

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill**

This meeting will take place remotely in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) *et seq.* (AB 361). Members of the public can observe and participate in the meeting as follows:

Via video (Zoom) by joining at this address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88168549967>

Meeting ID: 881 6854 9967

- Or- Phone by joining at these numbers: +1 (669) 900-6833, +1 (346) 248-7799

Meeting ID: 881 6854 9967, Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88168549967>

Members of the public may provide electronic comments by 3:00 pm on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 before the meeting to mmiller@HabitatAuthority.org. Please label the email in the subject heading as “Public Comments”. Public comments may also be verbally heard during item #1 of the meeting.

Agency	Director	Alternate
County of Los Angeles	SULIC, Chair	YOKOMIZO
City of Whittier	MARTINEZ	MARTINEZ
Hacienda Heights Improvement Association	HUGHES	vacant
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	FERRANTE, Vice Chair	BOEHMKE

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority is a public entity established pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act by agreement with the City of Whittier, County of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts. Questions about any agenda items can be directed to Andrea Gullo, Executive Director, at 562.945.9003.

Pursuant to Section 54956 of the Government Code the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority), a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Authority will be held at the call of the Chairperson of the Authority at the above time and place for the purpose of:

1. Receipt of Public Comments.
2. Consent Calendar:
 - a. Approval of Authority Special Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2022.
 - b. Approval allowing all written resolutions attached to staff reports to be read by title only and waiving further reading.
 - c. Board adoption of Authority Resolution No. 2022-09 A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Proclaiming a Local Emergency and Authorizing the Transition to Use of Remote Teleconference Meeting Procedures by the Board of Directors and All Standing Committees of the Authority, as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(e) *et seq.*, for the Initial Period of June 30, 2022, through July 30, 2022.

- d. Receive and file the Authority's Portfolio Earnings Reports and Custom by Instrument Type for May 2022 prepared by the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector.
3. Discussion and possible action regarding California Assemblymember Lisa Calderon's state budget request on behalf of the Authority in the amount of \$1.25 million for operational expenses.
4. Review of Authority workplan for fiscal year 2021-2022, and review, discussion and possible action regarding Authority workplan for fiscal year 2022-23, and review of Strategic Guidelines.
5. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Authority annual budget for fiscal year 2022-23, and review of corresponding budgets.
6. Discussion and possible action authorizing Executive Director to execute the Thirty-first Amendment of the Open Space Management Agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for maintenance and operation services extending the term an additional year from 7/1/22 to 6/30/23 in the amount of \$452,936, or for a reduced term and/or amount.
7. A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the Authority's Board, on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the Authority. The facts and circumstances at issue consist of threatened litigation by Dr. Joyce Selco relating to the Authority's removal of encroachments from Authority property near 6704 Worsham Dr., in the City of Whittier. This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2), (e)(2).
8. Instruction to negotiators on property negotiations for Assessor Parcel Numbers 8239-045-902 and 8239-047-902. Negotiations for an access easement over the property. Negotiating parties include Board Chair, Executive Director, and Coast Community College. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)
9. Instruction to negotiators on property negotiations for Assessor Parcel Numbers 8267-014-904, 8267-014-906 commonly known as the Diaz/Old Coach property and APN 8266-002-901, Powder Canyon. 1) Negotiations for an easement over approximately 1/10th of an acre of the property for heli-hydrant easement, and 2) Negotiations regarding La Habra Road vacation and a portion to be dedicated to the City of La Habra Heights for a fire access easement. Negotiating parties include Board Chair or Vice Chair, Executive Director, and City of La Habra Heights. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)
10. Instruction to negotiators on property negotiations for Assessor Parcel Numbers 8266-002-901 and 8269-003-900. Negotiating parties include Board Chair, Executive Director, and Rowland Water District. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)
11. Instruction to negotiators on property negotiations for Assessor Parcel Numbers 8267-017-900, 8267-017-905, 8267-017 906, and 8267-018-909 located along Harbor Boulevard. Negotiations for RMX Resources LLC., to Quitclaim to Habitat Authority all its rights, title, and interest and reserve easement for certain rights and pipelines. Negotiating parties include Board Chair or Vice

Chair, Executive Director, Los Angeles County, and RMX Resources, LLC. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)

12. Significant exposure to litigation in one case. The anticipated litigation is based on Claim No.: 0-11695 | Claimant: Del Schoenhoef | Loss Date: 9/4/21. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(c), (d)(2), (e)(3).)
13. Board Members' statements, responses, questions or directions to staff, and Executive Director's comments.
14. Adjournment and announcement of next meeting.

NOTE: Members of the public may address the Board of Directors on any item shown on the agenda.
NOTE: 72 hours prior to Board of Directors meetings, the entire Board of Directors agenda package is available for review, along with any meeting-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Board members after distribution of the agenda package, at www.HabitatAuthority.org. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Melissa Miller at 562.945.9003 at least 48 hours prior to meeting.

DRAFT Minutes of Special Meeting – May 25, 2022
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

Held via video conference and teleconference

This meeting took place remotely in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) *et seq.* (AB 361). Members of the public could observe and participate in the meeting as follows:

Via video (Zoom) and telephonically by joining at this address: :

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87884368321>

Meeting ID: 878 8436 8321

- Or- Phone by joining at these numbers:

+1 669 900 6833, or +1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 878 8436 8321, Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kexj6hdShj>

At approximately 3:01 p.m., the regular meeting was called to order and a roll call was taken.

From Hacienda Heights Improvement Association:

Present: Michael Hughes, Director

From Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County:

Present: Robert Ferrante, Vice Chair

From City of Whittier:

Present: Jessica Martinez, Director

From County of Los Angeles

Present: Lauren Yokomizo, Alternate Director

Authority representatives present:

Andrea Gullo, Authority Executive Director

Michelle Mariscal, Authority Ecologist

Melissa Miller, Authority Board Secretary

Kenn Hughes, Deputy Chief Ranger, Mountains Recreation and Conservation
Authority (MRCA)

Yecenia Vargas, Esq., Aleshire & Wynder LLP, Authority Counsel

Cathy Houwen, Member of Authority's Citizens Technical Advisory Committee
(CTAC) and CTAC's Liaison to Board of Directors

Others present:

none

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1. RECEIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENTS.

There were no public comments.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a) Approval of Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2022.
- b) Approval allowing all written resolutions attached to staff reports to be read by title only and waiving further reading.
- c) Board adoption of Authority Resolution No. 2022-08 A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Proclaiming a Local Emergency and Authorizing the Transition to Use of Remote Teleconference Meeting Procedures by the Board of Directors and All Standing Committees of the Authority, as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(e) *et seq.*, for the Initial Period of May 25, 2022, through June 24, 2022.
- d) Receive and file the Authority’s Portfolio Earnings Reports and Custom by Instrument Type for April 2022 prepared by the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector.
- e) Receive and file Receipts and Disbursements for the Authority for the quarter ending March 31, 2022, as submitted by the Los Angeles County Department of Auditor-Controller.
- f) Adopt annual County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector Investment Policy Statement dated March 1, 2022. Adoption of an investment policy is a requirement of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated May 2011 between the Authority and Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector for specific purpose investments.
- g) Receive and file Authority financial audit, Management Report and Auditor’s Communication Letter for fiscal year 2020-21, prepared by Moss, Levy and Hartzheim, LLP, contracted by Los Angeles County Department of Auditor-Controller.
- h) Receive and file Authority’s Wells Fargo account reconciliation report.

Director Martinez entered the meeting during this item.

Director Hughes noted that the Board should remember to discuss resuming in-person meetings in the near future, and Vice Chair Ferrante noted that the rate of COVID infections is again trending upward and that the Sanitation Districts’ staff are still working remotely, so no in-person meetings are foreseen until at least the end of summer, depending on the progress of the infection rate.

Director Hughes motioned to approve, adopt and receive and file these items. Director Martinez seconded this motion, and in a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.
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3. DISCUSSION, RECEIVE AND FILE FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2022 AND THIRD QUARTERLY 2021-2022 MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (MRCA) RANGER REPORTS.

Deputy Chief Ranger Hughes noted that the rangers' contact numbers are lower compared to last year's due to reduced staffing, and a more secure gate at the entrance to the Turnbull Canyon trails continues to be advisable. In response to Alternate Director Yokomizo's question about the hazardous parking occurring along Fullerton Road, he confirmed that this been happening for a couple of years now. The Board received and filed these reports.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING AUTHORITY COMMENTS ON THE EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY AREA PLAN NOTICE OF PREPARATION, INITIAL STUDY, AND DRAFT PLAN DOCUMENTS.

Ecologist Mariscal advised that in the time since this draft letter was presented in the materials for this meeting, Authority staff have developed additional comments regarding the areas of Hacienda Heights and Rowland Heights, specifically to request that the Land Use Designation of three particular parcels be re-categorized as Open Space – Conservation instead of their current designation for low-density residential use: two of the parcels are adjacent to the wildlife underpass at Harbor Boulevard, and the third parcel is in the narrowest part of the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor and contains intact oak woodland and other native habitats. She confirmed for Vice Chair Ferrante that the Environmental Impact Report has not yet been released for the already-proposed International Buddhist Progress Society project, which would utilize this third parcel.

<p>Director Hughes motioned to approve this comment letter as drafted and with the inclusion of the additional comments just detailed by Authority staff. Director Martinez seconded this motion, and in a roll call vote the motion passed with Alternate Director Yokomizo abstaining.</p>
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5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH FIELDMAN, ROLAPP AND ASSOCIATES FOR FINANCIAL FORECASTING AND ADVISING IN AN AMOUNT OF \$18,000.

Vice Chair Ferrante asked that this contract include the production of a summary of findings to explain to the Authority and public the need for a financing mechanism (community facility district) if the findings reveal one is needed.

A noncompetitive procurement with Fieldman, Rolapp and Associates is in the best interest of the Authority. They have demonstrated competence, the professional qualifications and offer a fair price. Therefore, they are the most satisfactory for Authority purposes.

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Director Martinez motioned to authorize the Executive Director to execute this non-competitive contract with Fieldman, Rolapp and Associates in an amount of \$18,000, with the inclusion of a findings summary for public distribution, and to amend the agency’s budget as necessary. Director Hughes seconded this motion, and in a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE NON-COMPETITIVE CONTRACTS WITH (A) NAKAE AND ASSOCIATES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$180,776 FOR VARIOUS FUEL REDUCTION ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE PRESERVE, AND (B) LAND IQ IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,090 FOR FUEL REDUCTION ACTIVITY OVERSIGHT, BOTH TO BE FUNDED BY A GRANT FROM THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY.

Ecologist Mariscal noted that these two contractors have a long history of working effectively together, and there was little discussion.

Noncompetitive procurements with Nakae and Land IQ are in the best interest of the Authority. They have demonstrated competence, the professional qualifications and offer a fair price. Therefore, they are the most satisfactory for Authority purposes.

Director Martinez left the meeting during this item.

Director Hughes motioned to authorize the Executive Director, after the grant agreement has been executed with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, to execute this non-competitive contract with Nakae and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$180,776 for fuel reduction in the Preserve and this non-competitive contract with Land IQ in the amount of \$30,090 for fuel reduction oversight. Alternate Director Yokomizo seconded this motion, and in a roll call vote the motion passed.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A NON-COMPETITIVE CONTRACT WITH LAND IQ FOR BIOLOGICAL SERVICES ON AGENCY MATTERS ON A TIME AND MATERIALS BASE IN AN AMOUNT OF \$15,000.

A noncompetitive procurement with Land IQ is in the best interest of the Authority. They have demonstrated competence, the professional qualifications and offer a fair price. Therefore, they are the most satisfactory for Authority purposes.

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Director Hughes motioned to authorize the Executive Director to execute this non-competitive contract with Land IQ in an amount of \$15,000 for biological services on agency matters, and to amend the agency's budget as necessary. Alternate Director Yokomizo seconded this motion, and in a roll call vote the motion passed.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACT WITH MDJ MANAGEMENT FOR THE HVAC AND DUCTING REPLACEMENT TO AUTHORITY HOME ON WORKMAN MILL RD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,927.08.

Executive Director Gullo reviewed this item as presented in the staff report, and there was agreement that, despite budgetary concerns, this work is both necessary and conducive to future possible uses for this building.

Director Martinez re-entered the meeting during this item.

Director Martinez motioned to authorize the Executive Director to execute this contract with MDJ Management in an amount of \$80,927.08 for the HVAC and ducting replacement at the Authority's home on Workman Mill Road, and to amend the agency's budget as necessary or take other appropriate action. Director Hughes seconded this motion, and in a roll call vote the motion passed unanimously.

9. INSTRUCTION TO NEGOTIATORS ON PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS FOR ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBERS 8239-045-902 AND 8239-047-902. NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN ACCESS EASEMENT OVER THE PROPERTY. NEGOTIATING PARTIES INCLUDE BOARD CHAIR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)

At 3:42 p.m. Vice Chair Ferrante moved to continue discussion of items 9, 10 and 11 in Closed Session.

In the closed session, item 9 was discussed by the Board and no reportable action was taken.

10. INSTRUCTION TO NEGOTIATORS ON PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS FOR ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBERS 8267-014-904, 8267-014-906 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE DIAZ/OLD COACH PROPERTY AND APN 8266-002-901, POWDER CANYON. 1) NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN EASEMENT OVER APPROXIMATELY 1/10TH OF AN ACRE OF THE PROPERTY FOR HELI-HYDRANT EASEMENT, AND 2) NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING LA HABRA ROAD VACATION AND A PORTION TO BE DEDICATED TO THE CITY OF LA HABRA HEIGHTS FOR A FIRE ACCESS

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PUEENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

EASEMENT. NEGOTIATING PARTIES INCLUDE BOARD CHAIR OR VICE CHAIR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND CITY OF LA HABRA HEIGHTS. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)

In the closed session, item 10 was discussed by the Board and no reportable action was taken.

11. INSTRUCTION TO NEGOTIATORS ON PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS FOR ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBERS 8266-002-901 AND 8269-003-900. NEGOTIATING PARTIES INCLUDE BOARD CHAIR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 regarding real estate negotiations.)

In the closed session, item 11 was discussed by the Board and no reportable action was taken.

At 3:47 p.m. Vice Chair Ferrante moved to end the Closed Session and the Open Session recommenced.

12. BOARD MEMBERS' STATEMENTS, RESPONSES, QUESTIONS OR DIRECTIONS TO STAFF, AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS.

