MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: May 1, 2013

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(d): Consideration of resolution authorizing the application for grant funds from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for Proposition 84 funding for the Park to Playa – Stocker Corridor project.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the application for grant funds from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for Proposition 84 funding in the amount of $1,025,359 the Park to Playa – Stocker Corridor project.

Background: In December 2012, applied for and received $150,000 from a competitive tree-planting grant from Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (Prop A) in the Second Supervisorial District for the Park to Playa - Stocker Trailhead project. The grant application through Baldwin Hills Conservancy would fully fund the improvements within the Stocker Corridor segment of the overall Park to Playa regional trail project.

The future Stocker Corridor is a segment of the larger “Park to Play” regional trail system which will establish a 13-mile seamless trail network connecting parks, trail systems, and open spaces from the Baldwin Hills Parklands to the Pacific Ocean. The improvements at Stocker Corridor will be the first phase of constructing this regional trail.

There are six (6) segments to the overall P2P Trail: Stocker Corridor, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA)-owned currently vacant property, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Culver City Park, and Ballona Creek Bike Path. See attached map. The Project is within the unincorporated Baldwin Hills community of the Second Supervisorial District.

Currently, staff is working with Alta Planning and Design to complete the Construction Documents (CDs), CEQA, and permits for the project. The CDs include improvements to existing trails, restoration areas, and creation of new trails.
plantings, and amenities within the Baldwin Hills from the Stocker Corridor to Ballona Creek. This current phase of the project is scheduled to be completed by July 2013 and construction could begin in summer 2013.

This grant would fund 1) an approximately 60,000 square foot formalized Trailhead at the corner of Stocker Street and Overhill Drive, 2) trail realignment and switchbacks at the existing Stocker corridor trail, 3) trail access improvements at Presidio Drive, 4) gateway entrance development at Valley Ridge Drive, and 5) a gateway entrance to the eastern ridgeline trail to Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area in the City of Los Angeles.

Consideration: The requested funding from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy in an amount of $1,025,359 to construct a portion of the Park to Playa trail improvements within the Stocker Corridor and accomplish the goals described above.