

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

The meeting of the Board of Directors, July 18, 2024 at 3 p.m. will take place in-person and also available for remote access. Members of the public can observe and participate in the meeting as follows:

In-person: **Joint Administration Office of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier California 90601**

Location: Room information to be provided at 1955 Workman Mill Road on the day of the meeting.

And remotely for members of the public via Zoom by joining at this address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3397206095>

Zoom ID **339 720 6095**

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Members of the public may provide electronic comments by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 before the meeting to info@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, either in person or via Zoom.

Agency	Director	Alternate
County of Los Angeles	SULIC, Chair	YOKOMIZO
City of Whittier	PACHECO	MARTINEZ
Hacienda Heights Improvement Association	YIP	MONARES
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County	FERRANTE, Vice Chair	REVILLA

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.

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 Marlyn Barajas at 562.945.9003 at least 48 hours prior to meeting.

Pursuant to Section 54954 of the Government Code the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority), a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Authority will be held at the call of the Chair of the Authority at the above time and place for the purpose of:

1. Receipt of Public Comments. Members of the public may address the Board of Directors on any topic within the jurisdiction of the Habitat Authority, or any item shown on the agenda.
2. Report by Authority's Citizens Technical Advisory Committee.
3. Consent Calendar:
 - a. Approval of Authority Meeting Minutes of June 12, 2024.
 - b. Receive and file Authority's Portfolio Earnings Reports and Custom by Instrument Type for May and June 2024 prepared by the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector.
 - c. Receive and file Authority annual financial audit, Management Report and Auditor's Communication Letter for fiscal year 2022-23, prepared by Moss, Levy and Hartzheim, LLP, contracted by Los Angeles County Department of Auditor-Controller.
4. Update, receive and file fiscal year 2023-24 Authority workplan and activities, and possible action regarding Authority workplan for fiscal year 2024-25.
5. Public Hearing: a) Public hearing, formation of Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) to Fund Certain Public Services and Related Actions; b) Adoption of Resolution 2024-07 entitled Resolution to Form a Community Facilities District and to Levy Special Taxes Therein; c) Adoption of Resolution 2024-08 entitled, Resolution Calling a Special Tax Election and Submitting to the Qualified Electors the Question of Levying a Special Tax and; d) Adoption of Resolution 2024-09 entitled Resolution Requesting Consolidation of Authority Election with Statewide General Election.
6. Discussion and possible action approving Authority Resolution 2024-10 entitled Establishing the Salary, Benefits and Management for Employees.
7. Discussion and possible action regarding Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Caltrans' I-605 Corridor Improvement Project.
8. Pending litigation – Initiation of litigation. Based on existing facts and circumstances, the Authority Board has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation in one case. (This item can be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4).)
9. Pending litigation – Exposure to litigation. A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the Authority 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 existing facts and circumstances consist in a claim by Silva-Katz that a fallen tree of the Authority damaged their plants. Communications between Silva-Katz and the Authority can be reviewed upon request.
10. Real property negotiations -- 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.)

11. Real property negotiations -- 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.)
12. Board Members' statements, responses, questions or directions to staff, and Executive Director's comments.
13. Adjournment and announcement of next meeting.

Draft Minutes of Special Meeting – June 12, 2024
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

This meeting was held at the Joint Administration Office of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County: 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601

And remotely for members of the public via Zoom at this address:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3397206095>, Zoom ID 339 720 6094

At 3:06 p.m., the meeting was called to order and a roll call was taken.

From Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County:

Present: Robert Ferrante, Vice Chair

From County of Los Angeles

Present: Ivan Sulic, Chair

From City of Whittier:

Present: Councilmember Mary Ann Pacheco, Director

From Hacienda Heights Improvement Association:

Absent: Andrew Yip, Director

Authority representatives present:

Andrea Gullo, Authority Executive Director
Michelle Mariscal, Authority Ecologist
Marlyn Barajas, Authority Board Secretary
Elena Gerli, Esq., Aleshire & Wynder LLP, Authority Counsel
Cathy Houwen, CTAC's Board Liaison

Chair Sulic recommended a closed session item to be added to the agenda, because based on existing facts and circumstances that came to the Chair's attention following the deadline for posting the agenda, the Authority should consider whether to initiate litigation in one matter, pursuant to Gov't Code § 54956.4(d)(4). Authority Counsel Gerli explained that pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54954.2 a Closed Session item may be added to the agenda if 2/3 of the Board members vote on it.

Chair Sulic motioned to approve adding a Closed Session item to the agenda, under Gov't Code § 54956.9(d)(4). Vice Chair Ferrante seconded the motion and in a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously, adding one item to the closed session agenda.

1. OATH OF OFFICE AND WELCOME FOR NEW MEMBER MARY ANN PACHECO REPRESENTING THE CITY OF WHITTIER.

Before the meeting began Chair Sulic administered the Oath of Office to Director Pacheco. She was welcomed as a new Board Member.

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2. RECEIPT OF PUBLIC COMMENTS. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ADDRESS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON ANY TOPIC WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE HABITAT AUTHORITY, OR ANY ITEM SHOWN ON THE AGENDA.

Dr. Janis Cavanaugh welcomed Director Pacheco to the Authority Board.

Steve Huber, Vice President of the Whittier Area Audubon, welcomed Director Pacheco and gave a brief recap on who the Whittier Area Audubon is. He also announced that the Whittier Area Audubon will take a break in July and August due to the warm weather. The monthly bird walks will resume in September. Lastly, he thanked the Authority for sharing Sycamore Canyon.

Public Comments closed at 3:10 p.m.

3. REPORT BY AUTHORITY’S CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Liaison to the Board Cathy Houwen provided a report for the June 2024 CTAC meeting. Chair Sulic received and filed the report.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- A. Approval of Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of April 18, 2024.
- B. Receive and file Receipts and Disbursements for the Authority for the quarter ending March 31, 2024, as submitted by the Los Angeles County Department of Auditor-Controller.
- C. Receive and file Authority’s Portfolio Earnings Reports and Custom by Instrument Type for April 2024 prepared by the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector.
- D. Receive and file March and April 2024 Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) Ranger Report.

Vice Chair Ferrante motioned to approve items A through D. Director Pacheco seconded the motion, and in a vote the motion passed unanimously.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03 APPROVING LOCAL GOALS AND POLICIES FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS; B) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04 DECLARING INTENTION TO ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT, COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-01 (PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION); AND C) SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR JULY 18, 2024, AT 3:00 P.M.

Executive Director Gullo provided background on the matter and introduced consultants Blair Aas from SCI Consultant Group and Joy Kummer from TeamCivX LLC. Blair Aas gave an overview presentation and proposed proceedings for the coming months regarding the Community Facilities District formation. After the presentation, the Board took the opportunity to ask questions and discuss.

Draft Minutes of Special Meeting – June 12, 2024
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Chair Sulic and Vice Chair Ferrante commented on all the work that was done to reach the decision to implement a CFD to protect the longevity and sustainability of the Authority.

Director Pacheco commented that she is glad to be a part of the Authority and believes that the CFD needs to be put to a vote for the public to decide.

Vice Chair Ferrante motioned to approve a) Adoption of a Resolution No. 2024-03 Approving Local Goals and Policies for Community Facilities Districts; b) Adoption of a Resolution No. 2024-04 Declaring Intention to Establish a Community Facilities District, Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection); and c) Schedule a Public Hearing for July 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. Director Pacheco seconded the motion, and in a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05 DECLARING JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH.

Chair Sulic spoke of acknowledging the LGBTQIA+ community for its contributions and history.

Vice Chair Ferrante commented that the LA County Sanitation Districts follows the county's lead in recognizing June as Pride Month, but this year, there is construction outside of their building, which is why they did not fly the Pride flag but have in previous years.

Director Pacheco commented that she believes that all forms of discrimination are wrong and that anything that embraces diversity is right.

Vice Chair Ferrante motioned to approve Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-05 Declaring June as Pride Month. Director Pacheco seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motioned passed unanimously.

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06 DECLARING JULY AS PARKS MONTH.

Chair Sulic commented that the Habitat Authority is a big supporter of open space for its benefit to the communities.

Vice Chair Ferrante motioned to approve Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-06 Declaring July as Parks Month. Director Pacheco seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motioned passed unanimously.

Draft Minutes of Special Meeting – June 12, 2024
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH TEAMCIVX LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,108.40 TO FUND THE FULL TERM OF THE EXISTING CONTRACT.

Executive Director Gullo provided background.

Chair Sulic and Vice Chair Ferrante expressed their support for continuing to work with TeamCivX and commented on the great work that TeamCivX has done for the Authority so far.

Vice Chair Ferrante motioned to authorize Executive Director Gullo to enter into a contract amendment with TeamCivX LLC in the amount of \$16,108.40 to fund the full term of the existing contract. Director Pacheco seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motioned passed unanimously.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE THIRTY-FOURTH 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 7/1/24 TO 6/30/25 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ \$494,000

Executive Director Gullo explained how the Habitat Authority has been extending this contract for nearly 30 years.

There was a small recess at 3:47 p.m. The meeting recommenced at 3:48 p.m.

Director Pacheco motioned to authorize Executive Director to execute the Thirty-fourth 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 7/1/24 to 6/30/25 in the amount of \$494,022. Vice Chair Ferrante seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motioned passed unanimously.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRAT WITH BELLFREE CONTRACTORS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$60,513 FOR TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND REIMBURSABLE THROUGH LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEASURE A MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING FUNDS.

Ecologist Mariscal provided this report and explained that Bellfree has done work for the Habitat Authority in the past. The contract is for work in Turnbull Canyon and Arroyo San Miguel.

Draft Minutes of Special Meeting – June 12, 2024
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Vice Chair Ferrante motioned to approve authorizing Executive Director to execute a contract with Bellfree Contractors in the amount of \$60,513 for trail maintenance reimbursable through Los Angeles County Measure A Maintenance and Servicing funds. Director Pacheco seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

11. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING AUTHORITY ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25, AND REVIEW OF CORRESPONDING BUDGETS.

Executive Director Gullo provided this report.

Vice Chair Ferrante commented that the budget is a good interim budget for now.

Director Pacheco commented that the budget is the primary policy document, and she is comfortable with the budget presented.

Director Pacheco motioned to approve the Authority annual budget for fiscal year 2024-25. Vice Chair Ferrante seconded the motion, and in a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Closed session items:

12. PENDING LITIGATION – INITIATION OF LITIGATION. BASED ON EXISTING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES, THE AUTHORITY BOARD HAS DECIDED TO INITIATE OR IS DECIDING WHETHER TO INITIATE LITIGATION IN TWO CASES. (THIS ITEM CAN BE HEARD IN CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(D)(4).) [This item was amended to state three cases rather than two, based on the item added by the Board at the top of the meeting.]

13. REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS -- 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.)

14. REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS -- 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

Draft Minutes of Special Meeting – June 12, 2024
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

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.)

At 4:05 p.m. Chair Sulic moved to continue the discussion of items 12 through 14 in Closed Session.

At approximately 5:13 p.m., Chair Sulic moved to end the Closed Session, and the Open Session recommenced. Items 12 through 14 were discussed and no reportable action was taken. However, regarding one of the cases under Item No. 12, the Board directed the Authority's counsel to provide this report: The Authority is investigating the activities occurring at the event center located at 14150 Summit, in the City of Whittier. The Board understands the event center may not have been built with permits and may not be a use consistent with the property's zoning, and is operating in a manner that is likely a public nuisance. The Authority will reach out to the County and the City of Whittier to lend what support it can to address the issues.

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

Director Pacheco commented she is happy to be part of the Habitat Authority's Board.

16. ADJOURNMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING.

There being no further comments, or business to be discussed, Chair Sulic adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Approved:

Ivan Sulic, Board Chair

Marlyn Barajas, Board Secretary



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 437
Los Angeles, California 90012
Telephone: (213) 974-3385 Fax: (213) 626-1812
ttc.lacounty.gov and propertytax.lacounty.gov

ELIZABETH BUENROSTRO GINSBERG
TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR

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

June 6, 2024

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

Email: agullo@habitatauthority.org

Dear Andrea Gullo:

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORTS**

Enclosed are the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Portfolio Income Report (Earnings Report), Custom Position Report, Purchase Detail Report, and Chronological Report for the month ended May 31, 2024, 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,

ELIZABETH BUENROSTRO GINSBERG
Treasurer and Tax Collector

Jennifer Koai
Operations Chief

JK:ML:bh

Enclosures

c: Marlyn Barajas

Income Report - PHHPA

05/01/2024 - 05/31/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 06/05/2024

SPI

Original Lot ID	Detailed Description	CUSIP	Coupon Rate	PAR Value	Interest/Dividend Received	Accretion Income	Amortization Expense	Interest Income	Net Gain/Loss	Net Income
821801196	FREDDIE MAC 2.000 08/27/43 '24 MTN	3134GWSD9	2.000	9,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,833.33	0.00	15,833.33
821801198	FEDERAL FARM 2.500 07/29/41 '24	3133EMW65	2.500	22,675,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,239.58	0.00	47,239.58
1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	912797LC9	0.000	4,100,000.00	0.00	13,463.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,463.94
---	---	---	1.985	36,275,000.00	0.00	13,463.94	0.00	63,072.91	0.00	76,536.85

* Grouped by: Aggregate Accounts. * Groups Sorted by: Aggregate Accounts. * Filtered By: LA Fund Number = "PHHPA". * Weighted by: Ending Market Value + Accrued. * Holdings Displayed by: Lots without MMF Collapse.

Custom Position Report - PHHPA

As of 05/31/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 06/05/2024

SPI

Original Lot ID	Detailed Description	CUSIP	Coupon Rate	Final Maturity	Purchase Yield	PAR Value	Amortized Cost	Historical Cost	Net Accumulated Amortization/Accretion
821801198	FEDERAL FARM 2.500 07/29/41 '24	3133EMW65	2.500	07/29/2041	2.500	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	0.00
821801196	FREDDIE MAC 2.000 08/27/43 '24 MTN	3134GWSD9	2.000	08/27/2043	2.000	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	0.00
1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	912797LC9	0.000	11/07/2024	5.350	4,100,000.00	4,006,923.16	3,993,459.22	13,463.94
---	---	---	2.086	03/24/2040	2.691	36,275,000.00	36,181,923.16	36,168,459.22	13,463.94

* Grouped by: Aggregate Accounts. * Groups Sorted by: Aggregate Accounts. * Filtered By: LA Fund Number = "PHHPA". * Weighted by: PAR Value. * Holdings Displayed by: Lots without MMF Collapse.

Purchase Detail Report - PHHPA

05/01/2024 - 05/31/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 06/05/2024

SPI

LA Fund Number	Original Lot ID	Description	Settle Date	Final Maturity	Coupon Rate	PAR Value	Principal	Purchased Accrued Income	Settlement Amount
PHHPA	1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	05/09/2024	11/07/2024	0.000	4,100,000.00	3,993,459.22	0.00	3,993,459.22
PHHPA	1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	05/09/2024	11/07/2024	0.000	4,100,000.00	3,993,459.22	0.00	3,993,459.22

* Grouped by: Aggregate Accounts. * Groups Sorted by: Aggregate Accounts. * Filtered By: Settle Date ≥ 05/01/2024 and Settle Date ≤ 05/31/2024 and LA Fund Number = "PHHPA". * Weighted by: Ending Market Value + Accrued. * Holdings Displayed by: Lot.

* Purchased Accrued Income = -[Purchased Accrued Income], Summary Calculation: Sum. * Settlement Amount = [Ending Original Cost]+(-[Purchased Accrued Income]), Summary Calculation: Sum.

Chronological Report - PHHPA

05/01/2024 - 05/31/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 06/05/2024

LA Fund Number	Original Lot ID	Detailed Description	Settle Date	Final Maturity	Change In Current FV	Purchases	Maturities/Redemption	Purchased Accrued Interest	Coupon Payment
PHHPA	1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	05/09/2024	11/07/2024	4,100,000.00	4,100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PHHPA	1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	05/09/2024	11/07/2024	4,100,000.00	4,100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

* Filtered By: LA Fund Number = "PHHPA" and Cash Affecting Amount = 0.00. * Weighted by: Absolute Value of Principal Amount. * MMF transactions are collapsed. * Trade transactions are expanded. * Cash Entry transactions are expanded.

* Change In Current FV = (IF([Transaction Type]='Buy'),[Original Units],0)+(IF([Transaction Type]='Maturity'),[Original Units],0), Summary Calculation: Sum. * Purchases = IF([Transaction Type]='Buy'),[Original Units],0, Summary Calculation: Sum. * Maturities/Redemption = IF([Transaction Type]='Maturity'),[Original Units],0, Summary Calculation: Sum.



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Third District
JANICE HAHN
Fourth District
KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

July 9, 2024

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

Email: agullo@habitatauthority.org

Dear Andrea Gullo:

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORTS**

Enclosed are the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Portfolio Income Report (Earnings Report), Custom Position Report, Purchase Detail Report, and Chronological Report for the month ended June 30, 2024, 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,

ELIZABETH BUENROSTRO GINSBERG
Treasurer and Tax Collector

Jennifer Koai
Operations Chief

JK:ML:bh

Enclosures

c: Marlyn Barajas

Income Report - PHHPA

06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 07/03/2024

SPI

Original Lot ID	Detailed Description	CUSIP	Coupon Rate	PAR Value	Interest/Dividend Received	Accretion Income	Amortization Expense	Interest Income	Net Gain/Loss	Net Income
821801196	FREDDIE MAC 2.000 08/27/43 '24 MTN	3134GWSD9	2.000	9,500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,833.33	0.00	15,833.33
821801198	FED FARM CR BNKS 2.500 07/29/41 '24	3133EMW65	2.500	22,675,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,239.58	0.00	47,239.58
1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	912797LC9	0.000	4,100,000.00	0.00	17,561.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	17,561.67
---	---	---	2.000	36,275,000.00	0.00	17,561.67	0.00	63,072.91	0.00	80,634.58

* Grouped by: Aggregate Accounts. * Groups Sorted by: Aggregate Accounts. * Filtered By: LA Fund Number = "PHHPA". * Weighted by: Ending Market Value + Accrued. * Holdings Displayed by: Lots without MMF Collapse.

Custom Position Report - PHHPA

As of 06/30/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 07/03/2024

SPI

Original Lot ID	Detailed Description	CUSIP	Coupon Rate	Final Maturity	Purchase Yield	PAR Value	Amortized Cost	Historical Cost	Net Accumulated Amortization/Accretion
821801198	FED FARM CR BNKS 2.500 07/29/41 '24	3133EMW65	2.500	07/29/2041	2.500	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	22,675,000.00	0.00
821801196	FREDDIE MAC 2.000 08/27/43 '24 MTN	3134GWSD9	2.000	08/27/2043	2.000	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	9,500,000.00	0.00
1265565669	US TREASURY BILL 11/07/24	912797LC9	0.000	11/07/2024	5.350	4,100,000.00	4,024,484.83	3,993,459.22	31,025.61
---	---	---	2.086	03/24/2040	2.691	36,275,000.00	36,199,484.83	36,168,459.22	31,025.61

* Grouped by: Aggregate Accounts. * Groups Sorted by: Aggregate Accounts. * Filtered By: LA Fund Number = "PHHPA". * Weighted by: PAR Value. * Holdings Displayed by: Lots without MMF Collapse.