Vice Chair Ferrante reported that Los Angeles County has obtained the necessary funding to proceed with planning their park on the site of the former Puente Hills Landfill, in only a Phase 1 configuration with no Phase 2 or Phase 3 foreseen at this moment, but he does not know of any estimated release date for a related Environmental Impact Report.

Executive Director Gullo mentioned the ongoing planning for the June 4 recognition event for Bob Henderson at Arroyo Pescadero, she thanked the Sanitation Districts for their work to repair the gate at the Hacienda Hills Trailhead, and she reported that the Authority did not receive the grant it requested from the National Park Service for signage improvement.

Ecologist Mariscal reported that the number of goats currently performing brush clearance at Turnbull Canyon will be increased in order to remove the mustard plants there before they seed, and she added that fortunately they did not have to evacuate due to the fire last week caused by the vehicle crashing over the embankment nearby.

Lastly, Vice Chair Ferrante asked about the seating arrangements for the June 4 event at Arroyo Pescadero, and Executive Director Gullo answered that the activity will be held at that trail system's amphitheater area, with a stage and canopy for 50 to 60 chairs.

13. ADJOURNMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING.

There being no further comments, or business to be discussed, Vice Chair Ferrante adjourned the meeting at 3:59 p.m. The next regular meeting date is June 16, 2022.

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PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

Approved:

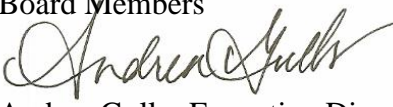
Ivan Sulic, Board Chair

Melissa Miller, Board Secretary

Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 30, 2022

To: Board Members


From: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 2c) Board adoption of Authority Resolution No. 2022-09 A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Proclaiming a Local Emergency and Authorizing the Transition to Use of Remote Teleconference Meeting Procedures by the Board of Directors and All Standing Committees of the Authority, as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(e) *et seq.*, for the Initial Period of June 30, 2022, through July 30, 2022.

Recommendation:

That the Board adopt the attached resolution, 2022-09.

Background:

The attached resolution is provided for your consideration to be in compliance with Assembly Bill 361 which was signed into law on September 16, 2021 and made effective on October 1, 2021. AB 361 allows continued remote teleconference meetings without traditional Brown Act compliance, provided certain findings can be made related to the ongoing state of emergency and subject to adherence to certain new noticing and public participation requirements.

No later than 30 days after teleconferencing for the first time under AB 361 rules, and every 30 days thereafter, the Board must adopt a resolution making the required findings of necessity to continue conducting public meetings remotely in reliance on AB 361 and affirming the measures in place to allow remote public comments by the public.

It has been approximately 36 days from the adoption of the Authority's 2022-08 resolution which was approved at the last Board meeting on May 25, 2022 and valid through June 24 2022, so the attached is a new initial resolution extending the timeframe for virtual meetings through July 30, 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSITION TO USE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETING PROCEDURES BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALL STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE AUTHORITY, AS AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(E) *ET SEQ.*, FOR THE INITIAL PERIOD OF JUNE 30, 2022, THROUGH JULY 30, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the “Authority”) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access, transparency, observation and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) and each of its standing committees; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the Board and standing committees are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act, codified in Government Code sections 54950 *et seq.*, so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and observe the Board and standing committees conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, as amended by Assembly Bill 361 (2021), codified in Government Code sections 54953(e) *et seq.*, allows for remote teleconferencing observation and participation in meetings by members of a legislative body and members of the public, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3) regarding teleconferencing, subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, the initial required condition is that the meeting is held during a state of emergency that has been declared by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act at Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state and within the boundaries of the Authority, caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, pursuant to Government Code section 8625, Governor Newsom declared the existence of a state of emergency for the State of California, which includes area within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Authority, in response to the outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, also on March 4, 2020, the County of Los Angeles followed suit and declared the existence of a state of emergency for the County of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 54953(e) *et seq.* further requires that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or, the legislative body of the Authority finds that meeting in person would present imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds that such emergency conditions now exist in the Authority, such that meeting in person for the meetings of the Board and standing committees of the Authority would present imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees as a result of the increased risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus among those in attendance; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds that the state of emergency due to the COVID-19 virus and the conditions related thereto has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of extreme

peril to the safety of persons within the Authority that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the Authority, and thereby affirms, authorizes, and proclaims the existence of a local emergency and ratifies the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds that, as a consequence of the existing local emergency, the Board and all standing committees of the Authority shall conduct their meetings without compliance with Government Code section 54953(b)(3), and shall instead comply with the remote teleconference meeting requirements as authorized by Government Code section 54953(e) *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the Board affirms that it will allow for observation and participation by Board Members, Advisory Committee Members and the public via video and/or telephone access, in an effort to protect the constitutional and statutory rights of all attendees.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY FINDS, RESOLVES, AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. The Board hereby recognizes and affirms the existence and conditions of a state of emergency as proclaimed by the Governor, the existence of emergency conditions in the Authority, and affirms, authorizes, and proclaims the existence of a local emergency throughout the Authority.

Section 3. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Further, the Board finds that holding the meetings of the Board and standing committees of the Authority in person would present imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees as a result of the increased risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus among those in attendance, as required by Government Code section 54953(e) *et seq.*

Section 5. The Executive Director is hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act, for all Board meetings and all standing committee meetings of the Authority.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) June 24, 2022, or such time the Board adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Board and all standing committees of the Authority may continue to teleconference without compliance with Government Code section 54953(b)(3), but otherwise as permitted by Government Code section 54953(e) *et seq.*

Section 7. Should any provision, section, paragraph, sentence or word of this Resolution be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences or words of this Resolution as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 8. The Board Secretary shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original Resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority duly held on 30th day of June, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Board Members:
NOES: Board Members:
ABSENT: Board Members:
ABSTAIN: Board Members:

Chair, Board of Directors

WITNESS my hand of said Authority this 30th day of June, 2022.

Melissa Miller, Secretary



KEITH KNOX
TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 462, Los Angeles, California 90012
Telephone: (213) 974-2139 Fax: (213) 626-1701
ttc.lacounty.gov and propertytax.lacounty.gov

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Second District
SHEILA KUEHL
Third District
JANICE HAHN
Fourth District
KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

June 2, 2022

Andrea Gullo, Executive Director
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
7333 Greenleaf Avenue, First Floor
Whittier, CA 90602

Email: agullo@habitatauthority.org

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORTS

Dear Andrea Gullo:

We have enclosed the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Portfolio Income Reconciliation Report (Earnings Report), Custom Position Report, Purchase Detail Report, and Chronological Detail Report for the month ended May 31, 2022, for your review and reference.

Should you have questions, you may contact Ms. Marivic Liwag, Assistant Operations Chief, of my staff at (213) 584-1252, or mliwag@ttc.lacounty.gov.

Very truly yours,

KEITH KNOX
Treasurer and Tax Collector

Damia J. Johnson
Assistant Treasurer and Tax Collector

DJJ:JK:ML:az

Enclosures

INCOME RECONCILIATION REPORT



Run Date: 6/1/2022 7:48:17 AM

From Date: 5/1/2022 To Date: 5/31/2022

Inv No.	Security Description	CUSIP	Effect Rate	Stored Yield	Durat	Cur Par Value	Posted Int/Div	Beginning Prem/ (Disc)	Accretion Income	(Amortization) Expense	Scheduled Accruals	Gain (Loss)	Total Income
Fund: 4350 PHHPA-PH HABITAT PRESERVATION AU													
117243	FFCB 2.50 (C	3133EMW65	2.5000	2.5000	15.2120	22,675,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,239.58	0.00	47,239.58
Inv Type: 1040 FFCB Fxd-			2.5000	2.5000	15.2120	22,675,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,239.58	0.00	47,239.58
114424	FHLMC 2.00 (3134GWS09	2.0000	2.0000	17.3180	9,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,833.33	0.00	15,833.33
Inv Type: 1500 FHLMC Fxd			2.0000	2.0000	17.3180	9,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,833.33	0.00	15,833.33
Subtotal			2.3524	2.3524	15.8338	32,175,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,072.91	0.00	63,072.91
Grand Total		Count 2				32,175,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,072.91	0.00	63,072.91



Custom Position Report

As Of Date: 05/31/2022

Run: 06/01/2022 07:51:54 AM

Reporting Currency: Local

LA County


Inv. No.	Description	CUSIP	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Yield at Purchase	Par Value	Amortized Cost	Historical Cost	Accumulated Amort/Accr
Fund Grp: 4000 SPI-SPECIFIC PURPOSE INVSTMNT									
117243	FFCB 2.50 (CALLABLE)	3133EMW65	2.500000	07/29/2041	2.500000	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	0.00
Inv Type: 1040 FFCB Fxd-(S) 30/360						22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	0.00
114424	FHLMC 2.00 (CALLABLE)	3134GWSD9	2.000000	08/27/2043	2.000000	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	0.00
Inv Type: 1500 FHLMC Fxd-(S) 30/360						9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	0.00
Fund: 4350 PHHPA-PH HABITAT PRESERVATION AU						32,175,000.00	32,175,000.00	32,175,000.00	0.00
Subtotal						32,175,000.00	32,175,000.00	32,175,000.00	0.00
Grand Total	Count 2					32,175,000.00	32,175,000.00	32,175,000.00	0.00

Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 30, 2022

To: Board Members

From: 
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 3) Discussion and possible action regarding California Assemblymember Lisa Calderon's state budget request on behalf of the Authority in the amount of \$1.25 million for operational expenses.

Recommendation:

That the Board provide feedback and take appropriate action.

Background:

At the November 22, 2021 Board meeting, agency financial needs were discussed and direction was given to pursue state funding; that staff report is attached. Also, attached is a letter that was sent to Assemblywoman Calderon requesting financial assistance. The Assemblywoman's office has informed the Authority Chair and staff that she is moving forward in requesting \$1.25 from the state budget. There will be further information at the Board meeting.

Fiscal Impact:

This would help the Authority close its budget deficit and address operational needs for a limited time.

Attachments:


11-22-21 Authority Board staff report
Authority letter dated February 23, 2022

Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 22, 2021

To: Board Members

From: 
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 4) Discussion and possible action regarding funding needs for the Authority as it relates to funding for wildfire prevention and management of agency properties.

Recommendation:

That the Board approve the funding needs of the agency; direct the Board subcommittee to pursue the exploration of funding fire prevention and safety, and natural resource management needs; and direct staff to prepare estimates for additional needs and submit for possible state funding.

Background:

A major challenge the Habitat Authority faces is that its revenues have significantly decreased (approximately 20%) while its costs to maintain and protect its land and to prevent local wildfires have increased. Staff anticipate that maintenance costs will continue to increase into the future, in part due to the greater recreational use of the properties, as well as climate factors (drought combined with warmer temperatures) which have increased the risk of wildfires. Additionally, the Authority's Measure A maintenance and servicing funds are in flux, and not as accessible for Authority needs as once anticipated. The Authority has made cuts to its already shoestring budget, including not filling a staffing vacancy and decreasing annual expenses such as community outreach, office and field supplies, and professional training. The Authority provides necessary preservation/maintenance/management services, such as annual fire fuel clearance, hazardous tree removal, and ranger (wildland fighter/law enforcement) patrol services, and is exploring ways to generate revenue to cover and improve those and other basic services. A grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy helped to close the deficit gap in the current fiscal year. A grant from CalFire will assist with decreasing the deficit gap for fiscal years 2022-23, and 2023-24. However, long term needs still remain.

Agency needs have been discussed in detail with the Board's subcommittee for the exploration of a special tax in collaboration with staff and Authority consultant, SCI Consulting Group. The agency has annual financial needs in the amount of approximately \$630,000 for fire prevention and safety. This would include fuel clearance, ranger patrol,

November 22, 2021

Agenda Item 4

Page 2

and an additional staff member. However, more realistic needs of the agency for fire prevention and safety needs include those mentioned, plus goat clearance, hazardous tree removal, wildfire planning, and fence repair in the amount of approximately \$809,000. Additionally, natural resource management needs include wildlife surveys and monitoring, vegetation mapping and deferred maintenance in the amount of approximately \$68,000 annually. To fund these needs, the Board subcommittee would continue to work with staff and SCI in all steps necessary to implement public polling, which is Task 2 of the approved contract with SCI. Two rates under \$20 will be tested in the public opinion poll. Results of the polling would later be brought back to the Board for discussion and action for next steps, expected in March 2022.

Additional needs of the Habitat Authority that could benefit the region and contribute to better management of the Puente Hills for wildfire safety and natural resource protection are as follows:

- a) New office/visitor interpretation area/ranger command center in Sycamore Canyon. This would provide the community and volunteers an easily accessible place to visit and learn about natural resources and provide the Authority staff and rangers a place to collaborate. (ballpark estimate \$1.8 million)
- b) Repair Sycamore Canyon backhouse/ranger residence. (ballpark estimate \$350,000)
- c) Security upgrades to the trailheads, such as with cameras or gates
- d) Repairs and upgrades to the ranger residences
- e) An open-air water tank, closed water tanks or fire hydrants on Turnbull Canyon Road to service the western portion of the Preserve. (Installation of fire hydrants would be outside the scope of this agency.)
- f) New monument and/or interpretive signage at trailheads that reflects the agency's current name.
- g) Restoration of non-native vegetation
- h) Ongoing trail maintenance
- i) Full-time interpretive staff to educate about stewardship (this helps increase recreational enjoyment and community involvement, decrease illegal behaviors and promote natural resource protection)

Senator Archuleta's office is accepting budget requests and possibly other state offices are accepting budget requests for next fiscal year's state budget. With the Board's direction, estimates could be developed for some of the above items, (a) through (e), and submitted for funding consideration.

Fiscal Impact

None at this time.



Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

February 23, 2022

The Honorable Lisa Calderon
California State Assembly, 57th District
13181 N. Crossroads Pkwy. Suite 160
City of Industry, CA 91746-3497

Financial Assistance for Puente Hills Preserve

Dear Assemblymember Calderon:

During these challenging times, the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Habitat Authority) appreciates your leadership and support. Local governments such as ours are facing current financial challenges. We are requesting financial assistance of \$2,000,000 to promote wildfire safety, natural resource protection and community engagement.

As you know, the Habitat Authority is a joint powers authority established pursuant to California Government Code Section 6500 *et seq.* with a Board of Directors consisting of the City of Whittier, County of Los Angeles, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, and a representative from the Hacienda Heights Improvement Association. According to its mission, the Habitat Authority is dedicated to the acquisition, restoration, and management of open space in the Puente Hills (Puente Hills Preserve) for preservation of the land in perpetuity, with the primary purpose to protect the biological diversity. Additionally, the agency endeavors to provide opportunities for outdoor education and low-impact recreation. The Habitat Authority owns and/or manages over 3,880 acres in the Puente Hills within Los Angeles County and surrounded almost entirely by thousands of residences.

