b) Local public agencies shall retain exclusive authority over  
38 all zoning or land use regulations within their jurisdiction.

39 SEC. 12. Section 32573 of the Public Resources Code is  
40 amended to read:

Page 12 1 32573. The conservancy shall do all of the following:

2 (a) Establish policies and priorities regarding the territory within  
3 the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek Watershed, and Upper  
4 ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel area, and conduct any necessary  
5 planning activities in accordance with the purposes set forth in  
6 Section 32555.

| Amendment 32

7 (b) Give priority to related projects that create expanded  
8 opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and  
9 wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills, southern Ballona Creek  
10 Watershed, and Upper ~~Dominquez~~ *Dominguez* Channel area.

| Amendment 33

11 (c) Approve conservancy-funded projects that advance the  
12 policies and priorities set forth in this division.

13 (d) Review the master plan required pursuant to subdivisions  
14 (b) and (c) of Section 1 of Chapter 752 of the Statutes of 1999 and  
15 implement prioritization for the acquisition and operation of  
16 additional recreational and open-space needs, including additional  
17 or upgraded facilities and parks that may be necessary or desirable.

18 SEC. 13. Section 32573.1 is added to the Public Resources  
19 Code, to read:

20 32573.1. (a) The Baldwin Hills, Southern Ballona Creek  
21 Watershed, and Upper Dominguez Channel Urban Watershed  
22 Improvement Program is hereby established, to be administered  
23 by the conservancy for climate change adaptation improvements,  
24 to protect, conserve, and restore the health and resilience of the  
25 watersheds and communities of the region, in support of the  
26 purposes and programs described in Section 32565.5. In  
27 implementing this program, the conservancy shall coordinate and  
28 collaborate with other state agencies, federal agencies, local  
29 entities, and stakeholders.

30 (b) In implementing this program, notwithstanding Section  
31 32575, the conservancy may test new funding, policy, planning,  
32 and implementation approaches with the area covered by an

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Page 13 31 SEC. 16. Section 32580 of the Public Resources Code is  
32 repealed.

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99

AMENDMENTS TO ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2000

Amendment 1

On page 3, in line 16, strike out “Dominquez” and insert:

Dominguez

Amendment 2

On page 4, in line 7, strike out “Dominquez” and insert:

Dominguez

Amendment 3

On page 4, in line 13, strike out “Dominquez” and insert:

Dominguez

Amendment 4

On page 4, in line 21, strike out “Dominquez” and insert:

Dominguez

Amendment 5

On page 4, in line 36, strike out “Dominquez” and insert:

Dominguez

Amendment 6

On page 5, in line 1, strike out “Dominquez” and insert:

Dominguez

Amendment 7

On page 5, strike out lines 5 to 40, inclusive, on page 6, strike out lines 1 and 2 and insert:

(A) “Southern Ballona Creek Watershed” means an approximately 40 square-mile portion of the area of land with the hydrologic unit code of 180701040300 including the Ballona Creek, a nine-mile long flood protection channel, including 50 yards on both sides of the channel for right of way, trail access, and greening. The physical



boundaries are reflected in the Baldwin Hills and Urban Lands Conservancy maps and are described as follows: The northern boundary is the Santa Monica Freeway (Interstate 10); the eastern boundary extends to approximately San Pedro Street and continues down S. Avalon Boulevard to approximately Slauson Avenue, then recedes to approximately Western Avenue; the southern boundary aligns slightly above Manchester Avenue beginning in the City of Inglewood and continues to Playa Vista, veering south along Pershing Avenue to Imperial Highway. The watershed is composed of all or parts of the Cities of Culver City, Inglewood, Los Angeles, and Santa Monica, and unincorporated areas of View Park, Windsor Hills, and Ladera Heights.

(B) "Upper Dominguez Channel" means an approximately 33-square-mile portion of the area of land with the hydrologic unit code of 180701060101 including the Laguna Dominguez Trail, a one-mile long portion of the flood protection channel that drains the Los Angeles basin. The physical boundaries are reflected in the Baldwin Hills and Urban Lands Conservancy maps and are described as follows: The southern boundary aligns slightly above Manchester Avenue beginning in the City of Inglewood and continues to Playa Vista veering south along Pershing Avenue to Imperial Highway; the eastern boundary extends from S. Van Ness Avenue beginning in the City of Inglewood and progresses diagonally southeast to approximately Vermont Avenue at Interstate 105, and then receding back diagonally to Western Avenue at W. 135th Street; the southern boundary follows W. 135th Street and bisects the City of Hawthorne heading west to approximately S. Douglas Street into the City of El Segundo, excluding El Segundo Beach and Dunes, the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Scattergood Generating Station, as well as any land or facilities included in the Chevron Products Company El Segundo Refinery, then continues into a portion of the City of Manhattan Beach bounded by approximately Rosecrans Avenue on the north, Highland Avenue to the west, and Pacific Coast Highway (Highway 1) on the east, with Gould Avenue at the southernmost point. As described, the watershed is composed of all or parts of the Cities of Inglewood, Hawthorne, El Segundo, and Manhattan Beach, and unincorporated areas of Del Aire, Lennox, and Westmont.