Purchase Detail Report - PHHPA

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024

Dated: 07/03/2024

<i>LA Fund Number</i>	<i>Original Lot ID</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Settle Date</i>	<i>Final Maturity</i>	<i>Coupon Rate</i>	<i>PAR Value</i>	<i>Principal</i>	<i>Purchased Accrued Income</i>	<i>Settlement Amount</i>
-----------------------	------------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-----------------------	--------------------	------------------	------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------

* Grouped by: Aggregate Accounts. * Groups Sorted by: Aggregate Accounts. * Filtered By: Settle Date ≥ 06/30/2024 and Settle Date ≤ 06/30/2024 and LA Fund Number = "PHHPA". * Weighted by: Ending Market Value + Accrued. * Holdings Displayed by: Lot.

* Purchased Accrued Income = -[Purchased Accrued Income], Summary Calculation: Sum. * Settlement Amount = [Ending Original Cost]+(-[Purchased Accrued Income]), Summary Calculation: Sum.

Chronological Report - PHHPA

06/01/2024 - 06/30/2024

Specific Purpose Invest Agg (299402)

Dated: 07/03/2024

<i>LA Fund Number</i>	<i>Original Lot ID</i>	<i>Detailed Description</i>	<i>Settle Date</i>	<i>Final Maturity</i>	<i>Change In Current FV</i>	<i>Purchases</i>	<i>Maturities/Redemption</i>	<i>Purchased Accrued Interest</i>	<i>Coupon Payment</i>
---	---	---	---	---	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

* Filtered By: LA Fund Number = "PHHPA" and Cash Affecting Amount = 0.00. * Weighted by: Absolute Value of Principal Amount. * MMF transactions are collapsed. * Trade transactions are expanded. * Cash Entry transactions are expanded.


* Change In Current FV = (IF([Transaction Type]='Buy',[Original Units],0))+ (IF([Transaction Type]='Maturity',[Original Units],0)), Summary Calculation: Sum. * Purchases = IF([Transaction Type]='Buy',[Original Units],0), Summary Calculation: Sum. * Maturities/Redemption = IF([Transaction Type]='Maturity',[Original Units],0), Summary Calculation: Sum.

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 18, 2024

To: Board Members

From: 
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 3c) Receive and file Authority financial audit, Management Report and Auditor's Communication Letter for fiscal year 2022-23, prepared by Moss, Levy and Hartzheim, LLP, contracted by Los Angeles County Department of Auditor-Controller.

Recommendation:

That the Board receive and file the agency audit for fiscal year 2022-23.

Background:

The County of Los Angeles' Department of Auditor and Controller administered the Authority's fiscal year 2022-23 audit in accordance with section 5.2 of the Authority's joint powers agreement:

The Board shall appoint as Authority's Controller an employee of the Authority, the Auditor/Controller of the County of Los Angeles, or a third-party individual or company with qualifications to act as Controller. The Controller shall be strictly accountable for all funds and shall report all receipts and disbursements. The Controller shall establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by good accounting practice. The books and records of Authority in the hands of the Controller shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by representatives of the Parties. The Controller within one hundred eighty (180) days after the close of each fiscal year shall give a complete written report of all financial activities for such fiscal year to the Board and shall make such further reports and cause such audits of the accounts and records of the Authority to be made as are required by law.

The audit was prepared by Moss, Levy & Hartzheim LLP under the direction of the County of Los Angeles' Department of Auditor and Controller, and reimbursable by the Authority. Attached is the audit, Management Report and Auditor's Communication Letters. The auditors recommended that the Authority create procedures to review their open service contracts to determine an accurate estimate of accounts payable due at fiscal year end. The Authority already closely tracks accounts payable. Authority staff has communicated with the County staff for a better understanding of what information they need moving forward.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Attachment: Audit

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT
PRESERVATION AUTHORITY**

**MANAGEMENT REPORT
AND
AUDITOR'S COMMUNICATION LETTER**

June 30, 2023

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

**MANAGEMENT REPORT
AND
AUDITOR'S COMMUNICATION LETTER**

June 30, 2023

Required Communication under Statement on Auditing Standards No. 114 1

**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on
Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed
In Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* 3**

Current Year Findings and Recommendations..... 5

Status of Prior Year Findings and Recommendations..... 6



MOSS, LEVY & HARTZHEIM LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PARTNERS

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To the Honorable Board of Directors
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Whittier, California

We have audited the financial statements of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit as noted in Work Order No. 9-33B. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 1 to the basic financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the fiscal year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the fiscal year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting the Authority's financial statements were:

Management's estimates of the historical cost and useful lives of certain capital assets. These estimates were based on historical data, industry guidelines and information from Authority staff. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop these estimates and determined that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of

management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. The following material misstatement detected as a result of audit procedures were corrected by management:

Debit contract and professional service fees	\$400,746
Credit accounts payable	\$400,746

To record ranger management services for FY 22-23 that were not recorded by the Authority.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated May 31, 2024.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Authority's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to management's discussion and analysis, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of Board of Directors and management of Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,



Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, LLP
Culver City, California
May 31, 2024



MOSS, LEVY & HARTZHEIM LLP

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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

To the Honorable Board of Directors
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Whittier, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon, dated May 31, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and recommendations as item 2023-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

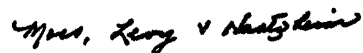
As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws,

regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Very truly yours,



Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, LLP
Culver City, California
May 31, 2024

CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

MATERIAL WEAKNESS

2023-001 Estimate of accounts payable at fiscal year end

Condition:

The Authority did not record \$400,746 in accounts payable for services received during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

Criteria:

Goods and services received during the fiscal year should be recorded as accounts payable if not paid by fiscal year end.

Cause:

The vendor billed the Authority more than four months after fiscal year end and the Authority did not have a process in place to record estimates of liabilities for services received but not billed to the Authority within two months of the fiscal year end.

Recommendation:

The Authority should create procedures to review their open service contracts to determine an accurate estimate of accounts payable due at fiscal year end.

Authority response:

We agree. We will review our accounts payable and provide a list of known invoices so they can be included in the financial statements. We will work with our vendors to determine if they can make more timely billings to the Authority.

STATUS OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None noted during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

**PUENTE HILLS
HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY**

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

June 30, 2023

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
JUNE 30, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FINANCIAL SECTION

Independent Auditor’s Report	1
Management’s Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)	4
Basic Financial Statements:	
Statement of Net Position	7
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position	8
Statement of Cash Flows	9
Notes to the Basic Financial Statements	10



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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Honorable Board of Directors
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Whittier, California

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the Authority) as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Authority, as of June 30, 2023, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority's

ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 4 through 6 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 31, 2024, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Moss, Levy & Hartzheim, LLP
Culver City, California
May 31, 2024

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the Authority) provides a narrative overview of the Authority's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements, footnotes, and supplementary information.

Financial Highlights

- During the current fiscal year, the Authority's net position decreased by \$3.86 million to \$64.14 million.
- The Authority has investments of \$25.69 million in various government securities that have interest rates ranging from 2.00% to 5.00%.
- Operating revenues decreased by \$0.28 million to \$0.33 million and operating expenses decreased by \$0.12 million to \$2.02 million.

Overview of Financial Statements

This MD&A serves as an introduction to the Authority's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements include four components: 1) Statement of Net Position; 2) Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position; 3) Statement of Cash Flows; and 4) Notes to the Financial Statements.

- The Statement of Net Position presents all the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator to determine whether the financial position of the Authority is improving or deteriorating.
- The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position presents information showing how the Authority's net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position (revenues and expenses) are reported when the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Accordingly, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g. accrued but unpaid contract and professional service fees).
- The Statement of Cash Flows presents information regarding the Authority's use of cash during the fiscal year and is an indicator of whether or not sufficient cash flow is being generated during the fiscal year to meet the operating needs of the Authority.
- The notes provide additional information that is essential for a full understanding of the data provided in the financial statements.

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Financial Statement Analysis

Since its formation, Net Position of the Authority has gradually grown from \$1.8 million to about \$64.14 million. Most of the growth in Net Position has been attributable to the Authority's acquisition of land and related capital assets. Operating revenues decreased from \$0.61 million as of June 30, 2022, to \$0.33 million as of June 30, 2023. The operating revenues consisted primarily of state grants, donations, and site mitigation fees. Operating expenses decreased from \$2.14 million as of June 30, 2022, to \$2.02 million as of June 30, 2023. Operating expenses consisted primarily of contract and professional service fees, salaries and benefits, and administrative expenses.

The Authority's Net Position was \$64.14 million as of June 30, 2023, compared to \$68.01 million as of June 30, 2022. Net Investments in Capital Assets accounted for \$35.76 million of the total Net Position. Liabilities were \$0.80 million as of June 30, 2023, compared to \$0.78 million as of June 30, 2022.

Capital Assets

As of June 30, 2023, the Authority's capital assets consisted of \$35.76 million in land, \$0.43 million in buildings, and \$0.43 million in accumulated depreciation.

Debt Administration

As of June 30, 2023, the Authority had no outstanding debt.

Economic Factors

Due to the global pandemic and subsequent economic crisis, the Authority's specific portfolio investments have been significantly affected resulting in a significant revenue decrease for the Authority. As a result, the operating budget of the Authority has been decreased to partially mitigate the impact. The Authority is seeking and exploring additional revenue streams such as environmental mitigation fees from regional projects, a financing mechanism, grants, and short-term portfolio investments.

The Authority was successful in obtaining one-time state grants. In fiscal year 2022-2023, it relied on funding from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) and CalFire to help to mitigate partial revenue shortfalls. Also, in fiscal year 2022-2023, the Authority was allocated \$1.3 million from the state budget administered by Caltrans to close its funding gap; this is a multi-year funding source.

The Authority is trying to adjust to the grant guideline amendments made by Los Angeles County Regional Parks and Open Space District regarding Measure A Maintenance and Services (M&S) funding. Measure A grant guideline amendments made over the years now prohibit the Authority from using its annually allocated M&S funds on Proposition A purchased property that it manages (City of Whittier-own property). In response, the City of Whittier has committed to partial

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Management's Discussion and Analysis
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

reimbursement through the City's M&S allocation on expenditures on their land which is managed by the Authority, which will assist in a limited capacity.

Additionally, the Authority is responding to information from the County to correct its qualification for accessing its M&S funding on land it owns, Sycamore Canyon. The Proposition A grant used to acquire Sycamore Canyon needs to be closed by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (grantor of the Prop. A funds) before the Authority can claim M&S reimbursement costs.

The budget, investments, other revenue sources, and expenditures will be closely monitored by the Authority moving forward to maintain solvency.

Contacting the Authority's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens and other interested parties with a general overview of the Authority's finances and to demonstrate the Authority's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the County of Los Angeles, Department of Auditor-Controller, 500 West Temple Street Room 525, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2023

Assets

Cash on deposit (Note 2)	\$	2,829,238
Restricted cash on deposit with County Treasurer (Note 2)		263,179
Investments (Note 2)		25,686,715
Receivables:		
Accrued interest		42,435
Accounts receivable		315,011
Prepaid expense		51,809
Capital Assets: (Note 4)		
Land - nondepreciable		35,759,977
Buildings and improvements		428,480
Accumulated depreciation		(428,480)

Total Assets		64,948,364
---------------------	--	------------

Liabilities

Accrued liabilities		803,922
---------------------	--	---------

Total Liabilities		803,922
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Net Position (Note 3)

Net investment in capital assets		35,759,977
Restricted		263,179
Unrestricted		28,121,286

Total Net Position	\$	64,144,442
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See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

Operating Revenues:	
Oil Revenue	\$ 73,330
State Grants	226,656
Miscellaneous	29,803
Total Operating Revenues	329,789
Operating Expenses:	
Contract and Professional Service Fees	1,517,961
Salaries and Benefits	351,885
Insurance	52,142
Rent (Note 5)	1,003
Taxes and Assessments	5,502
Treasurer and Tax Collector - Management Fees	17,293
Auditor-Controller Services	32,000
Utilities, Supplies, and Other Charges	42,893
Total Operating Expenses	2,020,679
Operating Income (Loss)	(1,690,890)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses):	
Interest on Deposited Funds	129,036
Investment Income (Loss)	(2,300,527)
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	(2,171,491)
Change in Net Position	(3,862,381)
Net Position, beginning of the fiscal year	68,006,823
Net Position, end of the fiscal year (Note 3)	\$ 64,144,442

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

**Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023**

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:

Cash received from other governmental agencies	\$ 342,270
Cash received from other agencies	102,510
Cash paid to employees for services	(345,911)
Cash paid to suppliers for goods and services	(1,650,293)

Net Cash (Used) by Operating Activities	(1,551,424)
--	--------------------

Cash Flows from Investing Activities:

Investment purchases	(7,814,258)
Investment sales	3,914,258
Investment income	842,617
Interest received	107,890

Net Cash (Used) by Investing Activities	(2,949,493)
--	--------------------

Net Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(4,500,917)
--	--------------------

Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Fiscal Year	7,593,334
--	------------------

Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Fiscal Year	\$ 3,092,417
--	---------------------

Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents to amounts reported on the statement of net position

Cash on deposit (Note 2)	\$ 2,829,238
Restricted cash on deposit with County Treasurer (Note 2)	263,179
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Fiscal Year	\$ 3,092,417

Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Used by Operating Activities:

Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (1,690,890)
Change in assets and liabilities	
Decrease in accounts receivable	114,992
(Increase) in prepaid expense	(2,997)
Increase in accrued liabilities	27,471

Net Cash Used by Operating Activities	\$ (1,551,424)
--	-----------------------

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Organization

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority) was formed on February 15, 1994, as a joint powers authority by the County of Los Angeles, certain County Sanitation Districts, and the City of Whittier. The Authority was established for the purpose of acquiring, restoring, and/or maintaining additional open space lands in the La Puente/Whittier Hills area in order to create or preserve native habitat areas. Additionally, the Authority will give special consideration to land acquisitions, habitat restoration, trailhead construction, and recreational and/or educational amenities on open space lands within and for the benefit of the community of Hacienda Heights. It serves as a condition of approval to address impacts on oak tree resources and natural open space resulting from the operation of the Puente Hills Landfill. The term of the Authority will continue indefinitely unless cancelled by the County of Los Angeles (County), certain County Sanitation Districts, and the City of Whittier. The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors composed of four appointed directors: one by the Board of Directors of the Sanitation Districts, one by the County, one by the supervisor representing the Supervisorial District which geographically includes the Puente Hills Landfill, and one by the City of Whittier. The Authority is legally separate and fiscally independent from each of the member entities. This means it can incur debt, set, and modify its own budget and fees, enter into contracts, and sue and be sued in its own name.

The accompanying financial statements reflect the financial activities of the Authority. The Authority has no component units.

B. Significant Accounting Policies

The Authority's financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental agencies. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

The Authority is accounted for as an enterprise fund (proprietary fund type). A fund is an accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts established to record the financial position and results of operations of a specific governmental activity. The activities of enterprise funds closely resemble those of ongoing businesses in which the purpose is to conserve and add to basic resources while meeting operating expenses from current revenues. Enterprise funds account for operations that provide services on a continuous basis and are substantially financed by revenues derived from user charges. The Authority utilizes the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred.

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(Continued)

B. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. The principal operating revenues of the Authority are contributions from state grants, donations, and site mitigation fees. Operating expenses include administrative expenses and contract and professional service fees. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Authority's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

The Authority's financial statements are presented in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* and GASB Statement No. 63 – *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*. Statement No. 34 established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local governmental entities and Statement No. 63 established standards for reporting deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflow of resources, and net position in a statement of financial position. The net position is required to be classified into three components – net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

Net investment in capital assets – This component of net position consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and is reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds at fiscal year-end, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent proceeds is not included in the calculation of invested in capital assets, net of related debt. Rather, that portion of the debt is included in the same net position component as the unspent proceeds.

Restricted net position – This component of net position represents restricted assets net of liabilities that relate to those specific restricted assets. A restricted asset is an asset for which constraints have been placed on the asset's use by creditors, contributors, laws, or regulations of other governments, or as a governing body at the time a particular fee, charge, levy, or assessment was approved. These restrictions must be narrower than the general purposes for which the reporting government can use its resources.

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 1 ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(Continued)

B. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Unrestricted net position – This component of net position consists of net position that does not meet the definition of “restricted” or “net investment in capital assets.”

See note 3 for additional disclosures regarding net position.

C. Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized on the accrual basis of accounting and donation revenue is recognized according to the conditions of the promise.

D. Land

Acquisition of land and buildings and improvements are recorded at cost or, if donated, at fair value at date of donation. Land basically consists of open space acquired in accordance with the joint powers agreement that created the Authority. Buildings and improvements consist of houses and improvements that were located on the land at the time of purchase or donation. When land and buildings and improvements are sold or otherwise disposed of, related costs are removed from the accounts and any gain or loss is reported in the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position.

E. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash represents balances that can be readily withdrawn without substantial notice or penalty. Cash equivalents are defined as short-term, highly liquid investments that are both readily convertible to known amounts of cash or so near their maturity that they present insignificant risk of changes in value because of changes in interest rates and have an original maturity date of three months or less.

G. Lease Liability

As a lessee, a lease is defined as a contractual agreement that conveys control of the right-to-use another entity’s nonfinancial asset, for a minimum contractual period of greater than one year, in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The Authority has no lease liabilities that meet the criteria to be recognized at June, 30, 2023.

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 2 CASH AND INVESTMENTS

In accordance with the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement and Government Code, cash balances of the Authority are deposited and pooled and invested by the County Treasurer and Tax Collector (Treasurer) for the purpose of increasing interest earnings through investment activities. Interest earned on pooled investments is deposited to participating funds based upon each fund's average daily balance during the allocation period. The Authority maintains a deposit account for donations with Wells Fargo Bank which at June 30, 2023 had a balance of \$790.

California Government Code Sections 53601 and 53635 authorize the Treasurer to invest the External Investment Pool (Pool) and Specific Purpose Investment (SPI) funds in obligations of the United States Treasury, federal agencies, municipalities, asset-backed securities, bankers' acceptances, commercial paper, negotiable certificates of deposit, medium-term notes, corporate notes, repurchase agreements, reverse repurchase agreements, forwards, futures, options, shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies known as money market mutual funds registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, securities lending agreements, the State of California's Local Agency Investment Fund, and supranational institutions. California Government Code Section 53534 authorizes the Treasurer to enter into interest rate swap agreements. However, these agreements should only be used in conjunction with the sale of the bonds approved by the Board of Supervisors. As permitted by the California Government Code, the Treasurer developed, and the Board of Supervisors adopted, an Investment Policy that further defines and restricts the limits within which the Treasurer may invest. The investments are managed by the Treasurer, which reports investment activity to the Board of Supervisors on a monthly basis. In addition, the Treasurer's investment activity is subject to an annual investment policy review, compliance oversight, quarterly financial review, and annual financial reporting by the County. The Treasurer also maintains Other Specific Investments, which are invested pursuant to Section 1300.76.1, Title 28, California Code of Regulations. The County has not provided nor obtained any legally binding guarantees during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, to support the value of shares in the Pool.

Also, the Authority's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Treasurer, executed in May 2011, enables the County to make investments for the Authority using the SPI program that is within the guidelines of the County's investment policy. Section III of that MOU instructs the Authority to create its own investment policy or adopt that of the County, either of which shall be approved by the Authority on an annual basis. The investment policy needs to comply with the California Government Code and Education Code and may not be less restrictive than the Treasurer's investment policy. The Authority's Board annually adopts the County's investment policy. The investments are managed by the Treasurer, which reports investment activity to the Authority's Board on a monthly basis.