The Habitat Authority is not a taxing agency and operates on a shoestring budget. The agency's main funding source, our endowment, had accounted for approximately 65% of our revenue and has been greatly impacted with the economic downturn due to Covid-19. This one source is projected to have decreased roughly 20%. Other revenue streams are also decreasing while costs and use of the Preserve are increasing; we are still assessing the impacts from those changes. The Habitat Authority has taken several cost-saving steps with its budget including decreasing ranger services.

The Habitat Authority has been fortunate enough to receive fuel clearance grants from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and CalFire through 2024. However, the below are other items that need attention over the next few years:


- a) Ranger services, \$1.25 million – for firefighting, law enforcement and public outreach. Our rangers are contracted through a partnering government agency, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. They are trained first responders, wildland fire fighters and California Peace Officers. Additionally they perform maintenance, provide outdoor education, and protect the natural resources and trail visitors.
- b) Repairs and upgrades to the agency-owned ranger residences, rough estimate \$250,000. We are in the process of obtaining accurate estimates.
- c) A full-time interpretive staff to provide outdoor education and manage community volunteers, \$250,000 - This helps to increase recreational enjoyment, community involvement, and promote natural resource stewardship. Simultaneously it puts more eyes and ears for the rangers on the trails to decrease illegal behaviors.

Long -Term Funding Options:

- d) New ranger command center - estimate \$1.8 million - This would also function as office/visitor interpretation area in Sycamore Canyon and would provide the community and volunteers an easily accessible place to visit and learn about natural resources and provide the Authority staff and rangers a place to collaborate.
- e) Repair Sycamore Canyon backhouse/ranger residence, estimate \$350,000-400,000.
- f) Security upgrades to the trailheads to decrease illegal activities, such as with cameras or gates, rough estimate \$300,000-350,000.

I'm available at any time to discuss this with you further or answer any questions. Feel free to contact me at ISulic@bos.lacounty.gov or (562) 807-7350, as well as Executive Director, Andrea Gullo at agullo@HabitatAuthority.org or at (562) 945-9003.

Sincerely,



Ivan Sulic
Chair of Board of Directors

Copy:
Senator Archuleta
Board of Directors

Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 30, 2022

To: Board Members

From: 
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 4) Review of Authority workplan for fiscal year 2021-2022, and review, discussion and possible action regarding Authority workplan for fiscal year 2022-23, and review of Strategic Guidelines.

Recommendation:

That the Board provide feedback and take appropriate action.

Background:

A summary of fiscal year (FY) 21-22 workplan is provided for your review; an update was last provided in February 2022. Due to workload, unexpected happenings, and circumstances beyond our control, progress on a few of these items is not at the level previously estimated. Workload and unexpected happenings include redistricting, staff departure, drafting new purchasing policies, more detailed annual audit, closed session items, obtaining new accounting services, Henderson legacy event, additional grant applications, etc.

The draft FY 22-23 workplan is attached for your review and feedback. The format of the workplan in general does not reflect routine day to day and core functions of staff's time which essentially support the mission of the agency. Potential priority rankings for this fiscal year have been suggested to facilitate the discussion and ultimate direction by the Board. Staff welcomes further defined parameters of what the Board would prefer to see included in its workplan.

Also, attached are the agency's Strategic Guidelines that the workplan has historically supported. It is recommended that the Guidelines be revisited and possibly updated by the Advisory Committee and Board at future meetings. The Guidelines at a minimum were last updated ten years ago.

In terms of agency core functions, similar to last year due to the limited budget, outdoor education and interpretation will not be a focus for next year and outdoor school programs at the level of years past is not expected. This veers from the Guidelines. Staff will continue to keep the current volunteers engaged and make best efforts to train new volunteers if possible.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact depends on chosen workplan items.

Attachments:

Update FY 21-22 workplan

Proposed FY 22-23 workplan, including possible long-term goals

Strategic Guidelines

Habitat Authority Workplan
FY 21-22

	GOAL	Resp. Party	** Priority Level (1-3)	Est. Completion Date	Update Approx. % Complete	Board Approval Date	Cost / Funding
1	Survey and map remaining dead trees for grants	Ecol, Rgr	1	12/30/2021 <i>rev 6/30/22</i>	100%	7/15/2021	Operations budget
2	Heli-hydrant project and mitigation	Board, staff, Attorney	1	Ongoing	90%	direction provided sprg/smmr 2021	
3	Relocate office	Staff	1	7/30/2021	100%	5/20/2021	Operations
4	Administer RMC Grant(s)	Staff, Rngr	1	6/30/22 <i>rev 12/30/2022</i>	80%	5/20/2021	RMC
5	Possible Implement CalFire Grant	Staff, Rngr	1	30-Mar-25	10%	5/20/2021	CalFire
6	Seek M&S funding reimbursement FY 11-15 and 20-21	ED, Admin Assist	1	Oct. 30, 2021 <i>rev 5/31/22</i> <i>rev 10/30/22</i>	75%	7/15/2021	Operations/County
7	Coordinate with Whittier and County for future of M&S funding implementation (Phase I FY 21-22, Phase II future FYs)	ED, Board, Attorney	1	Phs I 8-31-21, Phs II 12-31-21 <i>rev 6/30/22</i>	100%	7/15/2021	Operations/County
8	Evaluate possibility of Community Facility District	Subcommittee, ED, Board	1	Ongoing <i>rev 3/17/22</i>	100%	10/15/2020	Operations
9	Repair ranger residence (LHH)	ED, Rgr	2	10/30/2021 <i>rev TBD</i>	50%	direction provided in spring 2021	Emergency or Reserve funds
10	Process new mitigation opportunities as they arise.	ED, Ecol	3	Ongoing		7/15/2021	Mitigation funding
11	Add website donate button linked to PayPal (after opening bank account)	ED	3	12/30/2021 <i>rev 6/30/22</i>	50%	8/27/2015	Operations
12	Repair Arroyo Pescadero gate	ED	3	TBD	5%	7/15/2021	Emergency or Reserve funds
13	Application NPS' Rivers Trails Conservation Assistance program	ED, Rngr, CTAC, Board	3	TBD	100%	2/17/2022	NPS

Revised (rev) dates in italics.

** Board to review and provide direction on priority rankings.

UPDATE SUMMARY

	GOAL	Notes
1	Survey and map remaining dead trees for grants	Completed. Trees have been surveyed. A job walk for the tree removal contract is scheduled for June 27, 2022. This project is funded by the CalFire grant.
2	Heli-hydrant project and mitigation	This project is ongoing. No mitigation is associated with this project. Continue to coordinate with the City of La Habra Heights to wrap-up.
3	Relocate office	Completed
4	Administer RMC Grant(s)	Staff has completed fall tree removals, and ordered a mower. Fuel clearance has been completed, and inspections are underway. Reimbursement will be submitted to the RMC in the first quarter of FY 22-23. An extension for the grant is being requested because the mower has not been delivered.
5	Possible Implement CalFire Grant	The CalFire grant was awarded and the agreement was executed in November. The goat grazing element of the project is being implemented.
6	Seek M&S funding reimbursement FY 11-15 and 20-21	Staff coordinated with the City of Whittier for FY 11-15, and they submitted a reimbursement request to the County. Staff coordinated with the MRCA regarding FY 20-21 reimbursements and plans to focus on this in July.
7	Coordinate with Whittier and County for future of M&S funding implementation (Phase I FY 21-22, Phase II future FYs)	Complete. Staff coordinated with the City of Whittier on Phase I which allows the Authority to spend Authority and City M&S funds on City property in FY 21-22. The City is coordinated with the County on this for approval. Phase II The County updated its Grant Administrative Manual in January which prohibits the Authority from spending/transferring its M&S funds to another agency.
8	Evaluate possibility of Community Facility District	Complete. Authority consultant contract was completed. The Board took final action in April 2022 to delay the CFD, hire a financial advisor, and revisit the issue in the Fall of 2022.
9	Repair ranger residence (LHH)	The roof to the La Habra Heights residence is 95% completed; there is a backlog of availability on appropriately sized skylights. Staff is waiting to receive additional repair bids from Sourcewell for this house. (Repairs to the Sycamore residence roof was approved by the Board in May 2022.)
10	Process new mitigation opportunities as they arise.	No activity.
11	Add website donate button linked to PayPal (after opening bank account)	The IRS updated the agency name and address, and the bank account has been opened. Due to higher priority agency matters, this item has been delayed.
12	Repair Arroyo Pescadero gate	Artist contractor has been unavailable (out of the country). Once he is available this project can be revisited. Job walk was conducted with Sourcewell.
13	Application NPS' Rivers Trails Conservation Assistance program	Applied and denied. NPS agreed to unofficially provide limited staff assistance.

Jun-22

	GOAL	Resp. Party	** Priority Level (1-3)	Est. Completion Date	Update Approx. % Complete	Board Approval Date	Cost / Funding
1	Heli-hydrant project	Board,staff , Attorney	1	Ongoing	90%	direction provided sprg/smmr 2021	
2	Administer RMC Grant(s)	Staff, Rngr	1	12/30/2022	80%	5/20/2021	RMC
3	Implement CalFire Grant	Staff, Rngr	1	3/30/2025	10%	5/20/2021	CalFire
4	Implement RMC Round 2 Grant	Staff, Rngr	1	12/30/2024	0%	4/21/2022	RMC
5	Seek M&S funding reimbursement FY 11-15 and 20-21	ED, Admin Assist	1	10/30/2022	75%	7/15/2021	Operations/County
6	Seek M&S funding reimbursement FY 21-22	ED, Admin Assist	1	2/30/22	5%	6/30/2022	Operations/County
7	Conduct financial analysis of agency	ED, Board	1	11/30/2022	0%	4/8/2022	Access Fee Reserves
8	Repair Authority residence (LHH)	ED, Rgr	2	6/30/2023	50%	direction provided in spring 2021	Access Fee Reserves
9	Repair HVAC Authority residence (SYC)	ED, Rgr	2	10/30/2022	5%	5/25/2022	Access Fee Reserves
10	Process new mitigation opportunities as they arise.	ED, Ecol	3	Ongoing		7/15/2021	Mitigation funding
11	Add website donate button linked to PayPal (after opening bank account)	ED	3	12/30/2022	50%	8/27/2015	Operations
12	Repair Arroyo Pescadero gate	ED	3	TBD		7/15/2021	Emergency or Reserves
13	Revise Authority trailhead rules signs	Staff, Rngrs, CTAC, Board	3	TBD		6/30/2022	Operations/possible RMC grant
14	Hire Naturalist to coordinate volunteers	ED	3	TBD		6/30/2022	Operations

** Board to review and provide direction on priority rankings.

Habitat Authority Workplan
Long Term

Possible Long Term Items							
1. Re-evaluate need for possible community facility district.							
2. Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Director meet with County's Chief Investment Officer or representative.							
3. Agency strategy and vision re-assessment.							
4. Agency staffing/operations assessment. The assessment could focus on identifying performance or resource gaps, inclusive of staffing, and would present recommendations if any that could provide an opportunity to improve the performance of work processes, reduce long-term costs, and help to ensure a high-functioning organization that adapts to current and future challenges.							
5. Seek grant funding to update all trailhead monument signs.							
6. Update agency website.							
7. Evaluate whether to change remaining Preserve hours to set times.							
8. Develop facility (including homes) maintenance schedule and budget.							
9. Update agency Resource Management Plan.							
10. Re-assess overall acreage for mitigation.							
11. Install Turnbull Canyon fence and/or other perimeter fencing.							
12. Record easement with Matrix Oil on Harbor Blvd. property.							
13. Issue trail license to the County for parts of the Ahwingna Trail.							

Not listed in any priority ranking.

Presented to Board July 15, 2021, Updated June 30, 2022

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill
Strategic Planning Guidelines

1. Administration and General Operations

Goal A: Create effective financial and operational forecasts.

Goal B: Develop and maintain organizational capacities for operational needs.

2. Acquisition

Goal A: Add acreage to strengthen existing habitat areas.

Goal B: Ensure linkage to eastern habitat area.

Priority of Acquisitions:

High Priority

- Dark Canyon
- Linkage area at Hacienda Boulevard and restricted “Corridor” between Powder Canyon and former Unocal property

Priority

- Additional open space to strengthen existing habitat areas

Other

- Opportunity purchases

3. Preserve Management

Goal A: Provide adequate public safety and management services.

Goal B: Offer access and recreational opportunities for the public benefit, balancing with ecological sustainability.

Goal C: Facilitate various maintenance projects that benefit the Preserve.

4. Public Outreach, Education and Involvement (Interpretation)

Goal A: Provide high-quality educational and outdoor learning opportunities.

Goal B: Provide opportunities for community involvement.

5. Resource Management

Goal A: Promote and protect biodiversity as well as natural and cultural resources.

Goal B: Promote management practices that protect ecological health of the environment.

Goal C: Address various projects that have the potential to negatively affect the Preserve, and work to avoid, minimize or mitigate their impacts.


Jan 2012

Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 30, 2022

To: Board Members

From: 
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 5) Review, discussion and possible action regarding Authority annual budget for fiscal year 2022-23, budget amendment, and review of corresponding budgets.

Recommendation:

That the Board approve the attached budget for fiscal year (FY) 22-23, and a budget amendment of \$273,605.59 for ongoing contracts.

Background:

For your reference, attached is the year-to-date budget from the previous fiscal year, 2021-22. Revenues and invoices for several months are still outstanding.

Authority staff consulted with the Authority's accounting consultants from Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP in developing the year to date and proposed budgets. They have reformatted this year's budget to aid in tracking expenses more efficiently and accurately given the growing complexity with grant funded projects.

Option 1 Budget

An expense budget in the amount of \$1.21 million is proposed for ongoing operations, and an estimate of approximately \$1.13 million is anticipated for revenue. This budget scenario results in a deficit of \$79,608. The mitigation restoration project-related costs are expected to be \$559,955 which are funded by outside sources. The grant project-related costs are expected to be \$441,661.

The budget includes keeping the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) maintenance and services contract at the same dollar amount. However, MRCA personnel and insurance costs have increased, so whereas last year the contract afforded an average of approximately 77 hours a week, proposed in FY 22-23 is approximately 64 hours a week for MRCA park and ranger staff. Additionally, the MRCA reports that actual costs in recent years exceeded the contracted limit, and they cannot continue to absorb those costs. The reduction in hours would result in rangers or park staff not working the morning shifts approximately two to three days a week, except for opening gates. These levels are lower than what is preferred for providing comprehensive service.

