

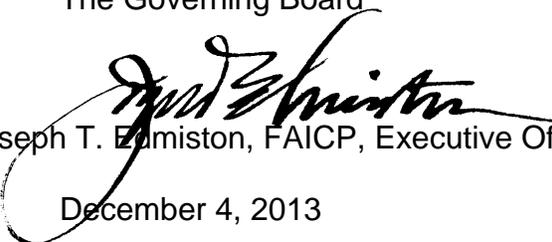


# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Zamiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: December 4, 2013

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIV: Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Fifth Supervisorial District Proposition A funds and entering into a Project Agreement for the Agua Dulce – State Route 14 Wildlife Corridor Project, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing application to, and entering into a project agreement with, Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to use Fifth Supervisorial District Proposition A County and Big Five Excess Funds in an amount not to exceed \$280,000 for the Agua Dulce – State Route 14 Wildlife Corridor Project.

Background: The Agua Dulce – State Route 14 Wildlife Corridor Project is located in the Agua Dulce Canyon watershed on both sides of State Route 14 (see attached map). Public acquisition of the subject properties is an opportunity to protect a critical wildlife crossing under State Route 14. This regional habitat linkage connects the two portions of the Angeles National Forest. It is identified in the South Coast Wildlands Missing Linkages report. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has approved the Angeles Linkage Conceptual Area Protection Plan (CAPP) to acquire land in this linkage.

Wildlife can either use the broad Agua Dulce Canyon Road underpass or Agua Dulce Creek culvert that leads directly to Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation Conservation Authority (SCWRCA)/MRCA protected public lands. The parcels contain one blue line stream, Agua Dulce Creek a tributary of the Santa Clara River, and are bounded by the unincorporated Agua Dulce community to the north and about 932-acre Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park to the east. The six core linkage parcels range in size from 1.8-acres to 58-acres and total 118-acres.

Proposition A has a provision that allocates Excess Funds to each Supervisorial District. The proposed primary funding source for this project is Fifth Supervisorial District Proposition A County and Big Five Excess Funds. Other funding sources slated for this area include Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) Prop 12 funds granted to MRCA, and In-Lieu-Fees.