Disclosures Relating to Interest Rate Risk

Cash and investments as of June 30, 2023, are classified in the accompanying financial statements as follows:

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 2 CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Statement of Net Position:

Cash on deposit	\$ 2,829,238
Restricted cash on deposit with County Treasurer	263,179
Investments	<u>25,686,715</u>
Total cash and investments	<u><u>\$ 28,779,132</u></u>

Cash and investments as of June 30, 2023, consist of the following:

Demand deposits - outside bank	<u>\$ 790</u>
Total demand deposits	<u>790</u>
Cash and investments with County Treasurer	2,828,448
Restricted cash and investments on deposit with County Treasurer	263,179
Investments	<u>25,686,715</u>
Total Investments	<u><u>28,778,342</u></u>
Total cash and investments	<u><u>\$ 28,779,132</u></u>

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. One of the ways that the Authority manages its exposure to interest rate risk is by purchasing a combination of shorter term and longer-term investments and by timing cash flows from maturities so that a portion of the portfolio is maturing or coming close to maturity evenly over time as necessary to provide the cash flow and liquidity needed for operations.

Information about the sensitivity of the fair value of the Authority's investments to market interest rate fluctuations is provided by the following table that shows the distribution of the Authority's investments by maturity:

Investment Type	Fair Value	Remaining Maturity (in Months)		
		12 Months or Less	13 - 60 Months	More than 60 Months
Cash and Investments				
with County Treasurer	\$ 3,091,627	\$ 3,091,627	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Agency				
Securities	<u>25,686,715</u>			<u>25,686,715</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 28,778,342</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,091,627</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 25,686,715</u></u>

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 2 CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

Disclosures Relating to Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Presented below is the minimum rating required by (where applicable) the California Government Code or the Authority's investment policy, and the actual rating as of fiscal year end for each investment type (Standard & Poor's).

Investment Type	Fair Value	Minimum Legal Rating	Ratings as of Fiscal Year End	
			AA+	Not Rated
Cash and Investments with County Treasurer Federal Agency Securities	\$ 3,091,627 25,686,715	N / A N / A	\$ - 25,686,715	\$ 3,091,627
Total	\$ 28,778,342		\$ 25,686,715	\$ 3,091,627

Concentration of Credit Risk

The investment policy of the Authority contains limitations on the amount that can be invested in any one issuer beyond that stipulated by the California Government Code. Investments (other than external investment pools) in any one issuer that represent 5% or more of total Authority's investments are as follows:

Issuer	Investment Type	Reported	Maturity	Interest
		Amount		Rate
Federal Farm Credit Bank	Federal Agency Securities	\$ 15,948,235	2042	2.50%
Federal Home Loan Banks Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	Federal Agency Securities	3,925,240 5,813,240	2024 2044	5.00% 2.00%

Investments are stated at fair value and are valued on a monthly basis. The Treasurer categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. Securities classified in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using prices quoted in active markets for those securities. Securities classified in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy are valued using other observable inputs such as matrix pricing techniques or based on quoted prices for assets in markets that are not active. Matrix pricing is used to value securities based on securities' relationship to benchmark quoted prices. Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. Securities classified in Level 3 are valued using the income approach such as discounted cash flow techniques. Investments in an external government investment pool are not subject to reporting within the level hierarchy.

PUEENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 2 CASH AND INVESTMENTS (Continued)

See the County’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for disclosures related to cash and investments and the related interest rate risk, credit rate risk, custodial risk, and concentration risk.

Funds deposited in the County Treasury Pool amounted to \$3,091,627 as of June 30, 2023; however, this external pool is not measured under Level 1, 2, or 3. This represents less than 0.02% of the total Treasury Pool.

Fair Value Measurements

The Authority categorizes its fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. These principles recognize a three-tiered fair value hierarchy as follows:

- Level 1: Investments reflect prices quoted in active markets;
- Level 2: Investments reflect prices that are based on a similar observable asset either directly or indirectly, which may include inputs in markets that are not considered active; and
- Level 3: Investments reflect prices based on unobservable sources.

The Authority has the following recurring fair value measurements as of June 30, 2023:

Investments by Fair Value	Total	Fair Value Measurement Using		
		Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Federal Agency Securities	\$ 25,686,715	\$ -	\$ 25,686,715	\$ -
Total investments measured at fair value	<u>\$ 25,686,715</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 25,686,715</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

The investment activity of the Authority with the County Treasurer occurs separately from the County’s investment pool and is reported as a Specific Purpose Investment on behalf of the Authority.

NOTE 3 NET POSITION

Net position at June 30, 2023 consisted of the following:

Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 35,759,977
Restricted Net Position *	263,179
Unrestricted Net Position	<u>28,121,286</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 64,144,442</u></u>

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 3 NET POSITION (Continued)

*Under the purchase agreement for the Brearley/Malkenhorst/Turnbull Property, the Authority agreed to pledge \$263,179 of the funds on deposit with the County Treasurer as security for obligations, including street improvements that would need to be made in the event that the property ceases to be used for open space, habitat restoration, or other biological preservation activities consistent with open space management, and passive recreational use.

NOTE 4 CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, is as follows:

	Balance at June 30, 2022	Additions	Deletions	Balance at June 30, 2023
Capital Assets, Non-depreciable:				
Land (Acquired by the Authority)	\$ 34,520,585	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,520,585
Land (Donated to the Authority)	1,239,392			1,239,392
Total Capital Assets, Non-depreciable	35,759,977			35,759,977
Capital Assets, Depreciable:				
Buildings and improvements	428,480			428,480
Accumulated depreciation	(428,480)			(428,480)
Total Capital Assets, Depreciable				
Total Capital Assets, net	\$ 35,759,977	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,759,977

PUEENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 4 CAPITAL ASSETS (Continued)

Capital assets, at cost, or fair value at the time of donation, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, consist of the following:

Property Name	Land Amount	Building Amount	Construction In Progress
Assets Acquired by the Authority			
a. Powder Canyon	\$ 2,398,188	\$ -	\$ -
b. Hacienda Hills Property	790,467		
c. Unocal Properties	46,524		
d. Davies Property	726,100		
e. Weisel/Sanders Property	352,363	300,000	
f. Old Coach Property	3,616,020		
g. Pellkofer Properties	236,699		
h. Lim Property	450,875		
i. Roberts/Pellkofer Property	769,550		
j. Fan/Huang/Chen Property	481,921		
k. Newbre II Property	501,868		
l. Shuey Property	75,877		
m. Canlas Property	396,151		
n. Rose Hills Foundation Property	14,213,405		
o. Kou Property	650,854		
p. Javaid Property	2,204,100		
q. Viola Berg Property	355,737		
r. Public Works Property - La Habra Heights	320,302		
s. Gibson Property	790,440		
t. Ranney Property	2,729		
u. Brearley/Malkenhorst	2,124,500		
v. Corona Property	438,175		
w. Maico Property	601,200		
x. Sycamore Canyon Property	1,505,032	128,480	
y. Seirafi Parcel No. 8239-045-903	3,987		
z. Housely Parcel No. 8239-045-904	21,026		
aa. Easement on Parcel No. 8126-024-004	2,800		
bb. Moravek APN 8221-026-010	22,156		
cc. Johns APN 8221-004-013, 014, 015	421,539		
Total Assets Acquired by the Authority	34,520,585	428,480	
Assets donated to the Authority			
a. Benson Ford Donation	104,000		
b. J. Grimont Donation	100,000		
c. Newbre Property	316,394		
d. Gale Property	708,667		
e. OCWR Project easement	9,401		
f. Ridgewood/BroadrockBrea/ Power II easement	930		
Total Assets Donated to the Authority	1,239,392		
Total Capital Assets as of June 30, 2023	\$ 35,759,977	\$ 428,480	\$ -

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2023

NOTE 5 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The Authority leases its office space from the City of Whittier (City). In August 2021, the Authority signed a lease renewal for the office space in the City, effective from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2026, with an option to renew for two consecutive five year terms. According to the lease agreement, the base rent will start at \$471.68 per month and will be adjusted annually, based on the Authority's proportionate share of the operating expenses incurred by the City. On August 23, 2022, the lease agreement was amended to change the base rent to \$1 annually, commencing August 23, 2022. The lease does not meet the criteria for being recorded under Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 87 "Leases".

The Authority's personnel are employees of the City. Their CalPERS benefits and related pension liabilities are disclosed in the City's financial statements.

NOTE 6 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Claims and suits have been filed against the Authority in the normal course of business. The outcome of these matters is not presently determinable. However, in the opinion of management, the resolution of these matters is not expected to have a significant impact on the financial condition of the Authority.

NOTE 7 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Authority entered into a mitigation agreement in January 2024 with Metro Heights Montebello LLC (Metro Heights) related to the removal of 12 acres of coastal sage scrub for the Montebello Hills Development project. Metro Heights is contracting with the Authority to prepare and establish specific guidelines for a restoration contractor to follow during the installation, maintenance, and monitoring of the mitigation site. The Authority will be paid approximately \$3.6 million for the mitigation work.

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 18, 2024

To: Board Members

From: *Andrea Gullo*
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 4) Update, receive and file fiscal year 2023-24 Authority workplan and activities, and possible action regarding Authority workplan for fiscal year 2024-25.

Recommendation:

That the Board receive and file 2023-24 workplan and approve 2024-25 proposed workplan.

Background:

A summary of the workplan for fiscal year (FY) 23-24 is provided for your review. Due to workload, unexpected happenings, and circumstances beyond our control, progress on a few of these items is not at the level previously estimated or anticipated. Workload and unexpected happenings include adding events and projects to the staff workload such as the heli-tank dedication event, holiday event, onboarding a new mitigation project, conducting repairs to the Authority's Sycamore house, and the administration process for the various grants. Also attached is the end-of-the-year habitat restoration workplan.

The draft FY 24-25 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 discussion and ultimate direction by the Board. Staff welcomes further defined parameters of what the Board would prefer to see included in its workplan.

In terms of agency core functions for FY 23-24, similar to last year, outdoor education and interpretation will not be a focus and outdoor school programs at the level of prior years is not expected due to the limited staff. However, staff may be able to support the rangers' limited Jr. Ranger programming to some extent. Staff will continue to keep the current volunteers engaged.

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact depends on the chosen workplan items.

Attachments:

End of Year update FY 23-24 workplan, includes restoration update
Proposed FY 24-25 workplan, including possible long-term goals

UPDATE SUMMARY

	GOAL	Notes
1	Heli-hydrant project	Participated in dedication event. Finished legal survey for road vacation in Powder Canyon. Sent emergency easement document to LHH city for review. Once road is vacated the main agreement can be recorded.
2	Implement RMC Grant (1)	Submitted all progress reports and final reimbursement paperwork and grant close out documents.
3	Implement CalFire Grant	Tree removals, 2 years of goat grazing and first year of annual clearance completed. Last year of annual urban wildland interface clearance began in April/May 2024 and has been completed. Seeking possible grant amendment to shift remaining funds to miscellaneous tree/vegetation clearance.
4	Implement RMC Round 2 Grant	Started fall of 2022. All grant tasks are completed. Seeking grant amendment to shift remaining funds to miscellaneous tree/vegetation clearance.
5	Address funding issues and community outreach	Held two open houses, hosted holiday party, ongoing presentations with community groups, completed two community mailers, social media and newsletter publications ongoing. Conducted another poll. March 2024, Board approved CFD map to process election paperwork for consideration.
6	Seek M&S funding reimbursement FYs 20-21, 21-22, 22-23	Submitted reimbursement request for FY 20-21. Delayed by unexpected paperwork regarding Sycamore Canyon and staff workload.
7	Administer Caltrans grant	Ongoing. January 2024, Board approved Sycamore ranger residence upkeep using these funds. Upkeep and repairs completed in May 2024.
8	Replace agency website	Provided Board update in December 2023. Completed and launched March 2024. Staff is working on learning the backend operations.
9	Repair Authority residence (LHH)	Delayed due to workload and funding assessment. Revisit this in Fall 2024 for planning.
10	Process new mitigation opportunities as they arise.	Onboarded new mitigation project through the Fall, Board approval in January 2024, and payment received February 2024.
11	Repair Arroyo Pescadero gate and Hacienda Hills Trailhead railing	Delayed due to workload.
12	Revise Authority trailhead rules signs	Delayed due to staff workload and coordination with National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program. Reached out to NPS.
13	Hire Naturalist to coordinate volunteers	Delayed due to staff workload.

June/30/2024

**Restoration Work Plan
 End of the Fiscal Year Update**

SUMMARY:					
Overall (Habitat Authority and Mitigation) restoration projects (includes mitigation restoration, habitat restoration, and enhancement/weeding):					
114.56	acres ongoing				
203.21	acres completed				
317.77	acres total				
Habitat Authority Restoration Projects:					
Restoration - 0.75 acres Ongoing, 64.33 acres Complete, 65.08 acres Total					
Ongoing Projects	Activity	Original Completion Date	Estimated Completion Date	Status	Comments
Peppergrass Restoration (0.75 ac)	Planting cactus, seeding and maintenance	Spring 2019	Spring 2024	Ongoing	Additional restoration efforts funded via RMC Round 2 Grant; site was seeded and cacti planted Jan/Feb 2024
Enhancement/weeding - 3.5 acres Ongoing, 54.45 acres Complete, 57.95 acres Total					
Ongoing projects include woody invasive removal along Turnbull Canyon Trail and weeding of the Hacienda Hills bioswale. General weed removal efforts, such as goat grazing (66 acres), are not included in the acreage totals.					
HABITAT AUTHORITY RESTORATION PROJECTS SUMMARY					
4.25	ACRES ONGOING				
118.78	ACRES COMPLETE				
123.03	ACRES TOTAL				
Mitigation Projects:					
Outside Entity Implementing (15 acres Ongoing, 59.76 acres Complete, 74.76 acres Total)					
Ongoing Projects	Activity	Original Completion Date	Estimated/Actual Completion Date	Status	Comments
Monterey Park Marketplace					CE recorded.
15 ac CSS (Powder Canyon)	Site Preparation	Fall 2017		Complete	Grazing conducted Oct-Nov 2017
	Temporary Irrigation Installation	Fall 2017		Complete	

*Original completion dates assume two years of grow and kill cycles

**Restoration Work Plan
 End of the Fiscal Year Update**

	Grow & Kill*	Fall 2019	Winter 2018	Complete	One year of weed abatement; Feb 2018 - Feb 2019
Ongoing Projects (continued)	Activity	Original Completion Date	Estimated/Actual Completion Date	Status	Comments
	Planting*	Winter 2019	Spring 2019	Complete	March - April 2019
	Hydroseeding*	Winter 2019	Spring 2019	Complete	
	Maintenance*	Spring 2025	Spring 2024	Ongoing	Currently in maintenance year 5
	Final performance monitoring report*	Winter 2025	Winter 2024	Planned	Project sign-off expected by Feb 2025
Habitat Authority Implementing (95.31 acres Ongoing, 24.67 acres Complete, 119.98 acres Total)					
Ongoing Projects	Activity	Original Completion Date	Estimated/Actual Completion Date	Status	Comments
Broadrock - Phase II					CE recorded.
0.5 ac CSS (Arroyo San Miguel)	Maintenance	Winter 2019	Winter 2020	Complete	Additional year of site maintenance approved by resource agencies
	Final performance monitoring report	Winter 2020	Winter 2021	Complete	Project sign-off received Feb 2022
Turnbull Riparian Restoration					
1.35 ac Riparian (Turnbull Canyon)	Seeding and maintenance	Fall 2017 (Original mitigation project)	Fall 2025	Ongoing	Formerly Permittee Implemented Mitigation (PXP/Sentinel); transferred to Habitat Authority in 2021
SCE					
60 ac CSS (Powder Canyon)	Site Preparation	Fall 2016		Complete	Sept 2016-Dec 2018
	Temporary Irrigation - install	Fall 2016		Complete	
	Grow & Kill*	Fall 2018	Winter 2018	Complete	
	Planting*	Winter 2018	Spring 2019	Complete	Fall 2018-Spring 2019
	Hydroseeding*	Winter 2018	Spring 2019	Complete	Fall 2018-Spring 2019
	Maintenance	Spring 2024		Ongoing	Currently in maintenance year 5

*Original completion dates assume two years of grow and kill cycles

Restoration Work Plan
End of the Fiscal Year Update

	Final performance monitoring report	Fall 2024		Planned	Project signoff expected by December 2024
Ongoing Projects	Activity	Original Completion Date	Estimated/Actual Completion Date	Status	Comments
Olinda (OCWR2)					CE recorded.
19.86 ac CSS (Arroyo San Miguel)	Site Preparation	Fall 2018		Complete	
	Temporary Irrigation - install	Fall 2018		Complete	
	Grow & Kill*	Fall 2020		Complete	
	Planting*	Winter 2020	Spring 2021	Complete	
	Hydroseeding*	Winter 2020	Spring 2021	Complete	
	Maintenance	Spring 2026		Ongoing	Currently in maintenance year 3
	Final performance monitoring report	Winter 2026		Planned	Project signoff expected by February 2027
Brea 57 / Lambert					CE recorded.
2.1 ac CSS (Powder Canyon)	Site Preparation	Fall 2019		Complete	
	Temporary Irrigation - install	Fall 2019		Complete	
	Grow & Kill*	Fall 2021		Complete	
	Planting*	Winter 2021		Complete	
	Hydroseeding*	Winter 2021		Complete	
	Maintenance	Spring 2027		Ongoing	Currently in maintenance year 2
	Final performance monitoring report	Winter 2027		Planned	Project signoff expected by February 2028
Metro Heights					
12 ac CSS (Powder Canyon & Arroyo San Miguel)	Site Preparation	Fall 2024		Planned	
	Temporary Irrigation - install	Fall 2024		Planned	

*Original completion dates assume two years of grow and kill cycles

**Restoration Work Plan
 End of the Fiscal Year Update**

	Grow & Kill*	Fall 2026		Planned	
	Conservation easement-survey and record	Winter 2026		Planned	Shall be recorded within 2 years of mitigation agreement effective
	Planting & Hydroseeding*	Winter 2026		Planned	
	Maintenance	Spring 2032		Planned	
	Final performance monitoring report	Winter 2032		Planned	
Ongoing Projects	Activity	Original Completion Date	Estimated/Actual Completion Date	Status	Comments
Harbor Blvd					
0.56 ac CSS (La Habra Heights)	Site Preparation	Summer/Fall 2019		Complete	
	Hydroseeding	Fall 2019	Winter 2019	Complete	
	Maintenance	Winter 2022		Complete	Project completed March 2023
<u>MITIGATION PROJECTS SUMMARY</u>					
	110.31 ACRES ONGOING				
	84.43 ACRES COMPLETE				
	194.74 ACRES TOTAL				

*Original completion dates assume two years of grow and kill cycles

Habitat Authority Workplan

FY 24-25

Proposed

	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	Implement CalFire Grant	Staff, Rngr	1	3/30/2025	85%	5/20/2021	CalFire
3	Implement RMC Round 2 Grant	Staff, Rngr	1	12/30/2024	85%	4/21/2022	RMC
4	Address funding issues and community outreach	ED, Brd subcom., Board, CTAC	1	Ongoing	ongoing	11/17/2022	Access Fee Reserves/ Operations/Excess mitigation funds
5	Plan and host 30th Anniversary	Board and staff	1	21-Sep	5%	1/18/2024	
6	Seek M&S funding reimbursement Fys 21-22, 22-23, 23-24	ED, Projct Analyst	1	Ongoing	0%	7/15/2021, 6/30/2022, 5/25/2023	County
7	Administer Caltrans grant	ED, Projct Analyst	1	2026 or earlier	ongoing	5/25/2023	Caltrans
8	Seek additional grant funding (fuel clearance, gate installation, acquisition, etc.)	ED, staff	2	12/30/2024	0%		
9	Repair Authority residences	ED, Rgr	3	6/30/2026	60%	direction provided in spring 2021, and 2024	State funds through Caltrans
10	Process new mitigation opportunities as they arise.	ED, Ecol	3	Ongoing	ongoing	7/15/2021	Mitigation funding
11	Repair Arroyo Pescadero gate and Hacienda Hills Trailhead railing	ED	3	TBD	0%	7/15/2021, 5/25/2023	Access Fee Reserves/ State funds through Caltrans
12	Revise Authority trailhead rules signs	Staff, Rngrs, CTAC, Board, NPS	3	TBD	5%	6/30/2022	Operations/ possible RMC grant
13	Hire Naturalist to coordinate volunteers	ED	3	TBD	0%	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 workplan at end of November 2024 if CFD is on the ballot.					
2	Agency strategy and vision re-assessment.					
3	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.					
4	Seek grant funding to update all trailhead monument signs.					
5	Evaluate whether to change remaining Preserve hours to set times.					
6	Develop facility (including homes) maintenance schedule and budget.					
7	Update agency Resource Management Plan (RMP).					
8	Update agency vegetation mapping.					
9	Conduct Preserve-wide biological surveys for various species in accordance with the RMP, including Coastal California Gnatcatcher surveys					
10	Install Turnbull Canyon fence and/or other perimeter fencing.					
11	Issue trail license to the County for parts of the Ahwingna Trail.					
12	Update/improve trailheads.					
13	Host regional conference.					
14	Plan for nature center at Sycamore.					
15	Relocation of office.					