Maintaining the same service hours as last year would increase the contract cost by \$70,000. For reference, the Authority budgeted 90 hours for fiscal year 19-20.

Operating Deficit

The Option 1 operating budget shows a short-fall of \$79,608, however, this is not a true reflection of the operating deficit of the Authority. The Authority is using grant funds such as those from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) and CalFire to cover some operating expenses. Costs partially funded by these grants, such as payroll and property management (fuel clearance), have been reflected differently with the proposed budget compared to years past by reducing those categories in the operating budget and reflecting them in the grant expenses columns. The operating deficit for the proposed fiscal year is estimated to be approximately \$591,000¹ without these two grants. Currently, mitigation restoration projects also supplement staff and ranger services; in the absence of mitigation funding (\$85,000) the deficit would be \$676,000². When this number is adjusted to eliminate extra fuel clearance activities (\$183,000) that the Authority typically does not conduct on an annual basis, and retain only typical annual clearance work (including tree removals), the deficit is approximately **\$493,000**³. These numbers are based off of the already reduced budget from FY 21-22 (i.e., Interpreter staff vacancy, no holiday dinner, reduced MRCA hours at 77 a week, no professional training, etc.), and do not include staff recommended additional personnel needs of the Authority.

Part of the deficit is a result of the amended Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District grant administration guidelines dated January 2022. As reported earlier in the calendar year to the Authority Board, the Authority is eligible to receive approximately \$300,000 annually in Maintenance and Servicing funding, however changes to the guidelines will prevent the Authority from spending this funding on property it does not own beginning in FY 22-23. Section 3.4.8 of the guidelines read, in part, as follows with the changes from January 2022 indicated in bold:

To use Maintenance and Servicing Funds, the agency requesting to use the maintenance funding must be the grantee for the grant funded project and be responsible for the long-term grant and maintenance obligations.

In situations where the agency is the landowner and assumes the long-term grant and maintenance obligations from the original grantee through an executed Assignment and Assumption Agreement (AAGA), the agency would qualify for maintenance and servicing funding.

M&S recipients must notify RPOSD when grant-funded facilities must be closed or restricted (partially or in its entirety) by an authorized agency due to health and safety risks, natural disasters, and acts of God.

¹ \$79,600 (shortfall) + \$441,600 (grant funds) + \$70,000 (reduction of MRCA services this fiscal year to 66 hours/week) = \$591,200.

² \$591,000 + \$85,000 (mitigation funding) = \$676,000

³ \$676,000 - \$183,000 (extra project grant funds) = \$493,000.

In years past, the Authority applied approximately \$200,000 of its \$300,000 Measure M&S funds for Whittier properties. For FY's 21-22 and 22-23 the City of Whittier has reinstated the practice of the Authority being reimbursed for qualifying expenses from the City's allocation of M&S funding for the hills. The average amount historically allocated from 1998 to 2015 for reimbursement to the Authority from the City via the County is \$60,000. The practice of reimbursement for Proposition A (now Measure A) M&S funding is pursuant to Agreement 97-172 between the City and Authority.

Option 2 Budget

Option 2 budget closes the budget deficit for this fiscal year by decreasing the MRCA contract by \$79,608. The reduction in the MRCA contract would mean that, except for opening gates, rangers or park staff would not work the morning shifts approximately five days a week. Public access to any trails would not be reduced for the time being. However, the Board has the option to close trails due to health and safety risks if it believed that adequate servicing levels for the public were not provided. The MRCA would be available for calls to the ranger dispatch or emergencies. All other proposed expenses remain the same as in Option 1.

Ongoing Contracts – Budget Amendment

Ongoing contracts approved from the FY 21-22 are tallied and included as an attachment. The estimated total for FY 22-23 is \$273,605.59. At the recommendation of the Authority's accounting consultant, this is presented as the first FY 22-23 budget amendment as these relate to unspent appropriations from FY 21-22.

Revenue

Regarding the Authority's investment portfolio, the Authority expects to receive \$752,500 at current investment positions. For reference, before the pandemic in FY 19-20 \$940,000 was received. The Authority has invested \$32.17 million for its SPI with an average 2.352% return rate.

The grants category of the annual budget illustrates funding from the RMC and CalFire, however funding from Los Angeles County Measure A, the City of Whittier (also Measure A) and mitigation restoration funding for Authority staff and rangers has been incorporated into the main operating budget.

Other revenues are from interest gained on agency cash holdings, historic oil revenues in La Habra Heights obtained when the properties were acquired, ranger tickets, and reimbursements.

Another potential revenue source discussed under this meeting's agenda item 3 is a potential funding allocation in the amount of \$1.25 million from California's state budget at the request of Assemblymember Calderon.

Estimated Cash Balances

A review is still ongoing of the balances, however as of June 30, 2022, the Authority will have an approximate cash balance of \$7.7 million. Within this balance are funds allocated for the FY 21-22 budget. Also, the cash balance includes funds for various mitigation restoration projects (approximately \$3.5 million) that the Authority is contractually obligated to implement, including \$1.5 million of contingency funding for the SCE, Olinda and Brea 57/Lambert mitigation projects. So far, these projects are on schedule and within budget, but the projects are not far enough along to release the contingency funding. Among these projects the SCE project is scheduled to be completed first, in FY 24-25, with a potential contingency fund release of up to \$1,000,000. Originally, this contingency funding had been discussed to be reinvested into the agency portfolio upon project completion. Creating a community facility district could enable the agency to continue with that plan while also bringing various operating issues to adequate levels and addressing fire safety issues, needed maintenance, and other related matters.

Within the unrestricted funds, it is recommended to leave a reserve for emergencies (\$1 million) and funds for the proposed fiscal year's operating budget (\$1.2 million). Also, an amount of approximately \$547,152 of undesignated funds are a result of the Mitigation Access Fees from the Monterey, Olinda, and Brea 57/Lambert projects. Note that Mitigation Access Fees are revenue to be used at the Board's discretion and not associated with direct habitat restoration project implementation tasks. The Access Fees could be used to address budget shortfalls for future fiscal years or pay for the costs associated with creating a community facility district. For example:

Mitigation Access Fees		\$739,200.00
Less FY 21/22 allocated costs:		
Gem Roofing (LHH Roof)	78,120.00	
MDJ (Syc. HVAC)	80,927.08	
Rolapp, Fieldman (financial)	18,000.00	
Land IQ (on-call bio)	15,000.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$192,047.08	\$547,152.92

After the close of the fiscal year a more accurate account of the cash balance can be determined.

Attachments:

FY 21-22 year to date budget

FY 22-23 proposed annual budget

FY 22-23 mitigation restoration project budgets, and grants project budget cash flows.

**FY 2022-23 Proposed Budget with
FY 2021-22 Projected Budget to Actuals
as of **June 15, 2022****

Fiscal Year 2021-22 Projected Actuals

		A	B	C	D = B + C	E = B/A	F = D/A
Operating Budget:	Code	FINAL AMENDED FY 21/22 BUDGET	YTD Actuals	Additional Projected through 06/30/22	Forecasted FYE 2022	YTD Actuals % of FY 2022 Budget Rev	Forecasted FYE % of FY 2022 Budget Rev
SPI earnings (endowment)	3301	\$ 752,500	\$ 648,438	\$ 104,063	\$ 752,500	86%	100%
M&S, Grants - Other	8831	475,000	10,000	373,000	383,000	2%	81%
Interest from Treasury Pool Deposits	8605	40,000	28,535	11,465	40,000	71%	100%
La Habra Heights historic oil	8363	40,000	53,796	-	53,796	134%	134%
MRCAs tickets /educational programs	9681	30,000	-	37,000	37,000	0%	123%
Reimbursement of Expense	9731	6,200	6,952	-	6,952	112%	112%
Site Mitigation	R180	-	50,600	-	50,600	#DIV/0!	0%
Donations	9686	-	550	-	550	#DIV/0!	0%
Transfer of Mitigation Personnel	2000	40,000	-	40,000	40,000	0%	100%
Transfer of Mitigation Ranger Services	2000	43,720	-	43,720	43,720	0%	100%
Total Revenue		\$ 1,427,420	\$ 798,871	\$ 609,247	\$ 1,408,118	56%	99%
Ranger Services	3580-4	\$ 452,936	\$ -	\$ 452,936	\$ 452,936	0%	100%
Payroll (Personnel - General Services)	3587	443,200	262,153	181,047	443,200	59%	100%
Property Management	3580-5	229,497	159,725	69,772	229,497	70%	100%
Other Insurance Premiums	2302	62,000	62,196	-	62,196	100%	100%
Legal Services	3717	70,000	73,936	5,000	78,936	106%	113%
Fiscal Agent Services	3672	32,000	18,443	13,557	32,000	58%	100%
Utilities (water, phones, internet, etc)	5222-4	22,000	17,535	4,465	22,000	80%	100%
Treas-Tax Collector Services	3856	16,000	10,272	5,728	16,000	64%	100%
Office Rent (Building Rentals)	4422	8,058	4,717	3,341	8,058	59%	100%
Technical	3580-6	102,000	43,151	25,849	69,000	42%	68%
Audit Fees	3529	5,517	504	5,013	5,517	9%	100%
Street bond	5992	5,410	5,324	86	5,410	98%	100%
Educational Services	3556	3,645	818	2,827	3,645	22%	100%
Office Supplies-General	3240	3,160	2,297	863	3,160	73%	100%
Printing Services	4786	2,000	305	1,695	2,000	15%	100%
Signs & Related Supplies	2780	1,600	603	997	1,600	38%	100%
Automotive Maintenance	2363	1,100	1,482	-	1,482	135%	135%
Permit & License Fees	4550	1,000	75	925	1,000	8%	100%
Auto Mileage	5092	650	-	650	650	0%	100%
Miscellaneous (GIS, Resr. Misc.)	3182	1,050	796	254	1,050	76%	100%
Postage	3202	500	344	156	500	69%	100%
Traveling Expense (local meetings)	5110	150	-	150	150	0%	100%
Publications & Legal Notices	4102	400	-	400	400	0%	100%
Auto Service	5098	350	324	26	350	93%	100%
Publications & Periodicals	3280	100	120	-	120	120%	120%
Total Expenses		\$ 1,464,323	\$ 665,121	\$ 775,736	\$ 1,440,857	45%	98%
Change In Position before Transfers		\$ (36,903)	\$ 133,750	\$ (166,489)	\$ (32,739)		

**FY 2022-23 Proposed Budget with
FY 2021-22 Projected Budget to Actuals
as of **June 15, 2022****

		FINAL AMENDED FY 21/22 BUDGET	YTD Actuals	Additional Projected through 06/30/22	Forecasted FYE 2022	YTD Actuals % of FY 2022 Budget Rev	Forecasted FYE % of FY 2022 Budget Rev
Mitigation Costs:							
Consultant Services (Mitigation) BREA POWER	3580-1	\$ 2,959.09	\$ 2,958.88	\$ 0	\$ 2,959.09	0%	100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) SCE	3580-2	406,094	267,523	138,570	406,094	0%	100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) OLINDA	3580-3	195,389	138,711	56,678	195,389	0%	100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) MONTEREY	3580-7	16,232	-	16,232	16,232	0%	100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation-Encroachment) RMX Harbor	3580-8	6,440	4,683	1,757	6,440	0%	100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) Brea 57/Lambert	3580-9	108,813	61,148	47,666	108,813	0%	100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) Turnbull Enhancement	3580-10	6,260	4,516	1,744	6,260	0%	100%
Utilities (mitigation) SCE	5222-2	-	19,174	-	19,174	0%	0%
Utilities (mitigation) OLINDA	5222-3	17,500	32,789	3,000	35,789	0%	205%
Utilities (mitigation) Brea 57/Lbt	5222-5	3,557	5,210	400	5,610	0%	158%
Total Expenses		\$ 763,244	\$ 536,713	\$ 266,047	\$ 802,761	100%	105%

		FINAL AMENDED FY 21/22 BUDGET	YTD Actuals	Additional Projected through 06/30/22	Forecasted FYE 2022	YTD Actuals % of FY 2022 Budget Rev	Forecasted FYE % of FY 2022 Budget Rev
Grants:							
RMC Grant 2022							
RMC Grant Revenue	3580-GR1	300,000			-		
RMC Grant Expenditure		-					
Payroll Costs (Overhead)	3580-GR1	(31,150)					
Fuel Reduction	3580-GR1	(160,000)	(24,250)	(135,750)	(160,000)	15%	100%
Mower	3580-GR1	(72,000)		(72,000)	(72,000)	0%	100%
Tree Removal	3580-GR1	(36,850)	(40,145)	-	(40,145)	109%	109%
Bob H Display Grant							
Bob H Display Revenue		20,000			-		
Bob H Expenditure		(20,000)		(20,000)	(20,000)	0%	100%
CalFire Grant (multi-year)							
CalFire Grant Revenue	3580-GR2	51,429					
CalFire Grant Expenditure							
Goats and Fuel Reduction	3580-GR2	(43,120)		(43,120)	(43,120)	0%	100%
Payroll Costs (Overhead)	3580-GR2	(8,309)		(8,309)	(8,309)	0%	100%
RMC Grant 2023							
RMC Grant Revenue	3580-GR3	-					
RMC Grant Expenditure							
Payroll Costs (Overhead)	3580-GR3	-					
Fuel Reduction	3580-GR3	-					
Total Revenue		\$ 371,429	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	0%
Total Expenses		\$ (371,429)	\$ (64,395)	\$ (279,179)	\$ (343,574)	124%	609%