#### Amendment 8

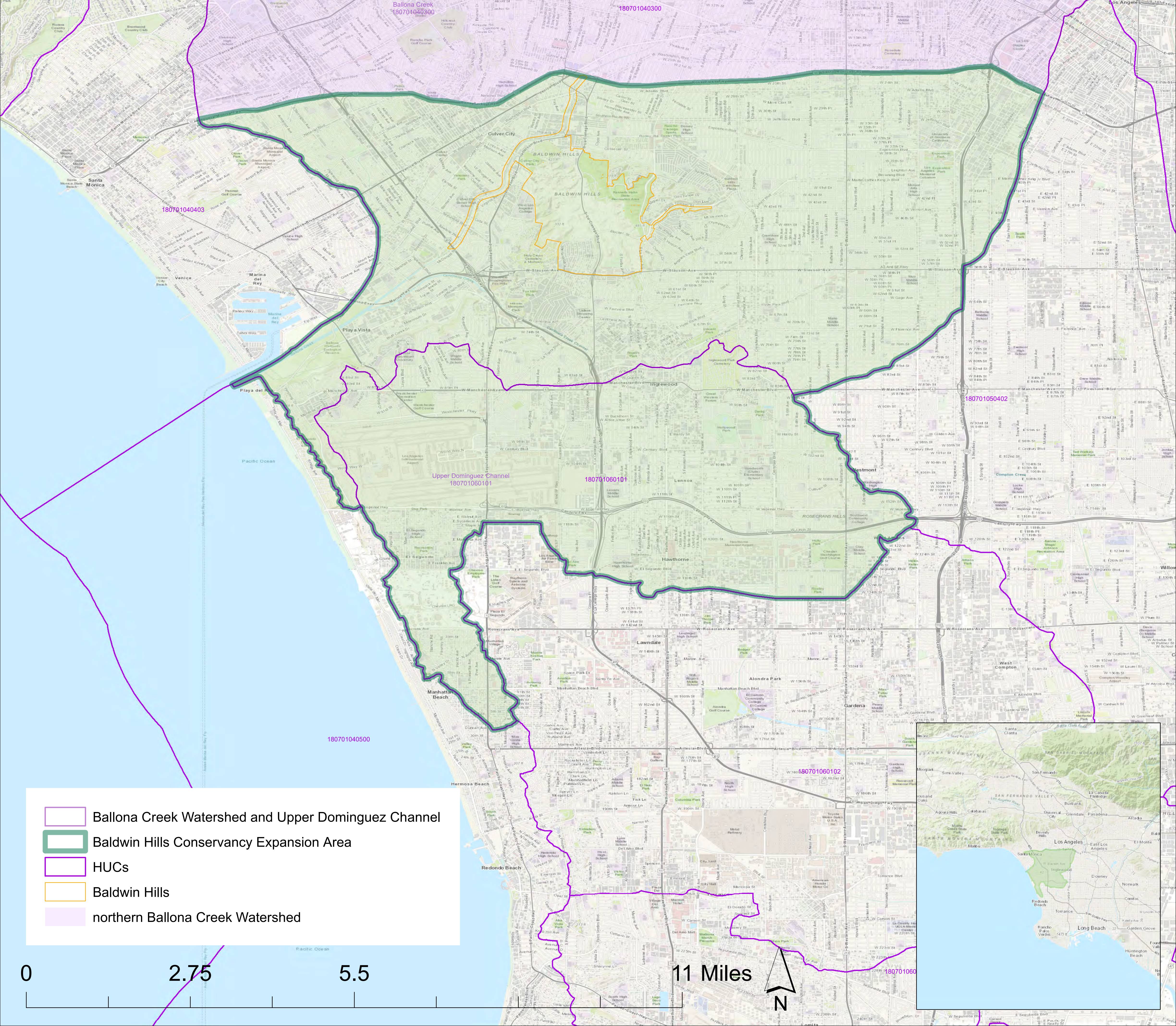
On page 6, in line 13, strike out "Dominquez" and insert:

Dominguez

#### Amendment 9

On page 6, in line 22, strike out "Dominquez" and insert:

Dominguez



Upper Dominguez Channel  
180701060101

180701040300

180701040403

180701050402

180701060101

180701060102

180701040500

180701060

Ballona Creek Watershed and Upper Dominguez Channel

Baldwin Hills Conservancy Expansion Area

HUCs

Baldwin Hills

northern Ballona Creek Watershed

0 2.75 5.5

11 Miles