Not listed in any priority ranking.

Presented to Board July 15, 2021, Updated June 30, 2022, Updated May 25, 2023, Updated July 2024

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 18, 2024

To: Board Members

From: *Andrea Gullo*
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. (5) a) Public hearing, formation of Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) to Fund Certain Public Services and Related Actions; b) Adoption of Resolution 2024-07 entitled Resolution to Form a Community Facilities District and to Levy Special Taxes Therein; c) Adoption of Resolution 2024-08 entitled, Resolution Calling a Special Tax Election and Submitting to the Qualified Electors the Question of Levying a Special Tax and; d) Adoption of Resolution 2024-09 entitled Resolution Requesting Consolidation of Authority Election with Statewide General Election.

Recommendation:

- 1) Hold a public hearing on the formation of Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) (the “CFD”) and hear all public testimony, including any protests. If no more than fifty percent of the registered voters residing within the boundaries of the proposed CFD, or the owners of one-half or more of the property within the CFD protest:
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 2024-07 Forming the CFD and to levy special taxes therein;
- 3) Adopt Resolution No. 2024-08 Calling a special tax election and submitting to the qualified electors the question of levying a special tax within the CFD; and
- 4) Adopt Resolution No. 2024-09 Requesting consolidation of CFD Election with Statewide General Election.

Background:

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (“Authority”) manages an extensive area of public open space totaling approximately 3,886 acres, known as the Puente Hills Preserve. Despite its significance in providing wildlife habitat protection and recreational opportunities, the Authority is currently facing a structural budget deficit that threatens its operational capacity.

In recent years, budget constraints have led to significant reductions in funded positions, services, and programs, compromising the Authority’s ability to adequately meet the needs of the

community. The increasing length of fire seasons and growing neighborhood safety concerns further exacerbate the demand for essential services. Without a new, stable funding source, the Authority may be forced to make further detrimental cuts, including potentially eliminating ranger and support services, staff, reducing fuel clearance and restricting public access to the Preserve.

To address these challenges, the Authority is proposing the formation of a Community Facilities District. This financing district would enable the Authority to implement a special tax on real property within a defined geographic area if approved by voters in the November 2024 election.

The primary objective of the CFD would be to ensure the security, cleanliness, and environmental integrity of the Preserve. It would support vital services such as maintaining park ranger patrols for fire safety and emergency response, clearing brush from homes and emergency access roads, and protecting natural lands from threats like homeless encampments, vandalism, and illegal dumping.

The proposed CFD is also committed to strict fiscal accountability, with provisions for all funds to remain locally controlled, annual audits, and public financial disclosures to ensure transparency and proper use of the funds.

On June 12, 2024, the Board adopted Resolution 2024-03 adopting local goals and policies for CFDs (“Policies”) and Resolution of Intention 2024-04 declaring its intention to establish the CFD (“ROI”), and set July 18, 2024, at 3 p.m. as the date and time of the public hearing on the ROI. In order to complete the formation proceedings, the following actions are required:

- The public hearing is opened on July 18, 2024, at approximately 3 p.m. The Board must hear the staff report, hear all public testimony, and at the conclusion of public testimony, close the public hearing.
- Following the public hearing, if no more than fifty percent (50%) of the registered voters residing within the territory of the proposed CFD, or the owners of one-half (1/2) or more of the area of land within the CFD and not exempt from the special tax included in the CFD protest, the Board may adopt the following resolutions that, subject to voter approval, finalize formation of the CFD, authorize levy of the special tax, and call for an election regarding the CFD to be consolidated with the November 5, 2024 General Election.
- The Board adopts a Resolution of Formation of the CFD (“ROF”). (Attachment 1)
- The Board adopts a Resolution Calling a Special Tax Election for the Formation of the CFD. (Attachment 2)
- The Board adopts a Resolution Requesting Consolidation. (Attachment 3)

Pursuant to those actions, Authority staff, with the assistance of SCI Consulting Group, has completed the following steps in order to facilitate the formation of the CFD:

- The map of the proposed boundary for CFD No. 2024-01 was recorded with the County Recorder on June 17, 2024, as Document No. 20240393968, and filed in Book 196 of Maps of

Assessment and Community Facilities District at Page 80 in the office of the County Recorder for the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

- Published a notice of public hearing for July 18, 2024 at 3 p.m.

The ROI also directed staff to prepare a CFD Public Hearing Report (Attachment 4) on the proposed CFD, providing a description of the Services to be funded by the CFD and an estimate of the fair and reasonable cost of the Services and incidental expenses for the CFD. The CFD Public Hearing Report also includes a map showing the boundaries of the proposed CFD.

The proposed CFD encompasses the Cities of Whittier, La Habra Heights, and portions of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and Workman Mill Road area located within the Authority's jurisdictional boundaries. The maximum special tax and the formula for calculating the annual special tax were approved first by the Board in the ROI. The estimated maximum annual cost for services in FY 2025-26 is \$1,150,000 (in 2025 dollars), which primarily is for fire prevention and safety related costs, and \$48,000 for annual CFD administration and County collection charges. The special tax may be levied and collected in perpetuity until ended by voters, or until such time the Authority determines that the revenue is no longer needed.

The public services that the CFD will fund are more particularly described in Exhibit A of the ROF (Attachment 1), and include the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands, and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention, ranger safety patrols; and recreation program services. Additionally, the CFD will fund the collection and accumulation of reserves for these activities and cover administrative or incidental expenses related to them.

If the voters approve the CFD, a notice of special tax lien will be recorded with the County Recorder, resulting in a permanent lien on the assessor's parcels within the CFD. The lien continues perpetually until ended by voters.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost for these actions was approved through a contract with SCI Consulting Group. Incidental costs include publishing the notice of public hearing and recording the boundary map with the County Recorder. The full cost of adding the CFD to the November ballot has yet to be determined.

Attachments:

- 1) Resolution No. 2024-07 Formation of the CFD
- 2) Resolution No. 2024-08 Calling for the Special Tax Election
- 3) Resolution No. 2024-09 Requesting Consolidation
- 4) CFD Public Hearing Report
- 5) Affidavit of publication of the legal notice

Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Resolution No. 2024-07

**RESOLUTION TO FORM A COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT AND TO
LEVY SPECIAL TAXES THEREIN**

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Community Facilities District No. 2024-01
(Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

WHEREAS, the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (“Authority”) manages approximately 3,886 acres of public open space in the Puente Hills Preserve, which includes Hacienda Hills, Turnbull Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero and Powder Canyon, and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s mission includes the restoration and management of the Puente Hills for preservation of native wildlife and plants, to provide outdoor recreation for the community, and also to prevent and respond to wildfires and other emergencies in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has created safe habitats for important wildlife, including birds protected by the federal Endangered Species Act and foxes, deer and bobcats; and

WHEREAS, the Authority also works to assist with wildfire preparedness and emergency response with rangers and park staff they currently contract with to provide patrol services; and

WHEREAS, these rangers and park staff also help to keep Authority lands safe and clean and provide trail and vandalism repair, homeless encampment and debris removal services, prevent car break-ins and drug use on lands and the surrounding neighborhoods, in addition to assisting with fuel clearance from homes and emergency access routes and extra patrol during high fire threat season; and

WHEREAS, the Authority does not receive permanent ongoing funding to meet its needs from local or state agencies but has been funded through the years by an investment portfolio referred to as an endowment and several competitive one-time grants to protect critical services, and

WHEREAS, the Authority has made many budgetary reductions in recent years to maintain a balanced budget, costs have continued to increase, and the remaining program and service levels do not meet current ongoing needs, even as lengthening fire seasons and neighborhood safety concerns increase the need for services, and

WHEREAS, without an additional stable funding source, the Authority will be forced to make additional cuts, which could include eliminating Ranger services and limiting access for individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2024, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Authority, County of Los Angeles, State of California, adopted Resolution No. 2024-04 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Declaring Intention to Establish a Community Facilities District (the "Resolution of Intention") with respect to Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) (the "CFD") of the Authority pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended, Chapter 2.5 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5, commencing with Section 53311, of the California Government Code (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the Resolution of Intention incorporates a map of the proposed boundaries of the CFD are as shown on the map attached hereto as Exhibit A, states the services to be provided, the cost of providing such services, and the rate and method of apportionment of the special tax to be levied within the CFD, and is on file with the Board Secretary and the provisions thereof are incorporated herein by this reference as if fully set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the services to be provided by the CFD as stated in the Resolution of Intention are set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof (the "Services"); and

WHEREAS, a notice of a public hearing relating to the establishment of the CFD, the extent of the CFD, the funding of certain types of services, and all other related matters have been given, and a report containing a brief description of the public facilities and services by type that will in the Executive Director's opinion be required to adequately meet the needs of the CFD and the officer's estimate of the cost of providing those public services ("CFD Public Hearing Report"), as ordered by this Board, has been presented to this Board and has been made a part of the record of the hearing to establish such CFD, all pursuant to the Act and the Resolution of Intention relating to the proposed formation of the CFD; and

WHEREAS, at the hearing, all interested persons desiring to be heard on all matters pertaining to the formation of the CFD, the extent of the CFD, the services to be provided therein, and the levy of said special tax were heard and a full and fair hearing was held; and

WHEREAS, written protests with respect to the formation of the CFD, the furnishing of specified types of services, the extent of the CFD and the rate and method of apportionment of the special taxes have not been filed with the Board Secretary by fifty percent (50%) or more of the registered voters residing within the territory of the CFD or property owners of one-half (1/2) or more of the area of land within the CFD and not exempt from the proposed special tax; and

WHEREAS, the special tax proposed to be levied in the CFD to pay for the proposed services to be provided therein has not been eliminated by protest by fifty percent (50%) or more of the registered voters residing within the territory of the CFD or the owners of one-half (1/2) or more of the area of land within the CFD and not exempt from the special tax.

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

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by this

reference.

Section 2. The CFD Public Hearing Report is hereby approved.

Section 3. The proposed special tax to be levied within the CFD has not been precluded by majority protest pursuant to Section 53324 of the Act.

Section 4. The type of services proposed to be funded by the CFD and pursuant to the Act shall consist of those items listed as Services and shown Exhibit A hereto and by this reference incorporated herein.

Section 5. The Executive Director of the Authority, located at 7333 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, California 90602, telephone number 562-945-9003, or an administrator appointed for the CFD, will be responsible for preparing annually a current roll of special tax levy obligations by assessor's parcel number and who will be responsible for estimating future special tax levies pursuant to the Act.

Section 6. Except to the extent that funds are otherwise available to the CFD to pay for the Services, a special tax (the "Special Tax") sufficient to pay the costs of the Services, including administrative and incidental expenses, secured by recordation of a continuing lien against all nonexempt real property in the CFD, will be levied annually within the CFD perpetually until ended by the voters, and collected in the same manner as ordinary ad valorem property taxes levied within the CFD. The proposed rate and method of apportionment of the Special Tax are described in the document titled "Rate and Method of Apportionment of Special Tax," attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 7. Upon recordation of a notice of special tax lien pursuant to Section 3114.5 of the Streets and Highways Code of California, a continuing lien to secure each levy of the special tax shall attach to all nonexempt real property in the CFD, and this lien shall continue in force and effect until the special tax obligation is prepaid and permanently satisfied, and the lien canceled in accordance with law or until collection of the tax by the Authority ceases.

Section 8. The boundaries of the CFD are as set forth in the maps heretofore recorded on June 17, 2024, as Document No. 20240393968, and filed in Book 196 of Maps of Assessment and Community Facilities District at Page 80 in the office of the County Recorder for the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

Section 9. All prior proceedings taken by this Board in connection with the establishment of the CFD and the levy of the special tax have been duly considered and are hereby found and determined to be valid and in conformity with the Act.

Section 10. The community facilities district designated "Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection)" of the Authority is hereby established pursuant to the Act.

Section 11. Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, the proposition of the levy of the special tax specified above shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the CFD at an election, the time, place, and conditions of which election shall be as specified by a separate resolution of the Board.

Section 12. If the election is to be held less than 125 days following the adoption of the resolution of formation, the concurrence of the election official conducting the election shall be required as provided by the Act.

Section 13. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting held on the 18th day of July 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Chair, Board of Directors
Ivan Sulic

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board of Directors
Marlyn Barajas

CERTIFICATION

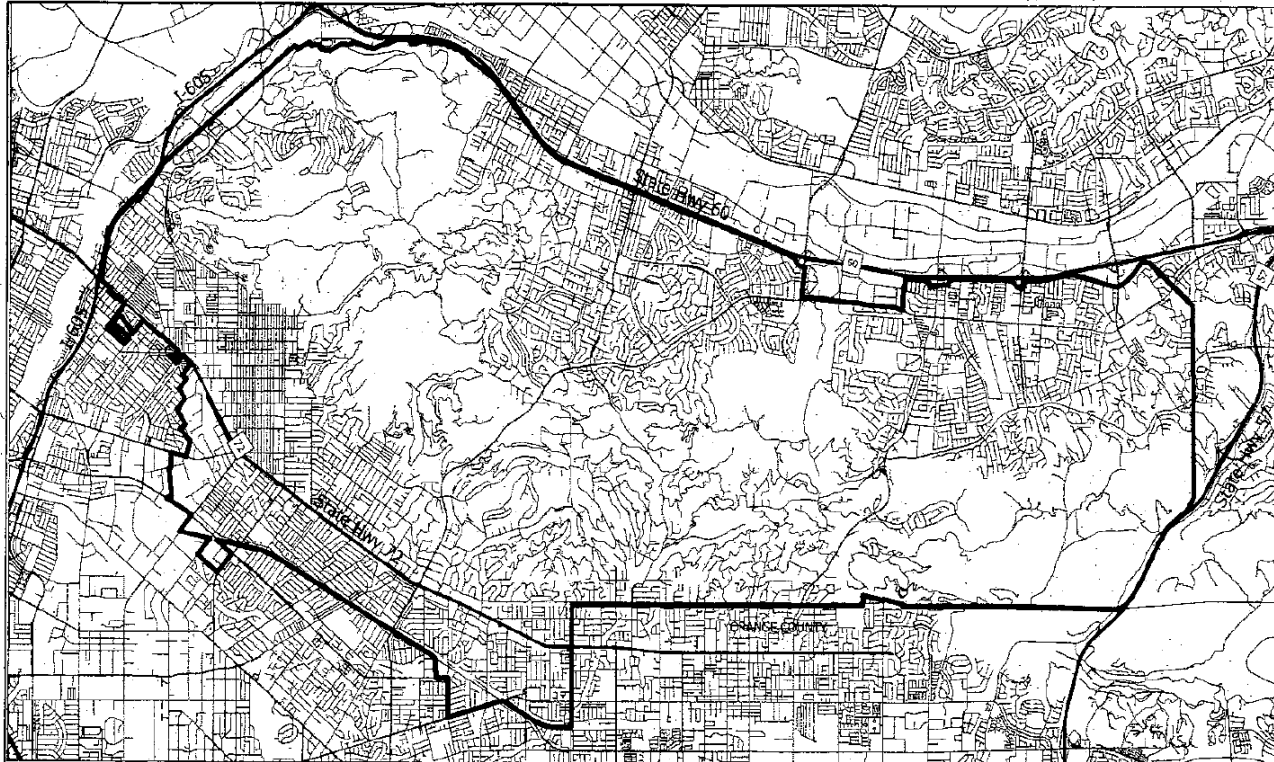
I, Marlyn Barajas, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, Los Angeles County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Authority Board of Directors at a meeting thereof held on the 18th day of July 2024; with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Administrative Office of the Authority.

Marlyn Barajas
Secretary of the Board of Directors
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

EXHIBIT A

MAP OF PROPOSED BOUNDARIES

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Community Facilities District No. 2024-01
(Puente Hills Preserve Protection)**



FILED
 AT REQUEST OF
 CITY CLERK
 56
 MET 11 am
 IN BOOK 196
 AT PAGE 80
 OF ASSESSMENT MAPS
 LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA
 Registered Assessor/County Clerk
 BY James
 Date 8
 FEES 8
 D.A. FEE Code 20 \$ 5

NOTE:
 REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE TO THE
 MAPS AND DEEDS OF RECORD IN THE
 OFFICE OF THE ASSESSOR OF THE
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR A
 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE LINES
 AND DIMENSIONS OF ANY PARCELS
 SHOWN HEREIN. THOSE MAPS SHALL
 GOVERN FOR ALL DETAILS CONCERNING
 THE LINES AND DIMENSIONS OF SUCH
 PARCELS. EACH PARCEL IS IDENTIFIED
 IN SAID MAPS BY ITS DISTINCTIVE
 ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER.

SECRETARY'S MAP FILING STATEMENT

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD SECRETARY
 OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION
 AUTHORITY, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF
 CALIFORNIA, THIS 13 DAY
 OF June, 2024.

Morgan Basija
 BOARD SECRETARY

CLERK'S MAP CERTIFICATE

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE WITHIN MAP SHOWING
 THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES
 DISTRICT NO. 2024-1, PUENTE HILLS HABITAT
 PRESERVATION AUTHORITY, COUNTY OF LOS
 ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, WAS APPROVED BY THE
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT
 PRESERVATION AUTHORITY AT A MEETING THEREOF,
 HELD ON THE 13 DAY OF June, 2024,
 BY ITS RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04.

Morgan Basija
 BOARD SECRETARY

RECORDER'S CERTIFICATE

FILED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024
 AT THE HOUR OF _____ O'CLOCK _____ M. IN BOOK _____
 OF MAPS OF ASSESSMENT AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS
 AT PAGE _____ IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER,
 IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

 COUNTY RECORDER, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Legend

- Community Facilities District 2024-1 Proposed Boundary
- Major Roads
- Roads

SCI Consulting Group
 4745 Margels Blvd
 Fairfield, CA 94534
 (707) 430-4300

**PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF
 COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-1 OF THE
 PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY,
 CITY OF LOS ANGELES, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
 Sheet 1 of 1 (PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION)

EXHIBIT B

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES TO BE FUNDED BY THE CFD

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

The types of Services to be funded by the CFD (“Services”) shall include the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention, ranger safety patrols; and recreation program services. Additionally, the CFD will fund the collection and accumulation of reserves for these activities and cover administrative or incidental expenses related to them.

“Improvements,” as used herein, means improvements such as facilities, buildings, museums, cultural facilities, housing, visitor centers, fixed equipment, fences, gates, monument signage, other signage, posts, walkways, railings, curbs, benches, kiosks, drinking fountains, drainages, trails, roads, recreational facilities, public facilities, public restrooms, parking lots and other man-made structures on or alterations to lands owned or managed by the Authority, and other real property or other tangible property as permitted by the law.