**FY 2022-23 Proposed Budget with
FY 2021-22 Projected Budget to Actuals
as of **June 15, 2022****

	Code	A		Option 1		Option 2		
		FINAL AMENDED FY 21/22 BUDGET	Proposed FY 22/23 Budget	\$ Change compared to Final Amended FY 21/22 Budget	% Change compared to Final Amended FY 21/22 Budget	Proposed FY 22/23 Budget	\$ Change compared to Final Amended FY 21/22 Budget	% Change compared to Final Amended FY 21/22 Budget
Operating Budget:								
SPI earnings (endowment)	3301	\$ 752,500	\$ 752,500	\$ -	0%	\$ 752,500	\$ -	0%
M&S, Grants - Other	8831	475,000	160,000	(315,000)	-66%	160,000	(315,000)	-66%
Interest from Treasury Pool Deposits	8605	40,000	50,000	10,000	25%	50,000	10,000	25%
La Habra Heights historic oil	8363	40,000	50,000	10,000	25%	50,000	10,000	25%
MRCAs tickets /educational programs	9681	30,000	30,000	-	0%	30,000	-	0%
Reimbursement of Expense	9731	6,200	7,761	1,561	25%	7,761	1,561	25%
Site Mitigation	R180	-	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
Donations	9686	-	-	-	0%	-	-	0%
Transfer of Mitigation Personnel	2000	40,000	40,300	300	1%	40,300	300	1%
Transfer of Mitigation Ranger Services	2000	43,720	44,595	875	2%	44,595	875	2%
Total Revenue		\$ 1,427,420	\$ 1,135,156	\$ (292,264)	-20%	\$ 1,135,156	\$ (292,264)	-20%
Ranger Services	3580-4	\$ 452,936	\$ 452,936	\$ -	0%	\$ 373,328	\$ (79,608)	-18%
Payroll (Personnel - General Services)	3587	443,200	425,387	(17,813)	-4%	425,387	(17,813)	-4%
Property Management	3580-5	229,497	52,301	(177,196)	-77%	52,301	(177,196)	-77%
Other Insurance Premiums	2302	62,000	62,000	-	0%	62,000	-	0%
Legal Services	3717	70,000	82,000	12,000	17%	82,000	12,000	17%
Fiscal Agent Services	3672	32,000	32,000	-	0%	32,000	-	0%
Utilities (water, phones, internet, etc)	5222-4	22,000	25,000	3,000	14%	25,000	3,000	14%
Treas-Tax Collector Services	3856	16,000	16,000	-	0%	16,000	-	0%
Office Rent (Building Rentals)	4422	8,058	8,240	182	2%	8,240	182	2%
Technical	3580-6	102,000	33,000	(69,000)	-68%	33,000	(69,000)	-68%
Audit Fees	3529	5,517	5,500	(17)	0%	5,500	(17)	0%
Street bond	5992	5,410	5,500	90	2%	5,500	90	2%
Educational Services	3556	3,645	3,600	(45)	-1%	3,600	(45)	-1%
Office Supplies-General	3240	3,160	3,100	(60)	-2%	3,100	(60)	-2%
Printing Services	4786	2,000	1,000	(1,000)	-50%	1,000	(1,000)	-50%
Signs & Related Supplies	2780	1,600	2,500	900	56%	2,500	900	56%
Automotive Maintenance	2363	1,100	1,500	400	36%	1,500	400	36%
Permit & License Fees	4550	1,000	200	(800)	-80%	200	(800)	-80%
Auto Mileage	5092	650	250	(400)	-62%	250	(400)	-62%
Miscellaneous (GIS, Resr. Misc.)	3182	1,050	1,050	-	0%	1,050	-	0%
Postage	3202	500	500	-	0%	500	-	0%
Traveling Expense (local meetings)	5110	150	150	-	0%	150	-	0%
Publications & Legal Notices	4102	400	400	-	0%	400	-	0%
Auto Service	5098	350	500	150	43%	500	150	43%
Publications & Periodicals	3280	100	150	50	50%	150	50	50%
Total Expenses		\$ 1,464,323	\$ 1,214,764	\$ (249,559)	-17%	\$ 1,135,156	\$ (329,167)	-22%
Change In Position before Transfers		\$ (36,903)	\$ (79,608)	\$ (42,705)	116%	\$ (0)	\$ 36,903	-100%

**FY 2022-23 Proposed Budget with
FY 2021-22 Projected Budget to Actuals
as of **June 15, 2022****

		FINAL AMENDED FY 21/22 BUDGET	Proposed FY 22/23 Budget	\$ Change compared to Final Amended FY 21/22 Budget	% Change compared to Final Amended FY 21/22 Budget
Mitigation Costs:					
Consultant Services (Mitigation) BREA POWER	3580-1	\$ 2,959,09	\$ -	(2,959)	-100%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) SCE	3580-2	406,094	270,575	(135,519)	-33%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) OLINDA	3580-3	195,389	198,697	3,308	2%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) MONTEREY	3580-7	16,232	16,766	534	3%
Consultant Services (Mitigation-Encroachment) RMX Harbor	3580-8	6,440	2,735	(3,705)	-58%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) Brea 57/Lambert	3580-9	108,813	55,109	(53,704)	-49%
Consultant Services (Mitigation) Turnbull Enhancement	3580-10	6,260	4,020	(2,240)	-36%
Utilities (mitigation) SCE	5222-2	-	-	-	0%
Utilities (mitigation) OLINDA	5222-3	17,500	7,503	(9,997)	-57%
Utilities (mitigation) Brea 57/Lbt	5222-5	3,557	4,550	993	28%
Total Expenses		\$ 763,244	\$ 559,955	\$ (203,290)	-27%
Grants:					
RMC Grant 2022					
RMC Grant Revenue	3580-GR1	300,000	-	(300,000)	-100%
RMC Grant Expenditure		-			
Payroll Costs (Overhead)	3580-GR1	(31,150)	-	31,150	-100%
Fuel Reduction	3580-GR1	(160,000)	-	160,000	-100%
Mower	3580-GR1	(72,000)	-	72,000	-100%
Tree Removal	3580-GR1	(36,850)	-	36,850	-100%
Bob H Display Grant					
Bob H Display Revenue		20,000	-	(20,000)	-100%
Bob H Expenditure		(20,000)	-	20,000	-100%
CalFire Grant (multi-year)					
CalFire Grant Revenue	3580-GR2	51,429	291,904	240,475	468%
CalFire Grant Expenditure			-	-	0%
Goats and Fuel Reduction	3580-GR2	(43,120)	(255,174)	(212,054)	492%
Payroll Costs (Overhead)	3580-GR2	(8,309)	(36,730)	(28,421)	342%
RMC Grant 2023					
RMC Grant Revenue	3580-GR3	-	149,757	149,757	0%
RMC Grant Expenditure			-	-	0%
Payroll Costs (Overhead)	3580-GR3	-	(22,883)	(22,883)	0%
Fuel Reduction	3580-GR3	-	(126,875)	(126,875)	0%
Total Revenue		\$ 371,429	441,661	70,232	19%
Total Expenses		\$ (371,429)	(441,661)	(70,232)	19%

	Proposed FY 22-23
	Notes:
	Property Management: LHH annual Fire Fee (\$11,615), trail and trailhead maintenance/misc (10,000), emergency tree removals (5,000), LT Landscaper (\$20,000 new contract), Canlas property HOA dues (5,686).
	Technical: Website/computer support, accounting assistance, misc.
	County Pool Rate, April 2022 0.77%

FY 22/23 Budget

Previous Year (FY 21/22) Ongoing contracts

	Contract	Expended*	Remaining	
LSL (accounting)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
MDJ (Sycamore HVAC)	80,927.08	-	80,927.08	
GemRoofing (LHH Roof)	78,120.00	73,643.94	4,476.06	
Eberhard Equipment (mower)	60,658.40	-	60,658.40	**
CA Arborist (fuel mod)	82,500.00	78,375.00	4,125.00	**
Fieldman, Rolapp (financial)	18,000.00	-	18,000.00	
Land IQ (on-call bio)	15,000.00	-	15,000.00	
Sage Environmental (goats)	76,894.00	-	76,894.00	**
Nakae (annual maintenance)	20,000.00	11,474.95	8,525.05	
	\$ 442,099.48	\$ 168,493.89	\$ 273,605.59	

* Amounts remaining after close of FY 21/22, based off of best estimates

** Grant funded

SCE TRTP MITIGATION

Fiscal Year starting July 1

Contracted	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<i>* Contracted Total</i>	<i>Estimated</i>
Restoration Contractor**		\$ 736,943.72	\$ 124,849.43	\$ 750,548.33	\$ 387,899.43	\$ 427,344.40	\$ 326,299.41	\$ 195,387.24	\$ 207,400.04	\$ 3,198,437.72	\$ 3,430,840.00
Land IQ - Exec Plans & surveying	\$ 41,514.88									\$ 41,514.88	\$ 400,000.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist***	\$ 7,230.00	\$ 53,596.00	\$ 68,216.00	\$ 53,947.00	\$ 66,979.00	\$ 63,319.00	\$ 56,943.00	\$ 51,879.00	\$ 52,625.00	\$ 474,734.00	
S&S Seeds				\$ 156,855.44						\$ 156,855.44	\$ 144,377.00
Tree of Life	\$ 1,143.00	\$ 1,143.00								\$ 2,286.00	\$ 98,898.00
Irrigation Water/Utilities****/****		\$ 44,587.76	\$ 44,587.76	\$ 83,517.28	\$ 60,109.00	\$ 14,987.84				\$ 247,789.64	\$ 224,131.60
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)	\$ 56,860.00									\$ 56,860.00	\$ 152,600.00
Staff Time		\$ 12,622.07	\$ 12,622.07	\$ 12,622.07	\$ 22,781.20	\$ 22,781.20	\$ 22,851.26	\$ 23,308.29	\$ 24,628.73	\$ 154,216.88	\$ 155,000.00
Total per fiscal year	\$ 106,747.88	\$ 848,892.55	\$ 250,275.26	\$ 1,057,490.12	\$ 537,768.63	\$ 528,432.44	\$ 406,093.67	\$ 270,574.53	\$ 284,653.77	\$ 4,332,694.56	\$ 4,605,846.60

*From actual contract amounts (including any subsequent change orders or contract deviations)

\$ 555,228.30

**Assumes two years of grow-kill cycles and has 1% contingency in contracted total

***Assumes two years of grow-kill cycles

****Contracted total estimate water use multiplied by \$1.96 (La Habra Heights Water District 7/1/2016 Upper Zone Commodity Rate; \$4200 are 2x2" meters @\$171.28/mo for 12 months)

Fiscal Year starting July 1

ACTUAL Spent †	<u>2015/16</u>	<u>2016/17</u>	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<i>Spent Total †</i>	<i>REMAINING (contracted minus spent)</i>
Restoration Contractor - Nakae		\$ 704,803.77	\$ 203,831.48	\$ 713,210.40	\$ 362,909.01	\$ 398,767.21	\$ 307,230.00			\$ 2,690,751.87	\$ 507,685.85
Land IQ - Exec Plans & surveying	\$ 41,514.88									\$ 41,514.88	\$ -
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist		\$ 35,070.25	\$ 17,409.65	\$ 55,537.01	\$ 55,266.64	\$ 59,019.68	\$ 26,532.38			\$ 248,835.61	\$ 225,898.39
S&S Seeds			\$ 3,232.50	\$ 137,406.33		\$ 6,889.22				\$ 147,528.05	\$ 9,327.39
Tree of Life	\$ 1,143.00	\$ 1,348.74								\$ 2,491.74	\$ (205.74)
Irrigation Water/Utilities*		\$ 36,052.59	\$ 14,932.19	\$ 59,672.38	\$ 48,664.69	\$ 57,072.14	\$ 24,015.54			\$ 240,409.53	\$ 7,380.11
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)**	\$ 57,192.92	\$ 21,918.50	\$ (57,699.87)	\$ 130.00	\$ 2,815.03	\$ 170.00	\$ 2,368.00			\$ 26,894.58	\$ 29,965.42
Staff Time		\$ 12,622.07	\$ 12,622.07	\$ 12,622.07	\$ 22,781.20	\$ 22,781.20				\$ 83,428.60	\$ 70,788.28
Total per fiscal year	\$ 99,850.80	\$ 811,815.92	\$ 194,328.02	\$ 978,578.19	\$ 492,436.57	\$ 544,699.45	\$ 360,145.92			\$ 3,481,854.86	\$ 850,839.70
Total Remaining to Date (funds contracted minus spent to date)										\$ 850,839.70	\$ 755,228.30

Funds Anticipated to be Contracted	\$ 4,605,846.60
Anticipated Contingency	\$ 1,024,153.40
RESTORATION TOTAL	\$ 5,630,000.00
Access Fee	\$ 1,270,000.00
Funds Provided by Agreement	\$ 6,900,000.00
Total Remaining (Funds provided minus access fee and funds spent on committed contracts)	\$ 2,148,145.14

Fiscal Year starting July 1

OLINDA OCWR2 Mitigation

Contracted	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>July-Dec 2026</u>	<i>*Proposed</i>		
											<u>Contract/Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Estimated</u>
Site 1 (11.56 acres HCP)													
Restoration Contractor**		\$ 149,432.00	\$ 32,330.00	\$ 180,351.00	\$ 83,884.00	\$ 82,100.00	\$ 70,791.00	\$ 36,322.00	\$ 28,231.00			\$ 663,441	\$ 830,411
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist***		\$ 13,702.49	\$ 19,669.76	\$ 21,588.99	\$ 14,205.42	\$ 17,313.74	\$ 13,848.36	\$ 13,731.57	\$ 13,524.15	\$ 4,976.40		\$ 132,561	\$ 109,665
S&S Seeds				\$ 34,468.53								\$ 34,469	\$ 30,492
Irrigation Water/Utilities		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,060.00						\$ 50,060	\$ 50,060
Misc. (fencing, survey, etc.)												\$ 35,745	\$ 35,745
Staff/ranger Time		\$ 15,019.44	\$ 8,043.39	\$ 8,911.23	\$ 14,022.75	\$ 14,483.28	\$ 14,623.10	\$ 14,384.47	\$ 13,969.04	\$ 13,803.21		\$ 117,260	\$ 117,260
Contingency													\$ 233,563
Admin fee	\$ 5,000.00											\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Total per fiscal year	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 188,153.93	\$ 70,043.15	\$ 260,319.75	\$ 122,112.17	\$ 118,957.02	\$ 99,262.46	\$ 64,438.04	\$ 55,724.19	\$ 18,779.61		\$ 1,038,536	\$ 1,412,196
Site 2 (8.3 acres)													
Restoration Contractor**		\$ 114,825.00	\$ 25,215.00	\$ 130,175.00	\$ 62,922.00	\$ 61,864.00	\$ 53,520.00	\$ 27,950.00	\$ 22,138.00			\$ 498,609	\$ 596,229
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist***		\$ 9,922.49	\$ 14,243.62	\$ 15,633.41	\$ 10,286.69	\$ 12,537.53	\$ 10,028.13	\$ 9,943.55	\$ 9,793.35	\$ 3,603.60		\$ 95,992	\$ 78,738
S&S Seeds				\$ 24,748.16								\$ 24,748	\$ 21,893
Irrigation Water/Utilities		\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 2,443.00						\$ 35,943	\$ 35,943
Misc. (fencing, vandalism, etc.)	\$ -											\$ 24,255	\$ 24,255
Staff/ranger Time		\$ 7,193.89	\$ 5,775.10	\$ 6,398.20	\$ 10,068.24	\$ 10,398.90	\$ 10,499.28	\$ 10,327.95	\$ 10,029.67	\$ 9,910.61		\$ 80,602	\$ 80,602
Contingency													\$ 167,696
Admin fee	\$ 5,000.00											\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Total per fiscal year	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 139,441.38	\$ 52,733.72	\$ 187,954.77	\$ 90,776.93	\$ 87,243.43	\$ 74,047.41	\$ 48,221.50	\$ 41,961.02	\$ 13,514.21		\$ 765,149	\$ 1,010,357