“Maintenance,” as used herein, means the furnishing of services, equipment and materials or other items for the routine, recurring, and usual work or emergency work for the preservation or protection of Improvements, open space, natural or other lands for their intended purposes. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, the upkeep, repair, removal or replacement of all or any part of any Improvements; providing for the life, growth, health, and beauty of landscaping, open space, natural or other lands, including cultivation, seeding, planting, weeding, irrigation, trimming, spraying, fertilizing, treating for disease or injury, goat grazing, or wildlife, vegetation and habitat surveys, monitoring and mapping services; vegetation clearance, including the removal of dead, dying or hazardous trees; the removal or disposal of trimmings, rubbish, debris, illegal dumping and other waste; the cleaning and servicing of public restrooms; the cleaning, sandblasting, and painting of walls and other Improvements for sanitation or to remove graffiti; fire prevention and suppression services; safety and security services; gate opening and closing services; law enforcement services; and services to prevent homeless encampments. Maintenance includes operations and/or replacement costs, and the creation and funding of reserve funds, as permitted by law.

“Servicing,” as used herein, means the furnishing of electric current, gas, or other form of energy for any public lighting facilities or for the lighting or operation of any other Improvements; and water or other utilities for uses including, but not limited to, the irrigation of any landscaping, the operation of any fountains, or the Maintenance of any other Improvements.

“Services,” also includes the performance by employees of functions, operations, maintenance, and repair activities, as provided by law. It is expected that the Services will be provided by the Authority, either with its own employees or by contract with third parties, or any combination thereof.

EXHIBIT C

RATE AND METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT OF SPECIAL TAX

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

A Special Tax authorized under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 applicable to the land in the Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (the “CFD”) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the “Authority”) shall be levied and collected according to the tax liability determined by the Authority through the application of the appropriate amount or rate described herein.

A. DEFINITIONS

“**Act**” means the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended, being Chapter 2.5, Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code of the State of California.

“**Administrative Expenses**” means the actual or estimated costs incurred by the Authority to determine, levy, and collect the Special Taxes, including the proportionate amount of the salaries and benefits of Authority employees whose duties are directly related to administration of the CFD and the fees of Special Tax levy administrator, other consultants, legal counsel, the costs of collecting installments of the Special Taxes upon the County tax rolls and any other incidental costs as determined by the Authority.

“**Assessor’s Parcel**” or “**Parcel**” means a lot or parcel shown in an Assessor’s Parcel Map with an assigned assessor’s parcel number.

“**Authority**” the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

“**Base Year**” means the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026.

“**Board**” means the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

“**Building Square Feet**” or “**BSQFT**” means all the square footage within the perimeter of a residential structure or a commercial structure, not including any carport, walkway, garage, overhang, patio, enclosed patio, or similar area. The determination of Building Square Feet shall be made by reference to the Assessor’s Lien Roll Data. If the Assessor’s Lien Roll Data does indicate Building Square Feet, building permit(s) issued for such structure, or other records shall be used, as determined by the CFD Administrator.

“**CFD**” or “**CFD No. 2024-01**” means the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection).

“CFD Administrator” means an official of the Authority, or designee thereof, responsible for determining and providing for the levy and collection of the Special Tax.

“County” means the County of Los Angeles, California.

“Developed Property” means real property with improvements for residential, commercial, or other purposes which is assigned improved value by the County Assessor as of July 1 of the current Fiscal Year.

“Fiscal Year” means the period starting July 1 and ending the following June 30.

“Land Use Classification” means any of the classes listed in section B(1).

“Maximum Special Tax” means the greatest amount of Special Tax, determined in accordance with Sections B and C below that can be levied in the CFD in any Fiscal Year on any Assessor’s Parcel.

“Public Property” means any property within the boundaries of the CFD that is either (i) owned by the federal government, the State of California, the County, another public agency, or a private nonprofit organization that owns and is responsible for conservation of open space areas or (ii) encumbered by an easement owned by any such public agency or private organization which easement makes the development of such property impractical. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a leasehold or other possessory interest in any such property which is subject to taxation pursuant to Section 53340.1 of the Act shall not constitute “Public Property.”

“RMA” means this Rate and Method of Apportionment of Special Tax.

“Services” means the services authorized to be funded by the CFD as described in the Resolution of Intention for the CFD.

“Special Tax” means the Special Tax to be levied, in each Fiscal Year, on Taxable Property, pursuant to Sections B through G below.

“Special Tax Requirement” means the amount required in any Fiscal Year for the CFD to 1) provided the Services; 2) pay for reasonable Administrative Expenses; 3) pay any amounts required to establish or replenish any reserve funds; and 4) pay for reasonably anticipated delinquent Special Taxes based on the delinquency rate for Special Taxes levied in the previous Fiscal Year.

“State” means the State of California.

“Taxable Property” means all Parcels within the boundaries of the CFD that are not Tax-Exempt Property.

“Tax-Exempt Property” means any Parcel within the CFD which is not Developed Property or Undeveloped Property and includes Public Property and Welfare Exempt Property.

“Undeveloped Property” means real property without improvements which is designated as vacant by the County Assessor as of July 1 of the current Fiscal Year.

“Welfare Exempt Property” means, in any Fiscal Year, all Parcels within the boundaries of the CFD that (a) have been granted a welfare exemption by the County under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code indicated in the Assessor’s Data finalized as of January 1 of the previous Fiscal Year, and (b) are exempt from the Special Tax pursuant to Section 53340(c) of the Act.

B. PROPERTY CATEGORIES AND MAXIMUM SPECIAL TAX RATES

- 1. Classification of Parcels.** Each Fiscal Year, using the Definitions above and the Parcel records of the County Assessor’s Secured Tax Roll of July 1, the Authority shall cause each Parcel of land in the CFD to be classified as Taxable Property and Tax-Exempt Property. Taxable Property shall be further classified as Developed Property or Undeveloped Property.
- 2. Assignment of Maximum Special Tax.** Each Fiscal Year, the Base Year Maximum Tax shown below shall be escalated as specified in Section C, Annual Adjustment of Maximum Special Tax, to determine the Maximum Special Tax for the upcoming Fiscal Year for each Land Use Classification.

Land Use Classification	Base Year Maximum Tax
Developed Property	\$0.0100 per Building Square Foot
Undeveloped Property	\$0.0000
Tax-Exempt Property	Exempt

- 3. Conversion of a Tax-Exempt Property to a Taxable Property.** If a Tax-Exempt Property is not needed for public use and is converted to private use, it shall become subject to the Special Tax.

C. ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF MAXIMUM SPECIAL TAX

Beginning Fiscal Year 2026-27 and each Fiscal Year thereafter, the Maximum Special Tax shall be adjusted by three (3) percent for inflation.

D. DETERMINATION OF THE ANNUAL SPECIAL TAX

Commencing with Fiscal Year 2025-26, and for each subsequent Fiscal Year, the Board shall determine the Special Tax Requirement and shall levy the Annual Special Tax on each Assessor's Parcel of Taxable Property at one hundred percent of the applicable Maximum Special Tax to fund the Special Tax Requirement.

Subject to the preceding, the amount of Annual Special Tax levied upon any Taxable Property in any Fiscal Year shall not exceed the Maximum Special Tax for such Fiscal Year as computed herein.

The Board shall not levy a Special Tax on a Tax-Exempt Property.

E. PREPAYMENT OF THE SPECIAL TAX

Prepayment of the Special Tax is not authorized.

F. COLLECTION OF THE SPECIAL TAX

The Special Tax shall be collected each year in the same manner and at the same time as ad valorem property taxes are collected and shall be subject to the same penalties, interest, and lien priorities in the case of delinquency as is provided for ad valorem taxes. The Authority shall cause the actions required above to be done for each Fiscal Year in a timely manner to assure that the schedule of the Special Taxes to be collected are received by the County Auditor for inclusion with billings for such ad valorem taxes for the applicable Fiscal Year. However, the CFD Administrator may directly bill the Special Tax, may collect Special Taxes at a different time or in a different manner if necessary to meet the financial obligations of the Authority or as otherwise determined appropriate by the CFD Administrator.

G. DURATION OF THE SPECIAL TAX

Assessor's Parcels in the CFD shall remain subject to the Special Tax perpetually until ended by voters. If the Special Tax ceases to be levied, the Authority or its designee shall direct the County Recorder to record a Notice of Cessation of Special Tax. Such notice will state that the obligation to pay the Special Tax has ceased and that the lien imposed by the Notice of Special Tax Lien is extinguished.

H. CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY PROVISIONS

The proceeds of the Special Tax shall only be used as described in the Description of Services to be Funded by the CFD. The proceeds of the Special Tax shall be deposited into a fund, which shall be kept separate and apart from other funds of the Authority. No later than October 31 of the following Fiscal Year for which the Special Tax is in effect, the Authority shall prepare a report, for review and approval of the Board, detailing the amount of funds collected and expended, and the status of any project authorized to be funded by the Special Tax.

In addition, a citizens advisory committee may report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds to show that the Special Tax proceeds are spent for their authorized purposes.

I. APPEALS AND INTERPRETATION PROCEDURE

Any property owner within the CFD who believes that the portion of the Special Tax levied on the subject property is in error, may file a written appeal no later than June 30 of the Fiscal Year in which the levy occurred, with the Executive Director or his or her designee, appealing the levy of the Special Tax on the subject property. The Executive Director or his or her designee will promptly review the appeal, and, if necessary, meet with the applicant, and decide the merits of the appeal. If the findings of the Executive Officer or his or her designee verify that the Special Tax levied should be modified, the Special Tax levy for future Fiscal Years shall be corrected, and a credit against future Special Taxes shall be arranged, if applicable. Any overcharges shall be corrected solely by means of adjustments to future Special Tax levies; no cash refunds shall be made. Any dispute over the decision of the Executive Officer or his or her designee shall be referred to the Board and the decision of the Board shall be final.

Interpretation may be made by resolution of the Board for purposes of clarifying any vagueness or uncertainty as it relates to the application of the Special Tax rate, or application of the method of apportionment, or classification of properties or any definition applicable to the CFD.

Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Resolution No. 2024-08

RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL TAX ELECTION AND SUBMITTING
TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS THE QUESTION OF LEVYING A SPECIAL
TAX

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Community Facilities District No. 2024-01
(Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

WHEREAS, the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (“Authority”) manages approximately 3,886 acres of public open space in the Puente Hills Preserve, which includes Hacienda Hills, Turnbull Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero and Powder Canyon, and

WHEREAS, the Authority’s mission includes the restoration and management of the Puente Hills for preservation of native wildlife and plants, to provide outdoor recreation for the community, and also to prevent and respond to wildfires and other emergencies in the area; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has created safe habitats for important wildlife, including birds protected by the federal Endangered Species Act and foxes, deer and bobcats; and

WHEREAS, the Authority also works to assist with wildfire preparedness and emergency response including with rangers and park staff they currently contract with to provide patrol services; and

WHEREAS, these rangers and park staff also help to keep Authority lands safe and clean and provide trail and vandalism repair, homeless encampment and debris removal services, prevent car break-ins and drug use on lands and the surrounding neighborhoods, in addition to assisting with fuel clearance from homes and emergency access routes and providing extra patrol during high fire threat season; and

WHEREAS, the Authority does not receive permanent ongoing funding to meet its needs from local or state agencies but has been funded through the years by an investment portfolio referred to as an endowment and several competitive one-time grants to protect critical services, and

WHEREAS, the Authority has made many budgetary reductions in recent years to maintain a balanced budget, costs have continued to increase, and the remaining program and service levels do not meet current ongoing needs, even as lengthening fire seasons and neighborhood safety concerns increase the need for services, and

WHEREAS, without an additional stable funding source, the Authority will be forced to make additional cuts, which could include eliminating Ranger services and limiting access for

individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2024, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Authority, County of Los Angeles, State of California, adopted Resolution No. 2024-04 entitled "Resolution of the Board of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Declaring Intention to Establish a Community Facilities District" (the "Resolution of Intention") with respect to Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) (the "CFD") of the Authority pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended, Chapter 2.5 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5, commencing with Section 53311, of the California Government Code (the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, on this date, the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority adopted Resolution No. 2024-07 entitled "Resolution to Form a Community Facilities District and to Levy Special Taxes Therein" (the "Resolution of Formation"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Resolution of Formation, a proposition to authorize the levy of special taxes within the CFD is to be submitted to the Qualified Electors of the CFD as required by the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended (the "Act").

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

Section 1. Pursuant to Sections 53325.7 and 53326 of the Act, the issues of the levy of said special tax and the establishment of said appropriations limit shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the CFD at an election called therefore as provided below.

Section 2. As authorized by Section 53353.5 of the Act, the two propositions described in paragraph 1 above shall be combined into a single ballot measure, the form of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" as the abbreviated statement to appear on the ballot and be submitted to the voters, and by this reference incorporated herein.

Section 3. The Board has heretofore found that more than twelve persons have been registered to vote within the territory of the CFD for the ninety days preceding the close of the public hearing heretofore held by the Board for the purposes of these proceedings. Accordingly, and pursuant to Section 53326 of the Act, the Board finds that for purposes of these proceedings the qualified electors are the registered voters within the CFD and that the vote shall be by said registered voters, each having one vote.

Section 4. The Board hereby calls a special election to consider the measure described in Section 2 above, which election shall be held on November 5, 2024, and shall be consolidated with the Statewide general election to occur on such date. The Registrar of Voters of the County of Los Angeles is hereby designated as the official to conduct said election.

Section 5. Pursuant to section 53326 of the Act, and within three business days of the

adoption of the Resolution of Formation, but in no event later than the date specified by the Election Official for receipt, the Board Secretary shall cause to be provided to the Election Official a certified copy of the Resolution of Formation, and this Resolution Calling Special Election, together with a certified copy of the map of the boundaries of the CFD, as filed in the Office of the Recorder of the County. The Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with the Election Official for the services of such official and to provide for the reimbursement by the Authority of the costs of the Election Official in conducting the election. The Board Secretary and all the members of the Board and officers of the Authority, and their designees, are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any documents and to perform all acts necessary to place the measure on the ballot including making any revisions, correction or alterations to the language of the ballot measure to comply with requirements of law and Election Official and to ensure that the applicable requirements of the Elections Code are met, including without limitation the preparation and provision to the voters of all documents and instructions required by and specified in the Elections Code.

Section 6. This Board of Directors hereby directs the Executive Director to take all actions necessary under the Act and the Elections Code, to assist the Registrar of Voters in the conduct of the election.

Section 7. County Counsel for the County of Los Angeles is hereby requested to prepare an impartial analysis for the ballot measure showing the effect on existing law. The analysis shall precede the arguments for or against the measure and shall not exceed 500 words. To the extent County Counsel does not file an impartial analysis, counsel of the Authority may file such impartial analysis.

Section 8. That the deadline for filing arguments on the ballot measures with the election official shall be 5p.m. on August 16, 2024. That in accordance with the requirements of the California Elections Code, all written arguments for or against the foregoing measures: (1) shall not exceed three hundred (300) words in length; (2) shall be filed with the elections official; (3) shall be accompanied by the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the person(s) submitting it, or if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization, and the printed name and signature of at least one of the principal officers who is the author of the argument; and (4) shall be accompanied by the Form of Statement to be Filed by Author(s) of Argument as provided for in California Elections Code § 9600. All written arguments may be changed or withdrawn until and including the date fixed by the election official, being 5 p.m. on August 16, 2024, or such other date as may be determined by the County in accordance with the Elections Code, after which time no arguments for or against the foregoing measure may be submitted to the elections official except as provided above.

Section 9. That the deadline for filing of rebuttal arguments on the ballot measures with the elections official shall be at 5 p.m. on August 26, 2024, in accordance with the Elections Code. Rebuttals shall not exceed 250 words in length. The rebuttal arguments shall be accompanied by the Form of Statement to be Filed by Author(s) of Argument as provided for in California Elections Code § 9600. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the direct arguments. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the direct argument which it seeks to rebut.

Section 10. That in all particulars not recited in this resolution, the election shall be held and conducted as provided by law for holding county elections.

Section 11. Pursuant to the Local Agency Special Tax and Bond Accountability Act, Sections 50075.1 et. seq. and Sections 53410 et. seq. of the California Government Code, (a) the ballot measure referred to in Sections 2 and 4 above contains a statement indicating the specific purposes of the special tax, the proceeds of the special tax will be applied only to the purposes specified in the ballot measure, there shall be created by the Authority an account into which proceeds of the special tax levies will be deposited, and the Executive Director is hereby directed to provide an annual report to this Board of Directors as required by Section 50075.3 of the California Government Code; and (b) the ballot measure contains a statement indicating the specific purposes of the special tax, the proceeds of the special tax will be applied only to the purposes specified in the ballot measure, there shall be created by the Authority an account into which the proceeds of the special tax will be deposited, and the Executive Director is hereby directed to provide an annual report to this Board of Directors as required by Section 53411 of the California Government Code.

Section 12. The Registrar of Voters/County Clerk is hereby requested to print the attached full measure text of Exhibit B hereto in the voter pamphlet. The Board hereby adopts each of the findings set forth in Exhibit B hereto. In addition, the full text will be available at the following web site address: <https://www.habitatauthority.org/about-us/funding-options/>.

Section 13. The Executive Director is hereby directed to cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation circulating within the CFD a copy of this Resolution as soon as practicable after the date of adoption of this Resolution.

Section 14. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting held on the 18th day of July 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Chair, Board of Directors
Ivan Sulic

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board of Directors
Marlyn Barajas

CERTIFICATION

I, Marlyn Barajas, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, Los Angeles County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Authority Board of Directors at a meeting thereof held on the 18th day of July 2024; with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Administrative Office of the Authority.

Marlyn Barajas
Secretary of the Board of Directors
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

EXHIBIT A

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Community Facilities District No. 2024-01
(Puente Hills Preserve Protection)**

Puente Hills Preserve (Turnbull Canyon, Hacienda Hills, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero, Powder Canyon) Protection Measure. To prevent Puente Hills Preserve wildfires/emergencies; clear brush from first responder emergency access roads; protect natural wildlife habitats; prevent homeless encampments; clean up illegal dumping; other open space purposes, shall	YES
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority's annual levy be adopted of 1¢ per building square footage, annual adjustments limited to 3%, until ended by voters, annual revenue/appropriation limit of approximately \$1,150,000, requiring audits, citizen oversight, funds locally controlled?	NO

EXHIBIT B

FULL TEXT OF BALLOT PROPOSITION PUENTE HILLS PRESERVATION HABITAT AUTHORITY SPECIAL TAX FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-01 PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION MEASURE

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (“the Habitat Authority”) manages approximately 3,886 acres of public open space in the Puente Hills Preserve, which includes Hacienda Hills, Turnbull Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero and Powder Canyon. The Habitat Authority’s mission includes the restoration and management of the Puente Hills for preservation of native wildlife and plants, and to provide outdoor recreation for the community. Over the years, the Habitat Authority has created safe habitats for important wildlife, including birds protected by the federal Endangered Species Act and foxes, deer and bobcats.

The Habitat Authority also helps prevent and respond to wildfires and other emergencies in the area in coordination with rangers and park staff they currently contract with to provide patrol services. These rangers also help to keep Habitat Authority lands safe and clean and provide trail and vandalism repair, homeless encampment and debris removal services, prevent car break-ins and drug use on lands and the surrounding neighborhoods, in addition to assisting with fuel clearance from homes and emergency access routes and extra patrol during high fire threat season.