*From proposed contract amounts and estimates

**Assumes two years of grow-kill cycles and has 1% contingency in contracted total

***Assumes two years of grow-kill cycles

YEAR TO DATE PAGE 2 OF 2

ACTUAL Spent[†]	<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>	<u>2019/20</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2025/26</u>	<u>July-Dec 2026</u>	<u>Spent Total[†]</u>	<u>REMAINING</u> <i>(contracted minus spent)</i>
Site 1 (11.56 acres HCP)												
Restoration Contractor**		\$ 132,472.24	\$ 32,209.56	\$ 168,951.32	\$ 72,246.08						\$ 405,879.20	\$ 257,561.80
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist***		\$ 15,247.27	\$ 9,960.41	\$ 19,037.76	\$ 11,036.19						\$ 55,281.63	\$ 77,279.25
S&S Seeds		\$ -	\$ 1,580.93	\$ 29,296.48							\$ 30,877.41	\$ 3,591.12
Irrigation Water/Utilities		\$ 1,805.58	\$ 5,382.60	\$ 33,915.78	\$ 14,166.51						\$ 55,270.47	\$ (5,210.47)
Misc. (fencing, survey, etc.)		\$ 20,797.50	\$ 49.30	\$ 49.30	\$ 49.30						\$ 20,945.40	\$ 14,800.07
Staff/ranger Time		\$ 15,019.44	\$ 8,043.39	\$ 8,911.23							\$ 31,974.05	\$ 85,285.85

Fiscal Year starting July 1

Brea 57 Lambert MITIGATION

Contracted	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027	* Contracted Total	Estimated
Restoration Contractor**	\$ 45,600.00	\$ 18,120.00	\$ 72,830.00	\$ 23,810.00	\$ 19,750.00	\$ 16,800.00	\$ 9,150.00	\$ 18,600.00	\$ -	\$ 224,660.00	\$ 213,150.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist***	\$ 23,015.75	\$ 18,589.04	\$ 15,428.94	\$ 11,360.63	\$ 17,352.90	\$ 14,651.34	\$ 14,344.02	\$ 14,476.12	\$ 5,993.20	\$ 135,211.94	\$ 135,212.00
Irrigation Water/Utilities****	\$ 1,857.69	\$ 2,229.23	\$ 3,557.24	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 1,895.83					\$ 14,090.00	\$ 14,100.00
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 15,000.00								\$ 19,400.00	\$ 50,000.00
Staff Time	\$ 18,718.15	\$ 15,106.15	\$ 20,554.32	\$ 19,938.16	\$ 19,955.90	\$ 20,132.06	\$ 20,421.82	\$ 19,729.49	\$ 17,447.15	\$ 172,003.19	\$ 172,003.19
Total per fiscal year	\$ 93,591.59	\$ 69,044.42	\$ 112,370.50	\$ 59,658.79	\$ 58,954.64	\$ 51,583.40	\$ 43,915.84	\$ 52,805.61	\$ 23,440.35	\$ 565,365.13	\$ 584,465.19

*From actual contract amounts (including any subsequent change orders or contract deviations)

**Assumes two years of grow-kill cycles; includes 6% contingency, S&S Seed and Tree of Life costs; contracted amount higher than estimated based on final Habitat Restoration Plan specifications

***Assumes two years of grow-kill cycles and includes 6% contingency for FY 2019/20 and 2020/21 dependent upon herbicide restrictions

****Estimated FY from water budget estimate provided by Nakae (see 'Irrigation calcs' tab)

Fiscal Year starting July 1

**ACTUAL Spent	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027	Spent Total[†]	REMAINING (contracted minus spent)
Restoration Contractor - Nakae	\$ 40,482.30	\$ 11,368.00	\$ 63,318.70							\$ 115,169.00	\$ 109,491.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist	\$ 16,328.92	\$ 6,070.50	\$ 6,227.66							\$ 28,627.08	\$ 106,584.86
Irrigation Water/Utilities*	\$ 776.39	\$ 4,162.43	\$ 5,376.43							\$ 10,315.25	\$ 3,774.75
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)**	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 14,395.00								\$ 18,795.00	\$ 605.00
Staff Time	\$ 18,718.15	\$ 15,106.15								\$ 33,824.30	\$ 138,178.89
Total per fiscal year	\$ 80,705.76	\$ 51,102.08	\$ 74,922.79							\$ 206,730.63	\$ 358,634.50
Total Remaining to Date (funds contracted minus spent to date)										\$ 358,634.50	

[†] SPENT TOTAL DOES NOT INCLUDE RETENTION TO BE BILLED FOR CURRENT FY

Funds Anticipated to be Contracted	\$ 584,465.00
Anticipated Contingency	\$ 116,893.00
RESTORATION TOTAL	\$ 701,358.00
Access Fee	\$ 42,000.00
Funds Provided by Agreement	\$ 743,358.00
Total Remaining (Funds provided minus access fee and funds spent on committed contracts)	\$ 494,627.37

Fiscal Year starting July 1

Harbor Blvd Encroachment MITIGATION

Contracted	<i>2018/19</i>	<i>2019/20</i>	<i>2020/21</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>* Contracted Total</i>	<i>Estimated</i>
Restoration Contractor**		\$ 16,998.75	\$ 6,353.75	\$ 4,978.75	\$ 1,273.75	\$ 29,605.00	\$ 29,605.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist	\$ 1,461.00	\$ 5,844.00	\$ 1,461.00	\$ 1,461.00	\$ 1,461.00	\$ 11,688.00	\$ 11,688.00
S&S Seeds***	\$ 704.50	\$ 704.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,409.00	\$ 1,409.00
Staff Time	\$ 4,641.80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,641.80	\$ 4,640.00
Total per fiscal year	\$ 6,807.30	\$ 23,547.25	\$ 7,814.75	\$ 6,439.75	\$ 2,734.75	\$ 47,343.80	\$ 47,342.00

*From actual contract amounts (including any subsequent change orders or contract deviations)

**FY 2019/20 includes monies for executing Options 3 & 4 per the proposal. Each FY includes Performance and Payment Bond (\$615 divided by the number of contracts)

***FY 2018/19 deposit on seeds (50%)

Fiscal Year starting July 1

**ACTUAL Spent	<i>2018/19</i>	<i>2019/20</i>	<i>2020/21</i>	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>Spent Total^^</i>	<i>REMAINING (contracted minus spent)</i>
Restoration Contractor - Nakae	\$ -	\$ 13,384.50	\$ 6,574.00	\$ 4,196.50		\$ 24,155.00	\$ 5,450.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist ¹	\$ -	\$ 5,725.57	\$ 1,885.25	\$ 486.50		\$ 8,097.32	\$ 3,590.68
S&S Seeds ²	\$ 763.22	\$ 770.28				\$ 1,533.50	\$ (124.50)
Staff Time	\$ 4,641.80					\$ 4,641.80	\$ -
Total per fiscal year	\$ 5,405.02	\$ 19,880.35	\$ 8,459.25	\$ 4,683.00	\$ -	\$ 38,427.62	\$ 8,916.18

Total Remaining to Date (funds provided minus spent to date)

\$ 8,916.18

^^SPENT TOTAL DOES NOT INCLUDE RETENTION TO BE BILLED FOR CURRENT FY

¹ Time for FY 18/19 was billed in FY 19/20

² Budgeted amount excluded taxes and shipping costs

Funds Anticipated to be Contracted	\$ 42,702.00
Anticipated Contingency	\$ -
RESTORATION TOTAL	\$ 42,702.00
Staff/legal services fee	\$ 4,640.00
Funds Provided by Agreement	\$ 47,342.00

TURNBULL MITIGATION

Fiscal Year starting July 1

Contracted	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2023/24</i>	<i>2024/25</i>	<i>2025/26</i>	<i>* Contracted Total</i>
Restoration Contractor*	\$ 6,260.00	\$ 4,020.00	\$ 11,823.00	\$ 11,773.25	\$ 7,302.75	\$ 41,179.00
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)	\$ -					\$ -
Total per fiscal year	\$ 6,260.00	\$ 4,020.00	\$ 11,823.00	\$ 11,773.25		\$ 41,179.00

*Two years of grow-kill cycles and two years of maintenance; 1% contingency, S&S Seed costs

Fiscal Year starting July 1

**ACTUAL Spent	<i>2021/22</i>	<i>2022/23</i>	<i>2023/24</i>	<i>2024/25</i>	<i>2025/26</i>	<i>Spent Total</i>	<i>REMAINING (contracted minus spent)</i>
Restoration Contractor - Nakae	\$ 4,516.00					\$ 4,516.00	\$ 36,663.00
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)**						\$ -	\$ -
Total per fiscal year	\$ 4,516.00	\$ -				\$ 4,516.00	\$ 36,663.00
Total Remaining to Date (funds contracted minus spent to date)						\$ 36,663.00	

Funds Anticipated to be Contracted	\$ 40,770.00
Anticipated Contingency	\$ 409.00
RESTORATION TOTAL	\$ 41,179.00
Access Fee	\$ -
Funds Provided by Agreement	\$ 41,179.00

Habitat Authority -Awarded Grant Projections

Fiscal Year starting July 1

Grant	Task #, Sub task letter	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
RMC Round 2	1A- LBCC veg haul away		\$ 24,860.00			\$ 24,860.00
	1B- Peppergrass clearance & enhancement		\$ 14,911.60	\$ 25,179.00		\$ 40,090.60
	1C- Turnbull trail clearance		\$ 26,327.00	\$ 13,213.00		\$ 39,540.00
	1D- HHT fuel clearance		\$ 17,576.00	\$ 11,524.00		\$ 29,100.00
	1E- LHH goat grazing		\$ 43,200.00	\$ 43,200.00		\$ 86,400.00
RMC*	2- Equipment	\$ 72,000.00				\$ 72,000.00
	4-Fuel Clearance	\$ 160,000.00				\$ 160,000.00
	3-Tree removal	36,850.00				\$ 36,850.00
CalFire*	Goat grazing	\$ 43,120.00	\$ 33,774.00			\$ 76,894.00
	Annual UWI fuel reduction & ranger time		\$ 171,400.00	\$ 179,800.00		\$ 351,200.00
	Tree removal		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 110,000.00
						\$ -
Total per fiscal year		\$ 311,970.00	\$ 382,048.60	\$ 312,916.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 1,026,934.60

*Amounts from "Budget Tracking RMC Grant FY 21-22" spreadsheet, "Project tracking" tab

**Amounts from "Tracking Calfire grant" spreadsheet, "CalFire Budget Detail" tab

Grant Projections

Fiscal Year starting July 1


Grant	Task	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
RMC Round 2 \$275,600	Project management		\$ 11,441.31	\$ 8,380.44		\$ 19,821.75
	Overhead/indirect costs		\$ 11,441.31	\$ 8,380.44		\$ 19,821.75
RMC* \$300,000	Project management	\$ 11,465.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 11,465.00
	Overhead/indirect costs	\$ 19,685.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 19,685.00
CalFire* \$617,862	Project management	\$ 4,054.00	\$ 9,764.00	\$ 7,908.00	\$ 1,767.00	\$ 23,493.00
	Overhead/indirect costs	\$ 4,255.00	\$ 26,966.00	\$ 22,771.00	\$ 2,177.00	\$ 56,169.00
Total per fiscal year		\$ 39,459.00	\$ 59,612.63	\$ 47,439.88	\$ 3,944.00	\$ 150,455.51
Grand Totals		\$ 351,429.00	\$ 441,661.23	\$ 360,355.88	\$ 23,944.00	\$ 1,177,390.11
Granted Amount	\$300,000, \$275,600, \$617,862					\$ 1,193,462.00

Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 30, 2022

To: Board Members

From: 
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 6) Discussion and possible action authorizing Executive Director to execute the Thirty-first Amendment of the Open Space Management Agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for maintenance and operation services extending the term an additional year from 7/1/22 to 6/30/23 in the amount of \$452,936, or for a reduced term and/or amount.

Recommendation:

That the Board authorize the Executive Director to execute the attached amendment for maintenance and operation services, or for a reduced term and/or amount.

Background:

In accordance with the Open Space Management Agreement (Agreement) between the MRCA and Authority for services since May 1996, the MRCA has adequately adhered to the Agreement standards. They have provided maintenance and staff services and have shown flexibility over the past year, and years prior, with providing the Authority basic services under changing circumstances. The proposed annual contract reduces budgeted ranger/park personnel hours per week from 77 to approximately 64. The decreased service level from last year to the current year results in rangers or park staff not working the morning shifts approximately two to three days a week, except for morning gate opening tasks. These levels are lower than what is preferred for providing comprehensive service. Maintaining the same service hours as last year would have increased the contract amount by \$70,000 due to MRCA personnel and insurance cost increases. Additionally, the MRCA reports that actual costs in recent years exceeded the contracted limit, and they cannot continue to absorb those costs. Due to Authority budgetary restrictions, the contract amount is recommended to not increase. Services delivery can be monitored and reported back to the Board on an ongoing basis. For reference, 90 hours a week were budgeted in FY 19-20, 84 hours a week were budgeted in FY 20-21, and 77 hours were budgeted in FY 21-22.

Additionally, the Jr. Ranger programs will continue to be suspended for the fiscal year 2022-23, as they were last year due to the pandemic and the limited budget. However, in FY 21-22 two MRCA ranger-led programs were provided to local schools, not the six as have historically been provided.

Decrease Services to Close Agency Deficit

Alternatively, despite the proposed contract offering reduced services, to close the budget gap this fiscal year the Authority could decrease this contract further by reducing the contract in an amount of \$79,608. The reduction in the MRCA contract would mean that except for gate opening tasks, rangers or park staff would not work the morning shifts approximately five days a week, instead of the two to three days as currently proposed. The MRCA would be available for calls to the ranger dispatch or emergencies. Alternatively, if the Board preferred to close trails during certain days of the week instead of reducing MRCA operating services this option could also be explored.

Due to the changing Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District guidelines for Measure A and Proposition A funds, language has been added to the amendment to help the Authority satisfy reimbursement requirements to access County funding for a portion of the services provided by the MRCA.

The draft amendment allows for the contract to be renegotiated after 30 days for any reason.

Potential Options for Board Action:

1. Approve the attached contract as presented in the amount of \$452,936.
2. Approve the attached contract as presented and return it to the Board in 30 to 60 days for reevaluation.
3. Decrease the contract by \$79,608 to close the Authority's budget deficit for a total contract amount of \$373,328.

Fiscal Impact:

This contract amount is the same as last year and was incorporated into the proposed agency budget.

Attachments:

Proposed MRCA Amendment and associated budget.

**THIRTY-FIRST AMENDMENT TO
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

Formerly Known as Puente Hills Landfill Native Habitat Preservation Authority Open Space
Management Agreement

This thirty-first (31st) amendment to that certain agreement entitled the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Open Space Management Agreement (AGREEMENT) is entered into on July 1, 2022 between the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, a joint powers authority established under the laws of the State of California, acting by and through its Executive Director, (hereinafter known as the PHHPA) and the Executive Officer of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, a joint powers authority (hereinafter known as the CONTRACTOR). PHHPA and CONTRACTOR agree to the following amendments:

1. That the term of the AGREEMENT is extended for one year from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
2. This AGREEMENT may be renegotiated after July 31, 2022.
3. This AGREEMENT amends #4 of the thirtieth (30th) amendment in ***italics and bold*** as follows: Invoices submitted will be in a format that meets known requirements of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) for reimbursable Measure A Maintenance and Servicing costs, provided that those requirements are known at the time services are rendered. CONTRACTOR cannot retroactively change record-keeping practices and is not responsible for ensuring that RPOSD approve any expenses. If RPOSD issues new requirements, CONTRACTOR reserves the right to reevaluate the ability to meet those requirements. CONTRACTOR will make best efforts to accommodate PHHPA in submitting documentation to satisfying RPOSD. Costs shall be separated out by Maintenance and Servicing (M&S) and non-M&S qualifying expenses on City of Whittier Proposition A properties, PHHPA Proposition A properties (***Sycamore Canyon, and Turnbull Canyon***), and Non-Proposition A properties. ***Turnbull Canyon and Sycamore Canyon costs must now be separated.*** Invoices will indicate CONTRACTOR staff time dedicated to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy grant, or other grants. ***Additionally, CONTRACTOR shall note that \$12,010 of ranger time is allocated for ranger patrol of habitat restoration sites on City of Whittier's Unocal property and not for Proposition A M&S time, and should be not be invoiced as M&S. CONTRACTOR recognizes that \$3,400 of ranger time will be funded by the CalFire grant and should be not be invoiced as M&S.***
4. That the contract amount for services for the term shall not exceed \$452,936.00 (four hundred fifty-two thousand nine hundred thirty-six dollars) in accordance with the attached budget (Exhibit A).
5. Given MRCA salary increases, the amount of Ranger/Park Staff weekly hours is estimated to be approximately 64 hours a week on average.
6. That all other terms and provisions of the AGREEMENT shall remain in full force and effect.

PUENTE HILLS
HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

By _____
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

By _____
Cara Meyer, Deputy Executive Officer

Date

Date

Description	Whittier owned - Prop A (Arroyo Pescadero/Chevron, Unocal, Hellman, etc.)				Habitat Authority - Prop A (Turnbull/Rose Hills)				Habitat Authority - Prop A (Sycamore)				Non Prop A - (Hacienda Heights, Powder, etc.)			
	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance
Payroll, Benefits, Vehicle Usage, Overhead			\$ 35,715	\$ 35,715		\$ -	\$ 17,858	\$ 17,858		\$ -	\$ 17,858	\$ 17,858		\$ -	\$ 103,424	\$ 103,424
M&S Payroll, Benefits, Vehicle Usage, Overhead (*)			\$ 83,572.74	\$ 83,573			\$ 41,786	\$ 41,786			\$ 41,786	\$ 41,786				\$ -
Non M&S Payroll, Benefits, Vehicle Usage, Overhead				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Office Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Telephone-Land			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Answering Service			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Interpretive Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Misc Operating Expenses (Gate opening)(*)			\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00		\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Food/Kitchen			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Volunteer Expenses			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Clothing/Personal Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Warning/ Protective Suppl			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
First Aid/ Rescue Suppl			\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Hand Tools/ Instruments (*)			\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00			\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00			\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Minor Equipment (*)			\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ -	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Peace Officer Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Signs & Info Fixtures (*)			\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Maintenance-Other (*)			\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Maintenance-Other Equipment (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Maintenance-Buildings (*)			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00				\$ -			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Maintenance-Grounds (*)			\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00		\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00		\$ -	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00		\$ -	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Maintenance-Roads (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Weed Control (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Vandalism Restoration (*)			\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Major Repairs-Structures (*)			\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 136.00	\$ 136.00
Major-Repairs-Other (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Sanitation/Waste Removal-Portable Toilets (*)			\$ 16,700.00	\$ 16,700.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00		\$ -	\$ 14,800.00	\$ 14,800.00
Sanitation/Waste Removal-Garbage & Landfill (*)			\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00		\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00		\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Water (*)			\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Gas & Propane (*)			\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Electric			\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00		\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Pest Control (*)			\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Totals:	\$ -		\$ 162,887.90	\$ 162,887.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 66,118.95	\$ 66,118.95	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 84,068.95	\$ 84,068.95	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 139,860.20	\$ 139,860.20

TOTAL CONTRACT

\$

452,936.00

\$ 452,936.00

Additional Materials



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

June 7, 2022

Bob Henderson
[REDACTED]

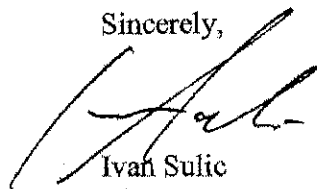
Whittier, CA 90601

Dear Bob:

Last Saturday's event was well deserved, and fittingly well-attended. The new display and trail name will not only document your leadership role in preserving the hills, but will inspire trail users that community involvement can have a great impact. It'll help promote stewardship of the hills, and that's what we need moving forward for long-term sustainability.

Again, the Board thanks you for your invaluable contributions over the many years. Enclosed are photos to remember the June 4th celebration.

Sincerely,



Ivan Sulic
Chair

*I hope it was great for you. You are truly
the King of the Hills. Thank you for all your
guidance & support!*

cc: Board of Directors
Citizens Technical Advisory Committee
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

June 6, 2022

Supervisor Janice Hahn
County of Los Angeles Fourth District
822 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

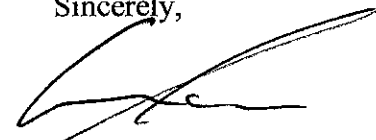
Dear Supervisor Hahn:

Thank you for your invaluable assistance in providing partial funding for the wayside display panel and trail renaming honoring the efforts of former Councilmember Bob Henderson in preserving the Puente Hills.

The trail users and community appreciate this acknowledgement of accomplishments that are so valued by many.

The Habitat Authority greatly appreciates your ongoing leadership and support of these and other important hills events.

Sincerely,



Ivan Sulic
Chair

Thank you Boss 😊

cc: Board of Directors
Citizens Technical Advisory Committee
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

June 6, 2022

Mayor Joe Vinatieri
City of Whittier
13230 Penn Street
Whittier, California 90602

Joe
Dear Mayor Vinatieri:

Thank you for speaking at the legacy event for former Councilmember Bob Henderson honoring his efforts in preserving the Puente Hills, and for contributing funds to the display and celebration event. Also, thank you for the City's staff assistance and cooperation for the event including providing two shuttles for the event.

The trail users and community will appreciate this acknowledgement of an accomplishment that is needed and valued by so many.

Thank you for your leadership and attendance at these and other ongoing important hills events.

Sincerely,

Ivan Sulic
Chair

Thank you for your support!

cc: Board of Directors
Citizens Technical Advisory Committee
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

June 6, 2022

The Honorable Grace F. Napolitano
U.S. House of Representatives, 32nd District
4401 Santa Anita Avenue, Suite 201
El Monte, California 91731

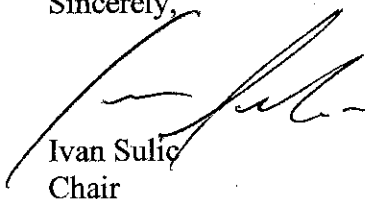
Dear Congresswoman Napolitano:

Thank you for attending and speaking at the unveiling of the wayside display panel and trail renaming honoring the efforts of former Councilmember Bob Henderson in preserving the Puente Hills.

The trail users and community appreciate this acknowledgement of accomplishments valued by so many.

We appreciate your steadfast leadership and support at these and other ongoing important hills events.

Sincerely,


Ivan Sulic
Chair

Thank you for your support!

cc: Board of Directors
Citizens Technical Advisory Committee
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

June 6, 2022

The Honorable Linda T. Sanchez
U.S. House of Representatives, 38th District
12440 E. Imperial Hwy., Ste. 140
Norwalk, California 90650

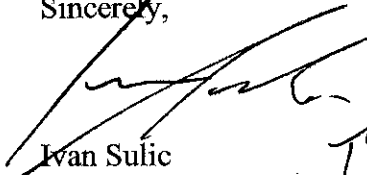
Dear Congresswoman Sanchez:

Thank you for attending and speaking at the unveiling of the wayside display panel and trail renaming honoring the efforts of former Councilmember Bob Henderson in preserving the Puente Hills.

The hills enthusiasts and community will appreciate this acknowledgement of accomplishments that so many value.

Thank you for your leadership and support at these and other ongoing important hills events.

Sincerely,


Ivan Sulic
Chair

Thank you for your support!

cc: Board of Directors
Citizens Technical Advisory Committee
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

June 14, 2022

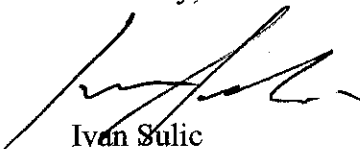
Norma E. Garcia-Gonzalez, Director
Los Angeles County Parks Department
1000 South Fremont Avenue Unit # 40
Alhambra, California 91803


Dear Ms. Garcia:

Thank you for your support of the Bob Henderson legacy event held at the Arroyo Pescadero Trailhead on June 4, 2022. The event unveiled a wayside display panel and celebrated a trail renaming in honor of the efforts of former Councilmember Bob Henderson in preserving the Puente Hills. We appreciate your department staff assistance and cooperation for the event including providing a shuttle.

The trail users and community will appreciate this acknowledgement of an accomplishment that is needed and valued by so many.

Sincerely,


Ivan Sulic
Chair

Love the County family, Thank you for
Your support!

cc: Board of Directors
Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Whittier Daily News

Whittier raises fine for fireworks to \$5,000

All fireworks, including “safe and sane” are illegal in Whittier.

By [Mike Sprague](#) | msprague@scng.com | Whittier Daily News

PUBLISHED: June 17, 2022 at 1:50 p.m. | UPDATED: June 17, 2022 at 5:18 p.m.

Shooting off illegal fireworks in Whittier — and that includes the “safe and sane” kind in this city — could become expensive if the police catch you.

The City Council on Tuesday, June 14, voted to increase the fine for use of fireworks from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

“We’re very concerned,” Mayor Joe Vinatieri said about the use of fireworks in Whittier. “People need to understand how dry it is and being in a hillside community, we’re very serious about no fireworks.”

Vinatieri said police will be out in force looking for illegal fireworks.

Whittier is located in a very high fire hazard severity zone, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire). In fiscal year 2021-22, according to the written staff report from City Manager Brian Saeki.

There have been at least five fires in the Puente Hills Preserve and adjacent open spaces, one of which destroyed multiple homes, Saeki wrote.

[Whittier last raised its fine from \\$500 to \\$1,000 in 2007](#). In 2020, there were twelve administrative citations issued and seven in 2021.

It isn’t just the use of fireworks who can get fined but also property owners, Saeki said. The city’s municipal code provides for the issuance of administrative citations to both the responsible parties and the property owner.

Councilman Fernando Dutra said he has heard from the community about fireworks.

“I can’t tell you how many complaints I’ve received, especially if you have a dog and I have a dog too,” Dutra said.

Goats may help prevent wildfires in California as drought worsens

The voracious herbivores are being deployed to clear invasive plants throughout wildlands as another catastrophic fire season looms.



Goats leased by Sage Environmental Group munch on vegetation in Glendale, California, in July 2021.

Photograph by ROBYN BECK/AFP via Getty Images

ByChris Iovenko

Published June 8, 2022

• 10 min read

Whittier, California -- From a sunbaked peak in the [Puente Hills Preserve](#), the panorama stretches from the skyscrapers of downtown Los Angeles to the edge of the fog-blanketed Pacific Ocean. In between, rolling green and brown hills are dappled yellow with blooming [black mustard](#), an [invasive plant](#) that poses a mounting threat in California.

Native to Eurasia, the black mustard plant outcompetes native vegetation because it grows profusely and its roots generate [biochemicals that stop the seeds of other plants from germinating](#). Its growing season makes it a particular menace: It thrives in the spring and can grow to eight feet high, only to die and turn to dangerous tinder by early summer.

The buildup of dead vegetation in parkland and wilderness areas, along with the effects of climate change, has accelerated the trend of devastating [wildfires](#) in California. In 2021, the state lost more than two million acres of wilderness to wildfire, and megablazes fires that burn more than 100,000 acres are becoming increasingly common. Another dry winter and the [continuation of the worst drought in at least 1,200 years](#) means [the 2022 fire season could be a catastrophic one](#), meteorologists say.

Prior to fire seasons in the past, land managers traditionally relied on herbicide and human labor to thin plants and brush to reduce fuel load, the amount of flammable material that can burn in a fire. But access to mountain terrain in southern California can be challenging, and such traditional clearing practices can leave behind seeds that germinate the next year. ([Read how the western U.S. drought could last until 2030.](#))

That's why more people in California are turning to a four-legged solution: Goats. Deploying goats to clear land of vegetation is an age-old practice, but as wildfires worsen worldwide, places as diverse as Greece, Australia, and other parts of the U.S., such as Arizona and Colorado are embracing the herbivores as important tools for wildfire prevention.

For the past six years, Alissa Cope’s California company has contracted out goat herds to various clients who need the animals to chow down on unwanted vegetation and invasive plants.

“When we got started it was for habitat restoration, and I just got tired of dumping gallons of herbicide on everything,” says Cope, owner of the [Sage Environmental Group](#), a company that specializes in environmental planning with a natural resource focus.