The Habitat Authority does not receive permanent ongoing funding to meet its needs from local or state agencies but has been funded through the years by an investment portfolio referred to as an endowment and several competitive one-time grants to protect critical services. Although the Habitat Authority has made many budgetary reductions in recent years to maintain a balanced budget, costs have continued to increase and the remaining program and service levels do not meet current ongoing needs, even as lengthening fire seasons and neighborhood safety concerns increase the need for services.

Without an additional stable funding source, the Habitat Authority will be forced to make additional cuts, which could include eliminating Ranger services and limiting access for individuals and families.

Therefore, in order to fund the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Habitat Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention; increase ranger safety patrols; and provide recreation program services, the Board of Directors of the Habitat Authority is proposing a local special tax within a community facilities district located in a designed portion of the Puente Hills, as shown on the map accompanying the full resolution of the measure.

The summary of this proposed ballot proposition is:

Puente Hills Preserve (Turnbull Canyon, Hacienda Hills, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero, Powder Canyon) Protection Measure. To prevent Puente Hills Preserve wildfires/emergencies; clear brush from first responder emergency access roads; protect natural wildlife habitats; prevent homeless encampments; clean up illegal dumping; other open space purposes, shall Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority's annual levy be adopted of 1¢ per building square footage, annual adjustments limited to 3%, until ended by voters, annual revenue/appropriation limit of approximately \$1,150,000, requiring audits, citizens' oversight, funds locally controlled?

Developed parcels subject to the special tax are those parcels that appear on the annual secured Los Angeles County property tax rolls, and that have been improved for residential, commercial or other purposes. Undeveloped and tax-exempt parcels within the CFD shall be exempt from the special tax.

If approved by the voters, the special tax will be used for the purposes of the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Habitat Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention; increase ranger safety patrols; and provide recreation program services and paying any administrative or incidental expenses thereto, including any costs related to the collection or use of the special tax.

The special tax revenues shall be deposited into a separate account for exclusive use by the Habitat Authority. The Habitat Authority shall prepare a report, for review and approval by the Board, detailing the amount of funds collected and expended, and the status of any project authorized to be funded. In addition, a citizens advisory committee may report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds to show that the Special Tax proceeds are spent for their authorized purposes.

The map and full text of the Puente Hills Preserve Protection measure, definitions and services are available at the following website address: <https://www.habitatauthority.org/about-us/funding-options/>

Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Resolution No. 2024-09

RESOLUTION REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION OF AUTHORITY
ELECTION WITH STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Community Facilities District No. 2024-01
(Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

WHEREAS, on this date, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (“Authority”) adopted Resolution No. 2024-08 entitled “Resolution Calling for a Special Tax Election and Submitting to the Qualified Electors the Question of Levying a Special Tax“ (the “Resolution Calling Election”) calling for a special tax election within the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) (“CFD”), as more fully described therein; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution Calling Election specified that the election within the CFD is to occur on November 5, 2024, and is to be consolidated with the Statewide general election to occur on that date; and

WHEREAS, the Board now desires to request that the Registrar of Voters of the County of Los Angeles (the “Registrar of Voters”) conduct the election to occur in the CFD and that such Authority election be so consolidated with the Statewide general election to occur on November 5, 2024.

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

Section 1. Pursuant to Section 10400 of the California Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles is hereby requested to order the consolidation of the election called pursuant to the Resolution Calling Election with the general Statewide election to occur on November 5, 2024, and to thereby submit to the qualified electors of the CFD the following ballot proposition which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” as the abbreviated statement to appear on the ballot and be submitted to the voters, and by this reference incorporated herein.

Section 2. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles is hereby authorized to canvass the returns of the election for the CFD, pursuant to Section 10411 of the California Elections Code.

Section 3. Pursuant to Section 10002 of the California Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles is hereby requested to permit the Registrar of Voters to render all services specified in Section 10418 of the California Elections Code relating to the CFD election, for which services the Authority hereby agrees to reimburse the County of Los Angeles. The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles is hereby further requested to direct the County Counsel to prepare an impartial analysis of the ballot proposition, pursuant to the California Elections Code.

Section 4. The Executive Director shall, within three business days of the adoption of this Resolution, deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and to the Registrar of Voters/ County Clerk.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting held on the 18th day of July 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Chair, Board of Directors
Ivan Sulic

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board of Directors
Marlyn Barajas

CERTIFICATION


I, Marlyn Barajas, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, Los Angeles County, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Authority Board of Directors at a meeting thereof held on the 18th day of July 2024; with a copy of such Resolution being on file in the Administrative Office of the Authority.

Marlyn Barajas
Secretary of the Board of Directors
Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

EXHIBIT A

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
Community Facilities District No. 2024-01
(Puente Hills Preserve Protection)**

Puente Hills Preserve (Turnbull Canyon, Hacienda Hills, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero, Powder Canyon) Protection Measure. To prevent Puente Hills Preserve wildfires/emergencies; clear brush from first responder emergency access roads; protect natural wildlife habitats; prevent homeless encampments; clean up illegal dumping; other open space purposes, shall Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority's annual levy be adopted of 1¢ per building square footage, annual adjustments limited to 3%, until ended by voters, annual revenue/appropriation limit of approximately \$1,150,000, requiring audits, citizen oversight, funds locally controlled?	YES
	NO



PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
PUBLIC HEARING REPORT
COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT No. 2024-01
(PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION)

JULY 2024

PREPARED FOR:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

PREPARED BY:

**SCI Consulting Group**

4745 MANGLES BOULEVARD
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA 94534
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www.sci-cg.com

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ivan Sulic, Chair
Robert Ferrante, Vice Chair
Mary Ann Pacheco, Director
Andrew Yip, Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Andrea Gullo

CLERK OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maryln Barajas

LEGAL COUNSEL

Anita Luck, Aleshire & Wynder, LLP
Elena Gerli, Aleshire & Wynder, LLP

SPECIAL TAX CONSULTANT

Blair Aas, SCI Consulting Group
Melanie Lee, SCI Consulting Group

CFD PUBLIC HEARING REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (“Authority”) manages approximately 3,886 acres of public open space in the Puente Hills Preserve, which includes Hacienda Hills, Turnbull Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero and Powder Canyon. The Authority’s mission includes the restoration and management of the Puente Hills for preservation of native wildlife and plants, and to provide outdoor recreation for the community. Over the years, the Authority has created safe habitats for important wildlife, including birds protected by the federal Endangered Species Act and foxes, deer and bobcats.

The Authority also helps prevent and respond to wildfires and other emergencies in the area in coordination with rangers and park staff they currently contract with to provide patrol services. These rangers also help to keep Authority lands safe and clean and provide trail and vandalism repair, homeless encampment and debris removal services, prevent car break-ins and drug use on lands and the surrounding neighborhoods, in addition to assisting with fuel clearance from homes and emergency access routes and extra patrol during high fire threat season.

The Authority does not receive permanent ongoing funding to meet its needs from local or state agencies but has been funded through the years by an investment portfolio referred to as an endowment and several competitive one-time grants to protect critical services. Although the Authority has made many budgetary reductions in recent years to maintain a balanced budget, costs have continued to increase and the remaining program and service levels do not meet current ongoing needs, even as lengthening fire seasons and neighborhood safety concerns increase the need for services.

Without an additional stable funding source, the Authority will be forced to make additional cuts, which could include eliminating ranger services and limiting access for individuals and families.

Therefore, in order to fund the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention; increase ranger safety patrols; and provide recreation program services, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Authority is proposing formation of a Community Facilities District (“CFD”) and the levy of an annual special tax.

On June 12, 2024, the Authority Board adopted Resolution 2024-04 declaring its intention to establish Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection), authorize the levy of the special tax, and scheduled a public hearing on the matter for July 18, 2024. It is the intent of the District Board to submit to the qualified electors of the CFD the following ballot proposition on the Statewide general election on November 5, 2024.

<p>Puente Hills Preserve (Turnbull Canyon, Hacienda Hills, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero, Powder Canyon) Protection Measure.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><i>To prevent Puente Hills Preserve wildfires/emergencies; clear brush from first responder emergency access roads; protect natural wildlife habitats; prevent homeless encampments; clean up illegal dumping; other open space purposes, shall Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority’s annual levy be adopted of 1¢ per building square footage, annual adjustments limited to 3%, until ended by voters, annual revenue/appropriation limit of approximately \$1,150,000, requiring audits, citizen oversight, funds locally controlled?</i></p>	<p>NO</p>

This CFD Public Hearing Report (“Report”) was prepared pursuant to California Government Code § 53321.5. The purpose of this Report is to provide the following information at the public hearing:

- Describe the Services to be funded by the CFD; and
- Provide an estimate of the fair and reasonable cost of the services and incidental expenses for the CFD.

Three important exhibits are attached to this Report. Exhibit A describes the Services will be financed by the proposed CFD. Exhibit B details the rate and method of apportionment of the proposed special tax. Exhibit C shows the proposed boundaries of the CFD and provides a general description of areas and communities included with the boundaries of the proposed CFD.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND MAXIMUM ANNUAL COST

The CFD shall fund the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention, ranger safety patrols; and recreation program services. Additionally, the CFD will fund the collection and accumulation of reserves for these activities and cover administrative or incidental expenses related to them. The list of authorized Services to be funded by the CFD is further detailed in Exhibit A.

The maximum annual costs (in 2025 dollars) for FY 2025-26 for the Services is estimated to be \$1,150,000. These costs include the cost for annual CFD administration and County collection charges are estimated to be \$48,000.

RATE AND METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT OF SPECIAL TAX

The special taxes within the CFD will be levied according to the formulas and provisions outlined in the Rate and Method of Apportionment of Special Tax (the "RMA") provided in Exhibit B. Below is an overview of the structure and administration procedures of the CFD.

Base Year Maximum Special Tax Rates

The CFD special tax may be collected annually on taxable property within the CFD commencing with FY 2025-26. The maximum special tax rate for FY 2025-06 shall be \$0.0100 per square foot of building area. There is no special tax for undeveloped property and tax-exempt property is exempt.

Annual Inflationary Adjustment

Beginning with fiscal year 2026-27 and each fiscal year thereafter, the maximum special tax shall be adjusted by three (3) percent for inflation.

Determination of the Annual Special Tax

Commencing with fiscal year 2025-26, the Board shall determine the amount required in any fiscal year for the CFD to provide the services as detailed in Exhibit A; pay for reasonable administrative expenses; pay any amounts required to establish or replenish any reserve funds; and pay for reasonably anticipated delinquent special taxes based on the delinquency rate for special taxes levied in the previous fiscal year.

Prepayment of Special Tax

Prepayment of the CFD special tax is not authorized.

Manner of Collection

The special tax will be collected in the same manner and at the same time as ad valorem property taxes. However, at the Authority's option, the special tax may be billed directly to property owners.

Duration of the Special Tax

The CFD special tax shall be levied and collected annually perpetually until ended by voters.

Accountability and Citizen's Oversight

The Executive Director, or his or her designee, will file a report with the Board no later 120 days after the last day of each fiscal year in accordance with Government Code § 53343.1. No annual report will be necessary until the special tax is first levied. In general, the annual report shall contain (a) the amount of special taxes collected for the year; (b) the amount of special tax proceeds expended for Services and with an identification of the categories of each type of service funded with amounts expended in each category; (c) the amount of special tax proceeds expended on administrative and other incidental costs; (d) and other information required by the Act.

The proceeds from the Special Tax shall be used exclusively for Services detailed in Exhibit A. These funds will be deposited into a dedicated account, separate from the Authority's other funds.

In addition, a citizens advisory committee may report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds to show that the Special Tax proceeds are spent for their authorized purposes.

DESCRIPTION OF CFD BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of CFD No. 2024-01 are described in Exhibit C, a reduced scale map entitled "Map of Proposed Boundaries of Community Facilities District No. 2024-01."

A full-scale map of the is on file in the Office of the Authority Clerk and was recorded on June 17, 2024, as Document No. 20240393968, and filed in Book 196 of Maps of Assessment and Community Facilities District at Pages 80 in the office of the County Recorder for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, which map is the final boundary map of the CFD.

The CFD boundaries generally include the cities of Whittier and La Habra Heights as well as portions of the communities of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights and Workman Mill.

EXHIBIT A – DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES TO BE FUNDED BY THE CFD

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

The Services described below are proposed to be funded by Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (the “CFD”) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the “Authority”):

The types of Services to be funded by the CFD (“Services”) shall include the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention, ranger safety patrols; and recreation program services. Additionally, the CFD will fund the collection and accumulation of reserves for these activities and cover administrative or incidental expenses related to them.

“Improvements,” as used herein, means improvements such as facilities, buildings, museums, cultural facilities, housing, visitor centers, fixed equipment, fences, gates, monument signage, other signage, posts, walkways, railings, curbs, benches, kiosks, drinking fountains, drainages, trails, roads, recreational facilities, public facilities, public restrooms, parking lots and other man-made structures on or alterations to lands owned or managed by the Authority, and other real property or other tangible property as permitted by the law.

“Maintenance,” as used herein, means the furnishing of services, equipment and materials or other items for the routine, recurring, and usual work or emergency work for the preservation or protection of Improvements, open space, natural or other lands for their intended purposes. Maintenance includes, but is not limited to, the upkeep, repair, removal or replacement of all or any part of any Improvements; providing for the life, growth, health, and beauty of landscaping, open space, natural or other lands, including cultivation, seeding, planting, weeding, irrigation, trimming, spraying, fertilizing, treating for disease or injury, goat grazing, or wildlife, vegetation and habitat surveys, monitoring and mapping services; vegetation clearance, including the removal of dead, dying or hazardous trees; the removal or disposal of trimmings, rubbish, debris, illegal dumping and other waste; the cleaning and servicing of public restrooms; the cleaning, sandblasting, and painting of walls and other Improvements for sanitation or to remove graffiti; fire prevention and suppression services; safety and security services; gate opening and closing services; law enforcement services; and services to prevent homeless encampments. Maintenance includes operations and/or replacement costs, and the creation and funding of reserve funds, as permitted by law.

“Servicing,” as used herein, means the furnishing of electric current, gas, or other form of energy for any public lighting facilities or for the lighting or operation of any other Improvements; and water or other utilities for uses including, but not limited to, the irrigation of any landscaping, the operation of any fountains, or the Maintenance of any other Improvements.

“Services,” also includes the performance by employees of functions, operations, maintenance, and repair activities, as provided by law. It is expected that the Services will be provided by the Authority, either with its own employees or by contract with third parties, or any combination thereof.

EXHIBIT B – RATE AND METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT OF SPECIAL TAX

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

A Special Tax authorized under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 applicable to the land in the Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (the “CFD”) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the “Authority”) shall be levied and collected according to the tax liability determined by the Authority through the application of the appropriate amount or rate described herein.

A. DEFINITIONS

“**Act**” means the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended, being Chapter 2.5, Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code of the State of California.

“**Administrative Expenses**” means the actual or estimated costs incurred by the Authority to determine, levy, and collect the Special Taxes, including the proportionate amount of the salaries and benefits of Authority employees whose duties are directly related to administration of the CFD and the fees of Special Tax levy administrator, other consultants, legal counsel, the costs of collecting installments of the Special Taxes upon the County tax rolls and any other incidental costs as determined by the Authority.

“**Assessor’s Parcel**” or “**Parcel**” means a lot or parcel shown in an Assessor’s Parcel Map with an assigned assessor’s parcel number.

“**Authority**” the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

“**Base Year**” means the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026.

“**Board**” means the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

“**Building Square Feet**” or “**BSQFT**” means all the square footage within the perimeter of a residential structure or a commercial structure, not including any carport, walkway, garage, overhang, patio, enclosed patio, or similar area. The determination of Building Square Feet shall be made by reference to the Assessor’s Lien Roll Data. If the Assessor’s Lien Roll Data does indicate Building Square Feet, building permit(s) issued for such structure, or other records shall be used, as determined by the CFD Administrator.

“**CFD**” or “**CFD No. 2024-01**” means the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection).

“CFD Administrator” means an official of the Authority, or designee thereof, responsible for determining and providing for the levy and collection of the Special Tax.

“County” means the County of Los Angeles, California.

“Developed Property” means real property with improvements for residential, commercial, or other purposes which is assigned improved value by the County Assessor as of July 1 of the current Fiscal Year.

“Fiscal Year” means the period starting July 1 and ending the following June 30.

“Land Use Classification” means any of the classes listed in section B(1).

“Maximum Special Tax” means the greatest amount of Special Tax, determined in accordance with Sections B and C below that can be levied in the CFD in any Fiscal Year on any Assessor’s Parcel.

“Public Property” means any property within the boundaries of the CFD that is either (i) owned by the federal government, the State of California, the County, another public agency, or a private nonprofit organization that owns and is responsible for conservation of open space areas or (ii) encumbered by an easement owned by any such public agency or private organization which easement makes the development of such property impractical. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a leasehold or other possessory interest in any such property which is subject to taxation pursuant to Section 53340.1 of the Act shall not constitute “Public Property.”

“RMA” means this Rate and Method of Apportionment of Special Tax.

“Services” means the services authorized to be funded by the CFD as described in the Resolution of Intention for the CFD.

“Special Tax” means the Special Tax to be levied, in each Fiscal Year, on Taxable Property, pursuant to Sections B through G below.

“Special Tax Requirement” means the amount required in any Fiscal Year for the CFD to 1) provided the Services; 2) pay for reasonable Administrative Expenses; 3) pay any amounts required to establish or replenish any reserve funds; and 4) pay for reasonably anticipated delinquent Special Taxes based on the delinquency rate for Special Taxes levied in the previous Fiscal Year.

“State” means the State of California.

“Taxable Property” means all Parcels within the boundaries of the CFD that are not Tax-Exempt Property.

“Tax-Exempt Property” means any Parcel within the CFD which is not Developed Property or Undeveloped Property and includes Public Property and Welfare Exempt Property.

“Undeveloped Property” means real property without improvements which is designated as vacant by the County Assessor as of July 1 of the current Fiscal Year.

“Welfare Exempt Property” means, in any Fiscal Year, all Parcels within the boundaries of the CFD that (a) have been granted a welfare exemption by the County under subdivision (g) of Section 214 of the Revenue and Taxation Code indicated in the Assessor’s Data finalized as of January 1 of the previous Fiscal Year, and (b) are exempt from the Special Tax pursuant to Section 53340(c) of the Act.

B. PROPERTY CATEGORIES AND MAXIMUM SPECIAL TAX RATES

1. **Classification of Parcels.** Each Fiscal Year, using the Definitions above and the Parcel records of the County Assessor’s Secured Tax Roll of July 1, the Authority shall cause each Parcel of land in the CFD to be classified as Taxable Property and Tax-Exempt Property. Taxable Property shall be further classified as Developed Property or Undeveloped Property.
2. **Assignment of Maximum Special Tax.** Each Fiscal Year, the Base Year Maximum Tax shown below shall be escalated as specified in Section C, Annual Adjustment of Maximum Special Tax, to determine the Maximum Special Tax for the upcoming Fiscal Year for each Land Use Classification.

Land Use Classification	Base Year Maximum Tax
Developed Property	\$0.0100 per Building Square Foot
Undeveloped Property	\$0.0000
Tax-Exempt Property	Exempt

3. **Conversion of a Tax-Exempt Property to a Taxable Property.** If a Tax-Exempt Property is not needed for public use and is converted to private use, it shall become subject to the Special Tax.

C. ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF MAXIMUM SPECIAL TAX

Beginning Fiscal Year 2026-27 and each Fiscal Year thereafter, the Maximum Special Tax shall be adjusted by three (3) percent for inflation.

D. DETERMINATION OF THE ANNUAL SPECIAL TAX

Commencing with Fiscal Year 2025-26, and for each subsequent Fiscal Year, the Board shall determine the Special Tax Requirement and shall levy the Annual Special Tax on each Assessor's Parcel of Taxable Property at one hundred percent of the applicable Maximum Special Tax to fund the Special Tax Requirement.

Subject to the preceding, the amount of Annual Special Tax levied upon any Taxable Property in any Fiscal Year shall not exceed the Maximum Special Tax for such Fiscal Year as computed herein.

The Board shall not levy a Special Tax on a Tax-Exempt Property.

E. PREPAYMENT OF THE SPECIAL TAX

Prepayment of the Special Tax is not authorized.

F. COLLECTION OF THE SPECIAL TAX

The Special Tax shall be collected each year in the same manner and at the same time as ad valorem property taxes are collected and shall be subject to the same penalties, interest, and lien priorities in the case of delinquency as is provided for ad valorem taxes. The Authority shall cause the actions required above to be done for each Fiscal Year in a timely manner to assure that the schedule of the Special Taxes to be collected are received by the County Auditor for inclusion with billings for such ad valorem taxes for the applicable Fiscal Year. However, the CFD Administrator may directly bill the Special Tax, may collect Special Taxes at a different time or in a different manner if necessary to meet the financial obligations of the Authority or as otherwise determined appropriate by the CFD Administrator.

G. DURATION OF THE SPECIAL TAX

Assessor's Parcels in the CFD shall remain subject to the Special Tax perpetually until ended by voters. If the Special Tax ceases to be levied, the Authority or its designee shall direct the County Recorder to record a Notice of Cessation of Special Tax. Such notice will state that the obligation to pay the Special Tax has ceased and that the lien imposed by the Notice of Special Tax Lien is extinguished.

H. CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY PROVISIONS

The proceeds of the Special Tax shall only be used as described in the Description of Services to be Funded by the CFD. The proceeds of the Special Tax shall be deposited into a fund, which shall be kept separate and apart from other funds of the Authority. No later than October 31 of the following Fiscal Year for which the Special Tax is in effect, the Authority shall prepare a report, for review and approval of the Board, detailing the

amount of funds collected and expended, and the status of any project authorized to be funded by the Special Tax.

In addition, a citizens advisory committee may report annually to the Board and the public regarding the expenditure of such funds to show that the Special Tax proceeds are spent for their authorized purposes.

I. APPEALS AND INTERPRETATION PROCEDURE

Any property owner within the CFD who believes that the portion of the Special Tax levied on the subject property is in error, may file a written appeal no later than June 30 of the Fiscal Year in which the levy occurred, with the Executive Director or his or her designee, appealing the levy of the Special Tax on the subject property. The Executive Director or his or her designee will promptly review the appeal, and, if necessary, meet with the applicant, and decide the merits of the appeal. If the findings of the Executive Officer or his or her designee verify that the Special Tax levied should be modified, the Special Tax levy for future Fiscal Years shall be corrected, and a credit against future Special Taxes shall be arranged, if applicable. Any overcharges shall be corrected solely by means of adjustments to future Special Tax levies; no cash refunds shall be made. Any dispute over the decision of the Executive Officer or his or her designee shall be referred to the Board and the decision of the Board shall be final.

Interpretation may be made by resolution of the Board for purposes of clarifying any vagueness or uncertainty as it relates to the application of the Special Tax rate, or application of the method of apportionment, or classification of properties or any definition applicable to the CFD.

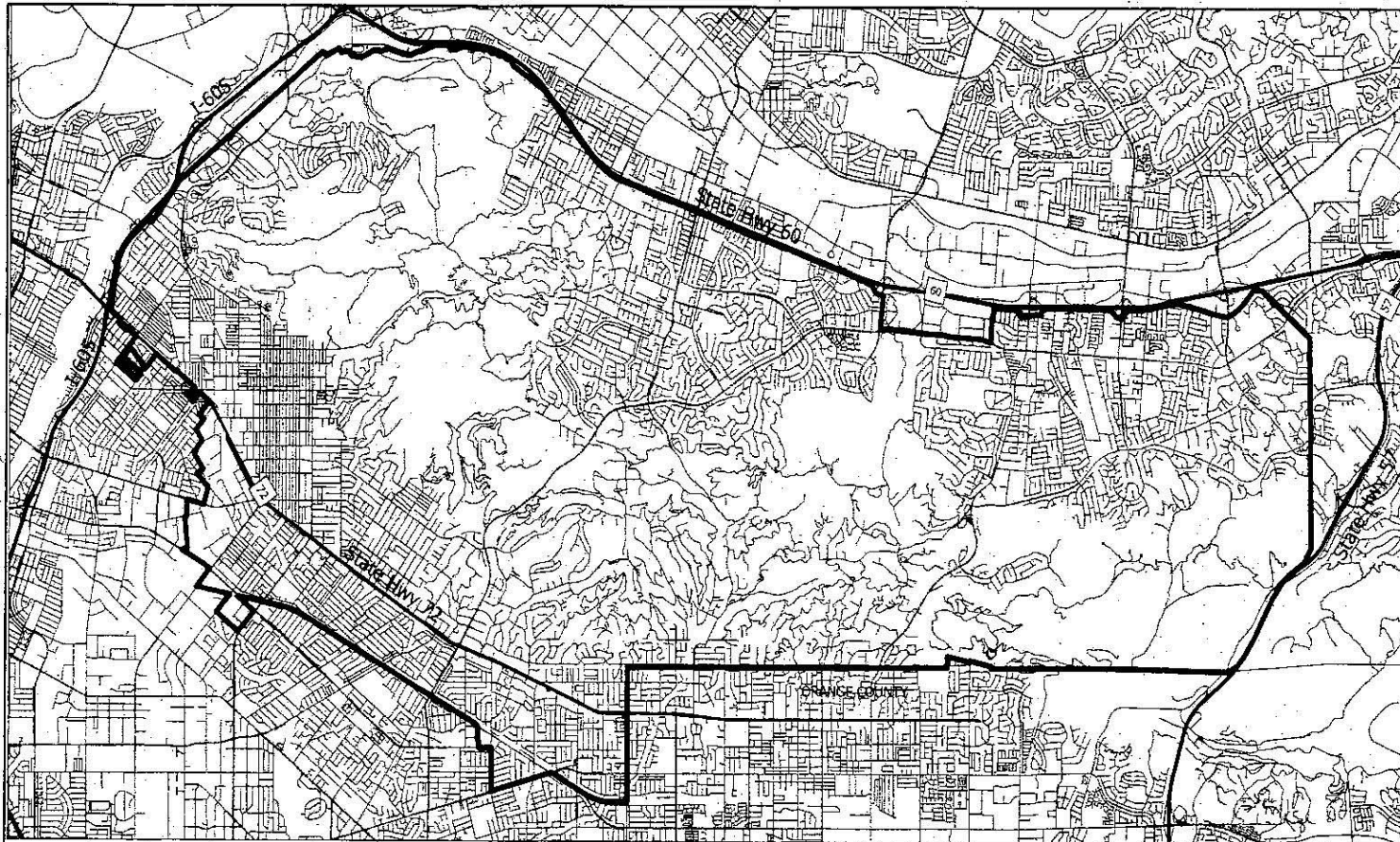
EXHIBIT C – PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF CFD

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection)

A full-scale map of the is on file in the Office of the Authority Clerk and was recorded on June 17, 2024, as Document No. 20240393968, and filed in Book 196 of Maps of Assessment and Community Facilities District at Pages 80 in the office of the County Recorder for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, which map is the final boundary map of the CFD.

The CFD boundaries generally include the cities of Whittier and La Habra Heights as well as portions of the communities of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights and Workman Mill.

A reduced-scale map showing the boundaries of CFD No. 2024-01 is provided on the following page.



FILED
 AT REQUEST OF
 CITY CLERK
 56
 NET 11 am
 IN BOOK 196
 AT PAGE 80
 OF ASSESSMENT MAPS
 LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA
 Register/Recorder/County Clerk
 BY Edwards
 Date
 FEES 8
 D.A. FEE Code 20 8.5

NOTE:
 REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE TO THE
 MAPS AND DEEDS OF RECORD IN THE
 OFFICE OF THE ASSESSOR OF THE
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FOR A
 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE LINES
 AND DIMENSIONS OF ANY PARCELS
 SHOWN HEREIN. THOSE MAPS SHALL
 GOVERN FOR ALL DETAILS CONCERNING
 THE LINES AND DIMENSIONS OF SUCH
 PARCELS. EACH PARCEL IS IDENTIFIED
 IN SAID MAPS BY ITS DISTINCTIVE
 ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER.

SECRETARY'S MAP FILING STATEMENT

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD SECRETARY
 OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION
 AUTHORITY, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF
 CALIFORNIA, THIS 13 DAY
 OF June, 2024.

Marilyn Baujan
 BOARD SECRETARY

CLERK'S MAP CERTIFICATE

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE WITHIN MAP SHOWING
 THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES
 DISTRICT NO. 2024-1, PUENTE HILLS HABITAT
 PRESERVATION AUTHORITY, COUNTY OF LOS
 ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, WAS APPROVED BY THE
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT
 PRESERVATION AUTHORITY AT A MEETING THEREOF,
 HELD ON THE 13 DAY OF June, 2024,
 BY ITS RESOLUTION NO. 2024-04.

Marilyn Baujan
 BOARD SECRETARY

RECORDER'S CERTIFICATE

FILED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024
 AT THE HOUR OF _____ O'CLOCK _____ M. IN BOOK _____
 OF MAPS OF ASSESSMENT AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICTS
 AT PAGE _____, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER,
 IN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

 COUNTY RECORDER, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Legend

- Community Facilities District 2024-1 Proposed Boundary
- Major Roads
- Roads

SCI Consulting Group
 4745 Mangels Blvd
 Fairfield, CA 94534
 (707) 430-4300

**PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF
 COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-1 OF THE
 PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY,
 CITY OF LOS ANGELES, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 Sheet 1 of 1 (PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION)**

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-01
(PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority ("Authority"), California will hold a Public Hearing on July 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at a meeting location of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority located at 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601, to consider the establishment of Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) ("CFD"). On June 12, 2024, the Board adopted Resolution 2024-04 entitled "Declaring the Intention to Establish A Community Facilities District", ("Resolution of Intention"), pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended, commencing with § 53311 of the California Government Code ("Act"). The resolution describes the extent of the District by reference to a map (which encompasses the Cities of Whittier, La Habra Heights, and portions of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and Workman Mill Rd.). The services proposed to be provided in the District are the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention, ranger safety patrols; and recreation program services as more specifically described in the Resolution of Intention (the "Services"). Additionally, the CFD will fund the collection and accumulation of reserves for these activities and cover administrative or incidental expenses related to them. The Resolution also describes the rate and method of apportionment of the special tax ("RMA") which will be put before the voters if approved by the Board. The special tax rate is 1c per square foot of developed property, as described in the RMA (the "Special Tax"). At the Public Hearing, the testimony of all interested persons or taxpayers for or against the establishment of the CFD, the extent of the CFD and the furnishing of the Services, will be heard. Protests may be oral or in writing. Any protests pertaining to the regularity or sufficiency of the proceedings shall be in writing and shall clearly set forth the irregularities and defects to which objection is made. Any written protest not personally presented by the author of that protest at the hearing shall be filed with the Board Secretary at or before the time fixed for the hearing at the address above. The Board may waive any irregularities in the form or content of any written protest and at the hearing and may correct minor defects in the proceedings. Written protests may be withdrawn in writing at any time before the conclusion of the hearing.

If a majority protest the establishment of the CFD is filed, as determined in accordance with § 53324 of the Act, no further proceedings to create the CFD or to authorize the Special Tax shall be taken for a period of one (1) year from the date of the decision of the Board. Per Section 53324, if 50 percent or more of the registered voters residing within the territory proposed to be included in the district, or the owners of one-half or more of the area of the land in the territory proposed to be included in the district and not exempt from the special tax, file written protests against the establishment of the district, and protests are not withdrawn so as to reduce the value of the protests to less than a majority, no further proceedings to create the specified community facilities district or to authorize the specified special tax shall be taken for a period of one year from the date of the decision of the legislative body. If the majority protests are only against the furnishing of a specified type or types of services within the CFD or portions of the Special Tax, those services or that portion of the Special Tax shall be eliminated. If the Board determines to establish the CFD and proposes to levy the Special Tax, the Board will submit the levy of the Special Tax to the qualified electors of the CFD. The vote will be of the registered voters within the CFD in the November 5, 2024 General Election. Reference is made to the Resolution of Intention on file in the office of the Board Secretary for details about the extent of the CFD, the Services, the Special Tax, and the protest proceeding. A copy of the Resolution of Intention and the associated staff report are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Board Secretary, Marilyn Barajas, at 7333 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602, or can be obtained by calling the Board Secretary at (562) 945-9003 or emailing the Board Secretary at mbarajas@habitatauthority.org.

**San Gabriel Valley Tribune
Published: 7/8/24**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-01
(PUENTE HILLS PRESERVE PROTECTION)**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority ("Authority"), California will hold a Public Hearing on July 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at a meeting location of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority located at 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601, to consider the establishment of Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) ("CFD"). On June 12, 2024, the Board adopted Resolution 2024-04 entitled "Declaring the Intention to Establish A Community Facilities District", ("Resolution of Intention"), pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, as amended, commencing with § 53311 of the California Government Code ("Act"). The resolution describes the extent of the District by reference to a map (which encompasses the Cities of Whittier, La Habra Heights, and portions of Hacienda Heights, Rowland Heights, and Workman Mill Rd.). The services proposed to be provided in the District are the maintenance, servicing, protection, preservation of open space, natural or other lands and improvements owned or managed by the Authority; reduce the risk of wildfire and improve local wildfire prevention, ranger safety patrols; and recreation program services as more specifically described in the Resolution of Intention (the "Services"). Additionally, the CFD will fund the collection and accumulation of reserves for these activities and cover administrative or incidental expenses related to them. The Resolution also describes the rate and method of apportionment of the special tax ("RMA") which will be put before the voters if approved by the Board. The special tax rate is 1c per square foot of developed property, as described in the RMA (the "Special Tax"). At the Public Hearing, the testimony of all interested persons or taxpayers for or against the establishment of the CFD, the extent of the CFD and the furnishing of the Services, will be heard. Protests may be oral or in writing. Any protests pertaining to the regularity or sufficiency of the proceedings shall be in writing and shall clearly set forth the irregularities and defects to which objection is made. Any written protest not personally presented by the author of that protest at the hearing shall be filed with the Board Secretary at or before the time fixed for the hearing at the address above. The Board may waive any irregularities in the form or content of any written protest and at the hearing and may correct minor defects in the proceedings. Written protests may be withdrawn in writing at any time before the conclusion of the hearing.

If a majority protest the establishment of the CFD is filed, as determined in accordance with § 53324 of the Act, no further proceedings to create the CFD or to authorize the Special Tax shall be taken for a period of one (1) year from the date of the decision of the Board. Per Section 53324, if 50 percent or more of the registered voters residing within the territory proposed to be included in the district, or the owners of one-half or more of the area of the land in the territory proposed to be included in the district and not exempt from the special tax, file written protests against the establishment of the district, and protests are not withdrawn so as to reduce the value of the protests to less than a majority, no further proceedings to create the specified community facilities district or to authorize the specified special tax shall be taken for a period of one year from the date of the decision of the legislative body. If the majority protests are only against the furnishing of a specified type or types of services within the CFD or portions of the Special Tax, those services or that portion of the Special Tax shall be eliminated. If the Board determines to establish the CFD and proposes to levy the Special Tax, the Board will submit the levy of the Special Tax to the qualified electors of the CFD. The vote will be of the registered voters within the CFD in the November 5, 2024 General Election. Reference is made to the Resolution of Intention on file in the office of the Board Secretary for details about the extent of the CFD, the Services, the Special Tax, and the protest proceeding. A copy of the Resolution of Intention and the associated staff report are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Board Secretary, Marilyn Barajas, at 7333 Greenleaf Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602, or can be obtained by calling the Board Secretary at (562) 945-9003 or emailing the Board Secretary at mbarajas@habitatauthority.org.

Whittier Daily News
Published: 7/9/24

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 18, 2024

To: Board Members

From: *Andrea Gullo*
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item No. 6) Discussion and possible action approving Authority Resolution 2024-10 entitled Establishing the Salary, Benefits and Management for Employees.

Recommendation:

That the Board approve the attached Resolution 2024-10.

Background:

The interagency Personnel Agreement (A00-046) between the City of Whittier and Habitat Authority provides that the Authority's employees receive benefits similar to those the City of Whittier provides to like positions. According to the agreement, "Compensation of Authority employees and/or contractors shall be in accord with City policies, procedures and systems", however the Board has previously modified and tailored benefits for select positions.

The changes to the City of Whittier's policies, procedures and systems have been adopted by the City, and are explained in the attached City staff report dated June 11, 2024 on this matter. Consistent with the City, the Authority Management Level II position has been adjusted to receive a four percent (4%) salary increase effective the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2024. Similar increases for the other full-time positions were approved last year consist with actions of the City. Also, at the request of City staff the salary schedule for Program Analyst I/II/Senior positions have been corrected by making the last pay steps a 5% increase from the previous steps. Attached for your consideration is the proposed resolution 2023-10.

Fiscal Impact:

The proposed changes were included in the approved FY 24-25 budget.

Attachments:

Resolution 2024-10
City of Whittier staff report dated 6-11-24

**Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill
Resolution No. 2024-10**

**A Resolution of the Board of Directors to
Establish the Salary, Benefits and Management for Employees**

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority) is a joint powers authority established pursuant to Section 6500 et. seq. of the Government Code. Authority conducts its business in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Powers Authority Agreement dated February 15, 1994.

WHEREAS, the Authority has contracted with the City of Whittier for personnel services, Agreement dated February 8, 2000, and;

WHEREAS, the Authority has adopted general practices and policies of the City as it pertains to managing, compensating and employing personnel, and;

WHEREAS, the Authority has adopted Resolutions No.'s 2000-03, 2001-04, 2002-02, 2003-04, 2004-01, 2004-02, 2004-03, 2004-05, 2004-09, 2005-01, 2005-03, 2005-04, 2006-01, 2006-04, 2007-02, 2007-03, 2007-06, 2008-03, 2008-04, 2009-07, 2012-02, 2013-04, 2013-07, 2014-01, 2015-01, 2015-02, 2016-03, 2017-02, 2018-01, 2020-03, 2021-05, 2022-13, 2023-05 relating to Authority personnel which are consolidated in, and replaced by, this resolution. All foregoing additions and changes will be included herewith.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors that the following provisions be adopted:

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Automobile Insurance Coverage. Effective October 28, 2004, the Authority shall reimburse an employee who is required to use his/her personal vehicle for Authority business and who is required to obtain and maintain automobile insurance coverage on that vehicle for the cost of preferred amounts of coverage as follows: \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per accident and \$100,000 property damage or Combined Single Limit (CSL) of \$100,000, and provide proof of same upon request by the Authority. The mileage reimbursement rate shall be the same as designated by the Internal Revenue Service of the U.S. Treasury Department. This section shall apply to all Authority employees.
2. Hiring, Disciplining, and Terminating Employees. The Executive Director may hire an appropriate candidate for Authority positions. The Executive Director may enact appropriate employee disciplinary action.
3. CalPERS (PERS) Contributions. Employees receiving PERS will contribute an amount equal to 12% of their PERSable compensation towards the City's PERS cost. This employee contribution includes the employee portion, with the balance towards the Authority (City) portion of PERS costs, as additional member contributions pursuant to California Code 20516(a) Cost Share provision.