“When goats eat the seed, it goes through their digestive tract, and it becomes nonviable. It doesn't grow after it comes out the other end, which is really amazing.”

On a clear spring morning in Puente Hills Preserve, a 3,800-acre park situated in the lower [Transverse Ranges](#), a hundred goats of varying colors and sizes are milling about in a large pen. When the gate opens, the animals trot out and immediately devour the surrounding weeds and black mustard, which Spain’s Franciscan missionaries may have brought with them in the 1700s.

Recently, the preserve earned a grant from the state’s [Department of Forestry and Fire Protection](#), known as CAL FIRE, to use goats to reduce fuel load and invasive plants. The pilot program is to investigate whether the herbivores can lower the risk of wildfire in the preserve.

Trevor Moore, a pre-fire engineer who helps arrange and coordinate the CAL FIRE grants in Los Angeles County, hopes that this program will work as a successful model for future initiatives.

“We would love to have a successful fuels reduction program that is environmentally low impact, so I can show it to other communities as a good example to follow,” says Moore. “It could really help us protect life, property, and the environment.”

Goats at work

[One of the oldest domesticated animals](#), goats are adventurous and curious eaters with iron-clad stomachs. They can eat plants toxic to other kinds of livestock. They also are hardy and can climb steep hillsides and terrain inaccessible to other animals. ([Read how goats can perceive each other’s emotions.](#))

The roughly 300 goats Cope owns are deployed at various Los Angeles and Orange County sites, mostly in the springtime, to limit the growth and spread of invasive plants prior to fire season. Her company requires a 10-acre minimum and doesn’t work on residential property.

From the company’s south-central Los Angeles operations center where they’re housed, the goats are transported to a work site, usually for about a month. Before their arrival, the site is enclosed by a temporary electric fence that’s periodically repositioned so that the goats gradually cover and treat a very wide area.

There are about a dozen companies that supply grazing goats in Southern California. Typically, a hundred goats can graze an acre a day; the companies’ commercial rates generally range from \$800 to \$1,500 per acre. The [city of Yorba Linda commissioned Sage for a similar pilot project](#) at a cost of about \$13,000.

Many companies also follow the traditional practice of hiring a person—called a goatherd—to live nomadically with the goats.

To watch over the working goats and protect them from predators, such as coyotes and mountain lions, Cope trains both [Great Pyrenees](#) and [Komondores](#), two dog breeds that have been used for livestock management for hundreds of years.

The goats at Puente Hills graze under the protective gaze of two Komondores, sometimes known as mop dogs because of their long white dreadlocks. Anyone who gets too close to the electric fence is met by a barking 120-pound canine, making it easy to see why even mountain lions steer clear of the herd.

Once finished, the goats are transported back to the operations center, where their hooves and coats are cleaned to ensure that remnant seeds from invasive plants aren't accidentally transported to the next site.

Protecting native plants

Many native plants grow slowly, are adapted to live in specific environmental conditions, and are vulnerable to extremes, such as prolonged droughts. But invasive plants often thrive in dry conditions and reproduce quickly—so climate change is exacerbating their spread, says Jutta C. Burger, science program director for the [California Invasive Plant Council](#), a nonprofit that seeks to protect California's environment and economy from invasive plants.

“They outcompete other plant types and can create monocultures,” Burger says. “It can become a self-perpetuating cycle.”

Burger agrees that goats can effectively clear areas overgrown with invasive plants and potentially give native species a chance to flourish. But she cautions goats must be carefully monitored and controlled, too. ([Read how invasive grasses are overwhelming U.S. deserts.](#))

“Goats are like an indiscriminate brush cutter; they will chew on any vegetation that they like,” says Burger. “So, if you have a habitat that you'd like to keep, you are going to need to defend that or be hyper-vigilant about how long you keep the goats on that site.”

Do goats actually help?

Studies looking at whether goats' grazing can reduce the severity or impact of wildfires are scarce, particularly in California. But some research suggests they're beneficial.

In Arizona, some scientists have observed that land cleared of excess vegetation by goats [acts as fire breaks and can stop wildfires in their tracks](#).

A recent study in the journal *Forest Ecology and Management* found that in Australia, [goats are especially effective at reducing so-called fine fuel loads](#)—flammable vegetation that's smaller than a quarter of an inch, such as pine needles or grass. These fine fuels are the most likely to form a continuous bed of fire, so controlling and containing them is crucial to limiting the spread of wildfires.

And in Greece, which has a Mediterranean climate like that of California, grazing of both [goats and sheep seems to maintain a less fire-prone environment](#).

“Grazing is the most widespread vegetation management we have in California,” says [Lynn Huntsinger](#), professor of rangeland ecology and management at the University of California, Berkeley.

“We really need to think about how to use it better and more strategically. We have this tool and we would be crazy not to use it as much as we can.”

Anecdotally, Cope has observed her goats have positive, long-lasting effects on the areas they graze.

“We found it after two years of grazing, we change the ecology” of a site, she says. “It goes from being really crazy, out-of-control noxious weeds to being low-growing grasses.”

A more diverse approach

However, some land managers contend that goats are not that useful in reducing fuel load and that applying them on a wider scale is impractical and expensive.

“In terms of managing fuel loads, mowing is probably just as effective as grazing except on steep or rocky terrain,” says Robert Freese, program manager for the Irvine, California-based nonprofit [Irvine Ranch Conservatory](#), in an email. “Mowing is also less expensive than grazing except when conducted on a very large scale.”

That’s in part why Freese and others believe the best approach to reducing fuel load is multi-faceted: Mixing goat grazing, manual brush clearance, proscribed burns, and herbicides. ([See what it’s like to be inside a California wildfire.](#))

Back at Puente Hills, the goats have worked their way down a precipitous hillside and are now in a swale, happily munching away at a dense thicket of mustard flower. High above, a distant redtail hawk drifts on the warm breeze, black against pale blue sky.

Walking back to the truck, Cope points to a thin plume of smoke rising from the foothills miles away.

“Maybe it’s a structure fire,” I say, almost hopefully.

“No,” says Cope. “That would be black smoke. That’s white. A wildfire.”

It’s a grim reminder that California’s fire season, which starts earlier and grows fiercer every year, is already upon us.

It finally happened: A Whittier hills trail was named after the man who protected them

Former Whittier Councilman Bob Henderson was called "the king of the Whittier hills," but it took a while to persuade him to accept the honor.



A loop trail on the Arroyo Pescadero Trailhead is named after former Whittier Councilman, Bob Henderson, right, during a ceremony in Whittier on Saturday June 4, 2022. (Photo by Keith Durflinger, Contributing Photographer)

By [Mike Sprague](#) | msprague@scng.com | Whittier Daily News

PUBLISHED: June 4, 2022 at 3:59 p.m. | UPDATED: June 5, 2022 at 2:32 p.m.

Former Whittier Councilman Bob Henderson, who was called “the king of the Whittier hills,” finally was honored [for his decades of work to preserve them from development](#).

It was Ivan Sulic, aide to Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and chairman of the Puente Hills Preservation Habitat Authority who gave the label to Henderson on Saturday, June 4 at the ceremony to name the Arroyo Pescadero loop trail, 7531 S. Colima Road, Whittier, after Henderson. There also is a Bob Henderson overlook.

More than 150 took part in a ceremony for Henderson, who only last year reluctantly agreed to the honor.

“He is the man with the vision,” Whittier Mayor Joe Vinatieri said of Henderson.

“Without Bob this would not be here,” Vinatieri said, referring to the undeveloped hills. “

“Bob is the guy who prevented two hillside housing developments that were going to take place right here and the hillside preservation ordinance back in 1981,” he said. “He’s the one who made the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.”

Henderson did all this during his 36 years and nine terms on the Whittier City Council.

Proposals to name something after Henderson began coming forth after May 2021 when he resigned from the Puente Hills Habitat Authority board, which he had served as chairman from 1994-2019 of the joint-powers agency that manages 3,870 acres.

[But Henderson initially said he didn’t like the idea.](#)

“There are so many other people that I think it is kind of ludicrous to point out one person,” Henderson said in a September interview.

“It’s never one person who did it,” he said. “It took so many people to save the hills. At different times, it was different people.”

But his friends began pressuring to accept the honor [and he agreed.](#)

His turnabout came when Michael Hughes, who succeeded Henderson as chairman — and who still represents Hacienda Heights on the board — talked to Henderson, the honoree said.

“He looked at me and said ‘oh come on Bob. Look, we know a lot of people got on the train but you drove the train,’” Henderson said.

“Well with that, ‘I said it’s time for you to shut up, Bob,’” Henderson said. “As long as you’re willing to acknowledge there was a train of people, I’ve got to say on their behalf I’d be very pleased to do this.”

Hahn, whose office contributed \$10,000 for the monument to Henderson that was unveiled Saturday, praised the hills’ protector.

“The turnout is a testament this morning for everyone’s love of open space and everyone’s love of Bob Henderson,” she said.

“These hills are a reminder as they are remarkably untouched,” Hahn said. “We have so few places that have been spared human development where we allow nature to be nature and we can go and experience it. This is one of those places.”

It didn’t just happen for the hills to be spared but it was thanks to the decades of hard work by Henderson, Hahn said.

Henderson negotiated 40 land purchases, including 3,600 acres of land, she said. The Chevron purchase in 1995 includes the newly named Bob Henderson trail, she added.

Reps. Grace Napolitano, D-El Monte and Linda Sanchez, D-Norwalk both praised Henderson in their speeches.

Napolitano remembered working with Henderson to persuade Chevron to sell its property for a reasonable price.

“He really did it because it’s good for the community and the area,” Napolitano said. “I want to personally thank you, Bob. You were a good friend and still are a good friend.”

Sanchez also praised Henderson.

“We are here to honor the legacy of Bob Henderson,” she said. “I know he gets embarrassed by the acknowledgement but it’s really well deserved.”

More photos from the article online:





PRESERVATION OF THE HILLS: A TRIBUTE TO BOB HENDERSON

In nearly four decades, former Whittier City Council Member Bob Henderson's leadership greatly contributed to winning millions of dollars for regional land acquisition, preservation, and protection of the 1,600-acre Puente Hills Preserve which is the western portion of the Puente-Chico Hills Wildlife Corridor benefiting wildlife and human populations for generations.

LEGACY

Bob Henderson generously served 16 years on Whittier City Council and 27 years on the Board of Directors for the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, the government agency that manages the Puente Hills Preserve. The Preserve includes this trailhead and others in the region, and its protection as a public natural area is a legacy of Bob's conscientious work.

The Puente Hills Preserve is a fully functioning ecosystem and is identified as a Biodiversity hot spot in North America which makes it regionally and globally significant. It supports over 160 species of wildlife including amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, many of which are increasingly rare and threatened in Southern California, such as the coastal California gnatcatcher, the California coastal cactus wren and mountain lion. The Preserve protects what remains of native grasslands, coastal sage scrub, riparian scrub, and oak woodland habitats and their associated wildlife communities.

COMMUNITY MOMENTUM

With community support, Bob's accomplishments include registering the purchase of over 3,000 acres for preservation. His interest in preservation led him to establish three local government joint powers authorities in the 1990s that are largely responsible for preserving the Puente-Chico Hills Wildlife Corridor - the Whittier Hills Conservation Authority, the Wildlife Corridor Conservation Authority, and the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority. Funding for the latter was secured via an innovative idea that Bob championed, which was collection of a \$1 fee per ton of trash that went into the Puente Hills Landfill resulting in \$44 million for preservation. During his impressive tenure, Bob also prevented two harmful housing developments and entered the City's Habitat Preservation Challenge in 1981, as well as spearheaded the development of Los Angeles County's first wildlife underpass at Harbor Boulevard in 2004.

While Bob led the charge, efforts to preserve the hills were successful because the surrounding communities overwhelmingly wanted them protected. Many local entities contributed to the efforts, including the cities of Whittier, Brea, La Habra Heights, Diamond Bar, Los Angeles County, nonprofit organizations such as Hacienda Heights Improvement Association, Friends of the Whittier Hills, Hills For Everyone, many community leaders, local and state elected representatives, and other government partners, such as the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, California State Parks, San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

esconocer catalán
QR para español

BOB HANN





National Park police union warns visitors to stay away from some of SF's tourist destinations

By [Christien Kafton](#)

Published May 25, 2022 6:59PM

[San Francisco](#)

[KTVU FOX 2](#)

SAN FRANCISCO - With the Memorial Day weekend less than a week away, the union representing U.S. Park Police officers is telling people to stay away from some of San Francisco's biggest tourist draws.

Leaders of the Fraternal Order of Police United States Park Police Labor Committee say they don't have enough staff to adequately protect the city's beaches and even the area around the Golden Gate Bridge.

Memorial Day marks the unofficial beginning of the summer travel season and as tourism ramps up tens of thousands of visitors are expected to make their way through the areas around the Golden Gate Bridge, the Presidio, and San Francisco's beaches.

The union representing the officers who patrol those areas is warning visitors their department in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area is dangerously understaffed.

"It's our mission to make sure the public is safe, and part of that is to let them know what they are risking when they come to visit the San Francisco parks," said Ken Spencer, chairman of the union.

Spencer says staffing is critically low, just 32 officers when they should have 83 officers assigned to the Presidio area.

He says what that means is at any given time, there are just three officers patrolling an area roughly from west of Fisherman's Wharf along the coast including Baker and China Beaches, and then south along Ocean Beach.

Spencer says the latest data from the last fiscal year shows that visitors are vulnerable to property crimes, including auto burglaries and more serious crimes.

"We've had 13 sexual assaults," said Spencer. "One hundred calls for disorderly conduct, 114 fires, and then, of course, the burglaries and larcenies to motor vehicles, we've had 193 of those."

Park visitors say they did not know that police were stretched that thin.

"That does bring a big concern to me, but like, I feel that a lot of places are not monitored by police," said Ari Echeverria.

"Just living in the city you're just used to is. Anywhere you go in this city you have got to be careful, take your stuff out of your car," said Eoghan Daly.

Union leaders say the core issue is hiring and retention of park police officers, they say their officers start at close to \$68,000 per year.

The union says neighboring San Francisco police start at more than \$92,000 per year.

A raise for park police officers would have to be approved by Congress and the union says it is lobbying lawmakers to increase pay for those officers.

"We've asked our command staff, the National Park Service, Department of Interior for help," said Spencer. "They will not give us any answers on what they are doing to fix this problem. Our last ditch effort here to let the public know this is what we're dealing with."

For its part, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area said the safety of staff and visitors is the top priority and disagrees with the assertions of the park police union.