4. Effective for full-time employees retiring on or after July 1, 2013: retiring employees with 15 years of CalPERS service credit and are at least 50 years of age, where the Authority is their final CalPERS employer, are eligible to receive a monthly healthcare reimbursement of \$415 (or subsequently updated rate used by the City of Whittier) until the age of 65, at which time it discontinues.
5. Group Health Insurance – The Authority participates in the City of Whittier’s corresponding health insurance group program and associated employee and employer contribution rates.
6. Longevity Pay – Applies to full-time employees: \$1,500 at 10 years, \$2,500 at 15 years, \$3,500 at 20 years, \$4,500 at 25 years, \$5,500 at 30 years, \$6,500 at 35 years; \$7,500 at 40 years.
7. Accrued Leaves – Full time employees will be given the ability to use accrued leave (vacation, sick, and/or personal necessity) after completion of six (6) months of employment.
8. Bilingual Pay – Full time employees will receive \$145 per month.
9. Retirement Health Savings (RHS) Account – Enact a plan available to all employees by December 2023.
10. Vacation Accruals – Increase rate tiers by eight (8) hours consistent with the City of Whittier.
11. Bereavement – Update language per California State Assembly Bill (AB) 1949.
12. Other relevant changes as applicable and appropriate.

II. MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1. Initial Rate of Compensation. The initial rate of compensation of the Executive Director shall be the first step of the salary range that corresponds to the employee’s classification provided, however, that the Board of Directors or his or her designee may approve a higher rate of compensation at any step within the salary range because of the Executive Director’s qualifications or ability.
2. Advancement in the Rate of Compensation. Advancement in the rate of compensation shall be in accordance with the following requirements:
 - a) After the first six (6) months of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and, if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range.
 - b) After the second six (6) months of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and, if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range.
 - c) Each year thereafter, for a maximum of four additional years of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will

advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range. In no event shall the amount of compensation exceed the maximum of the salary range.

3. Salary Range. The classification title and corresponding salary range of the first payroll period commencing on July 1, 2024 is as follows. The separation between each salary step shall be approximately five percent (5%). The pay range is 9,079.96 -12,168.02.
4. Benefits. Benefits are described in employee contract and as amended herein. Effective February 26, 2006, CalPERS Retirement formula of 2.5% @ 55 was adopted for all local miscellaneous members. This formula is now in place for "Classic Members." Effective January 1, 2013, all newly hired employees who are not "Classic Members" will be classified as "New Members" and shall have the new 2% at 62 CalPERS Retirement formula. Employee shall pay contributions for either of these two plans under Section 414 (h)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.
5. Overtime. The classification of Executive Director is exempt (i.e. ineligible) to receive overtime pay.
6. Employment Status. The position of Executive Director shall be considered "at-will" which means that he/she shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors and may be terminated at any time without the right of any appeal, subject to any specific terms in the Employment Agreement which may address compensation benefits at the time of termination.
7. Paid holidays of 92 hours per year as designated by the Authority, plus adding Federal holiday of June 19 (Juneteenth) consistent with the City of Whittier

III. FULL-TIME POSITION (NON-MANAGEMENT)

A. ECOLOGIST I/II

Ecologist is a full-time position to work approximately 40 hours per week.

1. Initial Rate of Compensation. The initial rate of compensation of the Ecologist I/II shall be the first step of the salary range that corresponds to the employee's classification provided, however, that the Executive Director may approve a higher rate of compensation at any step within the salary range because of his/her qualifications or ability.
2. Advancement in the Rate of Compensation: Advancement in the rate of compensation shall be in accordance with the following:
 - a) After the first six (6) months of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and, if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range.
 - b) If on step two after the second six (6) months of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and, if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range.

- c) Each year of employment thereafter, the employee will be provided with a performance review and if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range. In no event shall the amount of compensation exceed the maximum of the assigned salary range.
4. Salary Range. The classification title and corresponding salary range and salary steps as of the first payroll period commencing on or after July 1, 2023 follow. Additionally, there is a four percent (4%) salary increase effective the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2024, and a three percent (3%) salary increase effective the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2025. The separation between each salary step shall be five percent (5%). The salary ranges are as follows:
 - 2023 I: 6510.61 - 8724.83; II: 7,487.87 - 10034.46.
 - 2024 I: 6771.03 – 9073.82; II: 7787.39 – 10435.84
 - 2025 I: 6974.16 – 9346.04; II: 8021.01 – 10748.91
 - a) Appropriate step increases shall be approved by the Executive Director as a ministerial act.
 4. Benefits. The Authority shall provide benefits as follows:
 - a) Paid holidays of 92 hours per year as designated by the Authority, plus adding the Federal holiday of June 19 (Juneteenth) consistent with the City of Whittier.
 - b) Paid vacation of eighty (80) hours upon completing twelve (12) months of service to the Authority.
 - c) Sick leave to accrue at 8 hours per month (total 96 hours per year).
 - d) Group Health Insurance – Consistent with those provided through the City of Whittier.
 - e) An agency car is available for business use. However, mileage reimbursement will be provided to the Ecologist I/II for the use of her personal vehicle to conduct authorized Authority business such as travel between the Authority’s office and the Puente Hills. The Ecologist I/II shall possess a valid California Class C driver’s license.
 - f) Benefits are described in employee contract and as amended herein. Effective February 26, 2006, CalPERS Retirement formula of 2.5% @ 55 was adopted for all local miscellaneous members. This formula is now in place for “Classic Members.” Effective January 1, 2013, all newly hired employees who are not “Classic Members” will be classified as “New Members” and shall have the new 2% at 62 CalPERS Retirement formula. Employee shall pay contributions for either of these two plans under Section 414 (h)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code
 5. Overtime. The position of Ecologist I/II is exempt (i.e. ineligible) to receive overtime pay, and subject to Habitat Authority personnel rules.
 6. Employment Status. The position shall be considered “at-will” which means that he/she shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director and may be terminated at any time without the right of any appeal.

B. PROGRAM ANALYST I/II/SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST, HABITAT AUTHORITY.

Program Analyst is a full-time position to work approximately 40 hours per week.

1. Initial Rate of Compensation. The initial rate of compensation of the Program Analyst I/II/Senior shall be the first step of the salary range that corresponds to the employee's classification provided, however, that the Executive Director may approve a higher rate of compensation at any step within the salary range because of his/her qualifications or ability.
2. Advancement in the Rate of Compensation: Advancement in the rate of compensation shall be in accordance with the following:
 - a) After the first six (6) months of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and, if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range.
 - b) If on step two after the second six (6) months of employment, the employee will be provided with a performance review and, if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range.
 - c) Each year of employment thereafter, the employee will be provided with a performance review and if the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance to the next salary step in his/her salary range. In no event shall the amount of compensation exceed the maximum of the assigned salary range.
3. Salary Range: The classification title and corresponding salary range and salary steps as of the first payroll period commencing on or after July 1, 2023 follow. Additionally, there is a four percent (4%) salary increase effective the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2024, and a three percent (3%) salary increase effective the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2025. The separation between each salary step shall be five percent (5%). The pay ranges are as follows:
2023 I: 6157-8251.24; II: 6775-9079.15; Senior: 7290-9769.30.
2024 I: 6403.49-8581.29; II: 7045.58-9441.75; Senior: 7581.76-10160.28
2025 I: 6595.59-8838.72; II: 7256.95-9725; Senior: 7809.21-10465.09
- a) Appropriate step increases shall be approved by the Executive Director as a ministerial act.
4. Benefits: Same as Ecologist position above.
5. Overtime. The position of Program Analyst I/II/Senior is exempt (i.e. ineligible) to receive overtime pay, and subject to Habitat Authority personnel rules.
6. Employment Status. The position shall be considered "at-will" which means that he/she shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director and may be terminated at any time without the right of any appeal.

IV. PART-TIME POSITIONS

A. STAFF ASSISTANT II (INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS COORDINATOR)

Interpretive Programs Coordinator is a part-time position to work approximately 19-hours per week and may work additional time as may be determined by the Executive Director not to exceed average 19 hours per week. Interpretive Programs Coordinator's work week will

generally consist of working three days a week, and available other days when needed for meetings as determined by the Executive Director. Interpretive Programs Coordinator will also be available for night and weekend meetings and/or events as determined by the Executive Director. This position may require wearing a uniform as determined by the Executive Director.

1. Initial Rate of Compensation. The initial rate of compensation for Interpretive Programs Coordinator shall be the first level of the salary range, however, the Executive Director may approve a higher rate of compensation within the salary range due to his/her qualifications or abilities.
2. Advancement. The employee will be provided with a performance review on an annual basis. If the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance. Appropriate increases shall be approved by the Executive Director as a ministerial act. In no event shall the amount of compensation exceed the maximum salary range.
3. Hourly Pay Range. Pay range for Interpretive Programs Coordinator shall be \$22.78 per hour to \$30.52 per hour.
4. Benefits. The Authority shall provide benefits to the Interpretive Programs Coordinator as follows:
 - a) An agency car is available for business use. However, mileage reimbursement will be provided to the Interpretive Programs Coordinator for the use of her personal vehicle to conduct authorized Authority business such as travel between the Authority's office and the Authority's jurisdiction. The Interpretive Programs Coordinator shall possess a valid California Class C driver's license.
 - b) Paid sick time in accordance with City of Whittier Resolution 8706, adopted July 7, 2015. Said resolution authorizes 24 hours of annual non-accruing sick time for part-time employees beginning July 1, 2015.
5. Overtime. The position of Interpretive Programs Coordinator is non-exempt (i.e. eligible) to receive overtime pay.
6. Employment Status. The position shall be considered "at-will" which means that he/she shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director and may be terminated at any time without the right of any appeal.

B. STAFF ASSISTANT I/II (NATURALIST)

The Naturalist is a part-time position to work approximately 10-hours per week and may work additional time as may be determined by the Executive Director. The Naturalist's work week will generally consist of working two days a week, and available other days when needed for meetings as determined by the Interpretive Programs Coordinator or Executive Director. The Naturalist will also be available for night and weekend meetings and/or events as determined by the Interpretive Programs Coordinator or Executive Director. This position may require wearing a uniform as determined by the Executive Director. This position reports directly to the Interpretive Programs Coordinator or to the or Executive Director in absence of the Interpretive Programs Coordinator.

1. Initial Rate of Compensation. The initial rate of compensation for Naturalist shall be the first level of the salary range, however, the Interpretive Programs Coordinator and Executive Director may approve a higher rate of compensation within the salary range due to his/her qualifications or abilities.
2. Advancement. The employee will be provided with a performance review on an annual basis. If the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance. Appropriate increases shall be approved by the Executive Director as a ministerial act. In no event shall the amount of compensation exceed the maximum salary range.
3. Hourly Pay Range. Pay range for Naturalist shall start at \$16 per hour to \$25 per hour.
4. Benefits. The Authority shall provide benefits to the Naturalist as follows:
 - a) An agency car is available for business use. However, mileage reimbursement will be provided to the Naturalist for the use of his/her personal vehicle to conduct authorized Authority business such as travel between the Authority's office and the Authority's jurisdiction. The Naturalist shall possess a valid California Class C driver's license.
 - b) Paid sick time in accordance with City of Whittier Resolution 8706, adopted July 7, 2015. Said resolution authorizes 24 hours of annual non-accruing sick time for part-time employees beginning July 1, 2015.
5. Overtime. The position of Naturalist is non-exempt (i.e. eligible) to receive overtime pay.
6. Employment Status. The position shall be considered "at-will" which means that he/she shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director and may be terminated at any time without the right of any appeal.

C. STAFF ASSISTANT II, HABITAT

The Staff Assistant II is a part-time position to work approximately 10 to 18 hours per week and may work additional time as may be determined by the Executive Director. The Staff Assistant's work week will generally consist of working two to three days a week, and available other days when needed for meetings as determined by the Executive Director. The Staff Assistant will also be available for night and weekend meetings and/or events as determined by the Executive Director. This position reports directly to the Executive Director, or his/her designee.

1. Initial Rate of Compensation. The initial rate of compensation for Staff Assistant shall be the first level of the salary range, however, Executive Director may approve a higher rate of compensation within the salary range due to his/her qualifications or abilities.
2. Advancement. The employee will be provided with a performance review on an annual basis. If the overall review is satisfactory or higher, his/her rate of compensation will advance. Appropriate increases shall be approved by the Executive Director as a ministerial act. In no event shall the amount of compensation exceed the maximum salary range.
3. Hourly Pay Range. Pay range for Staff Assistant II shall start at \$22.78 per hour to \$30.52 per hour.

4. Benefits. The Authority shall provide benefits to the Staff Assistant as follows:
 - a) An agency car is available for business use. However, mileage reimbursement will be provided to the Staff Assistant for the use of his/her personal vehicle to conduct authorized Authority business such as travel between the Authority's office and the Authority's jurisdiction. The Staff Assistant shall possess a valid California Class C driver's license.
 - b) Paid sick time in accordance with City of Whittier Resolution 8706, adopted July 7, 2015. Said resolution authorizes 24 hours of annual non-accruing sick time for part-time employees beginning July 1, 2015.
5. Overtime. The position of Staff Assistant is non-exempt (i.e. eligible) to receive overtime pay.
6. Employment Status. The position shall be considered "at-will" which means that he/she shall serve at the pleasure of the Executive Director and may be terminated at any time without the right of any appeal.

V. ADOPTION

1. Term. This Resolution shall remain in full force and effect except as modified in the future by the Board of Directors.
2. This resolution supersedes previous resolutions.
3. Conflict of Terms. In the event that there are conflicts between this Resolution and other adopted resolutions or parts thereof, the terms and conditions of this Resolution shall prevail.
4. Procedure for Adoption. The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be given approval to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Board, and the Secretary to the Board of Directors shall certify to the passage and adoption thereof.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting held the 18th day of July 2024.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTIONS:

Chair, Board of Directors, Ivan Sulic

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board of Directors, Marlyn Barajas



Agenda Report

City Council

Date: June 11, 2024

To: Brian Saeki, City Manager

From: Yolanda Martinez, Human Resources/Risk Management Director

Subject: Fiscal Year 2024-25 Salary Resolution

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2024-35 adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Salary Resolution and rescinding Resolution No. 2023-51.

DISCUSSION

The proposed Salary Resolution for Fiscal Year 2024-25 incorporates the applicable provisions in the Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between the City and Whittier Police Officers' Association (WPOA), Whittier Police Management Association (WPMA) and Whittier City Employees' Association (WCEA) and applies appropriate provisions for unrepresented Management and Confidential employees, and Seasonal, Temporary and Part-Time Employees.

This is the second year of the three-year agreement entered in 2023 between the City and the Employee Associations/Unrepresented Employees. As negotiated for the second year of the approved MOUs, the changes made to the Salary Resolution for Fiscal Year 2024-25 includes the following, effective the first pay period commencing on or after July 1, 2024:

- Four percent (4%) salary increase to WCEA, Unrepresented Management Level III & II, Confidential employees.
- Five percent (5%) salary increase to WPOA, WPMA, Unrepresented Management Level I employees, and Police Support Services Manager.

In furtherance of the City Council's strategic goals, the following personnel changes are proposed for the next fiscal year to continue adapting the organization to best serve the needs of the public efficiently, transparently and effectively:

Administration:

- Add one (1) Community Engagement Manager

City Clerk:

- Reclassify all City Clerk Specialist positions to City Clerk Specialist I/II

Community Development:

- Add one (1) Permit Technician I/II
- Add one (1) Administrative Intern (part-time)

- Reclassify one (1) Secretary to Administrative Secretary

Finance:

- Transfer one (1) Code Enforcement Officer in Police Department to Business License Inspector/Ombudsman in Finance

Human Resources/Risk Management:

- Reclassify one (1) Payroll Technician to Human Resources Technician
- Add one (1) Emergency/Wildlife Management Coordinator (Position shared 50/50 with the City of Santa Fe Springs)

Library:

- Reclassify one (1) Librarian to Senior Librarian

Parks, Recreation, & Community Services:

- Add one (1) Park Equipment Operator I/II
- Add one (1) Park Maintenance Worker I/II

Public Works:

- Reclassify one (1) Street Maintenance Supervisor to Electrical Supervisor
- Add one (1) Facilities Maintenance Worker
- Add one (1) Temporary Clerical (part-time)
- Add two (2) Civil Engineering Assistant/Associate
- Add one (1) Water Superintendent
- Reclassify all Senior Water Utility Worker to Senior Water Utility Worker I/II

Police:

- Add one (1) Police Officer
- Add one (1) Property and Evidence Technician

Seasonal, Temporary and Part-Time Employees

Hourly rates have been updated effective January 1, 2024, to reflect the new State minimum wage of \$16 per hour.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of the Salary Resolution changes above is incorporated in the adopted City budget for the 2024-25 Fiscal Year.

ATTACHMENTS

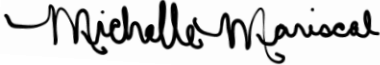
A. Salary Resolution No. 2024-35

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 18, 2024

To: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

From: 
Michelle Mariscal, Ecologist

Subject: Agenda Item No. 7) Discussion and possible action regarding Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Caltrans' I-605 Corridor Improvement Project.

Recommendation:

That the Board discuss, take any appropriate action or provide direction to staff.

Background:

Attached for discussion is a fact sheet for the I-605 Corridor Improvement Project being proposed by Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). In short, according to the project webpage, Metro is working in coordination with Caltrans to improve mobility along the I-605 corridor from the 105 to the 10. This involves evaluation of four project alternatives, including one no-build and three build alternatives, to add high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, also known as carpool lanes, or high-occupancy toll lanes, also known as ExpressLanes, in both directions (<https://www.metro.net/projects/i-605-corridor-improvement-project/>). Public meetings were scheduled through July 16, 2024 prior to the release of the draft environmental document. The release date of the environmental document is still to be determined.

Staff will continue to gather information regarding the project as it becomes available.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Project Update

We heard your concerns and are taking action! The I-605 Corridor Improvements Project is presently undergoing revisions to integrate the feedback received prior to the scheduled release of the Draft Environmental Document.

The reimagined I-605 Corridor Improvement Project (Project) will focus on developing improvements that:

- > Minimize freeway design footprint with the goal of avoiding full residential displacements
- > Provide multimodal, safety and mobility benefits that increase the movement of people
- > Incentivize multi-passenger trips and zero-emission vehicle utilization using Express Lanes or high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes
- > Provide Complete Streets improvements for pedestrian safe access
- > Integrate street and ramp intersection elements
- > Incorporate transit enhancements such as bus shelters
- > Metro and Caltrans have coordinated to consider geometric design changes that eliminated all residential displacements while still providing safety and mobility enhancements.

Study Area

The Project area includes the cities of Norwalk, Downey, Santa Fe Springs, Pico Rivera, Whittier, South El Monte, El Monte, Industry, Baldwin Park, and the unincorporated Los Angeles County areas. Public outreach will extend beyond the I-605 corridor to reach adjacent neighborhoods, job centers, transit hubs, and other major corridors including I-105, I-5, SR-60, I-10, and other key destinations that would be most served by the proposed improvements.

Schedule

In the Summer of 2024, the Project team will host a series of community meetings to share the updated project objectives, refined alternatives, and proposed process for moving forward with the input from surrounding community and stakeholders. Information learned from these community meetings will be used to inform the Metro Board and to request moving forward with the environmental process, including a robust community engagement plan.

Project Overview

Metro has a plan to make it easier to get around LA, which includes less congestion with projects like the I-605 Corridor Improvement Project.

Metro is working in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to evaluate four alternatives, including one no build and three build alternatives, to either add high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, also known as a carpool lanes, or high-occupancy toll lanes, also known as an ExpressLanes, in both directions along I-605, from the I-105 to I-10, within the freeway right-of-way to the extent possible.

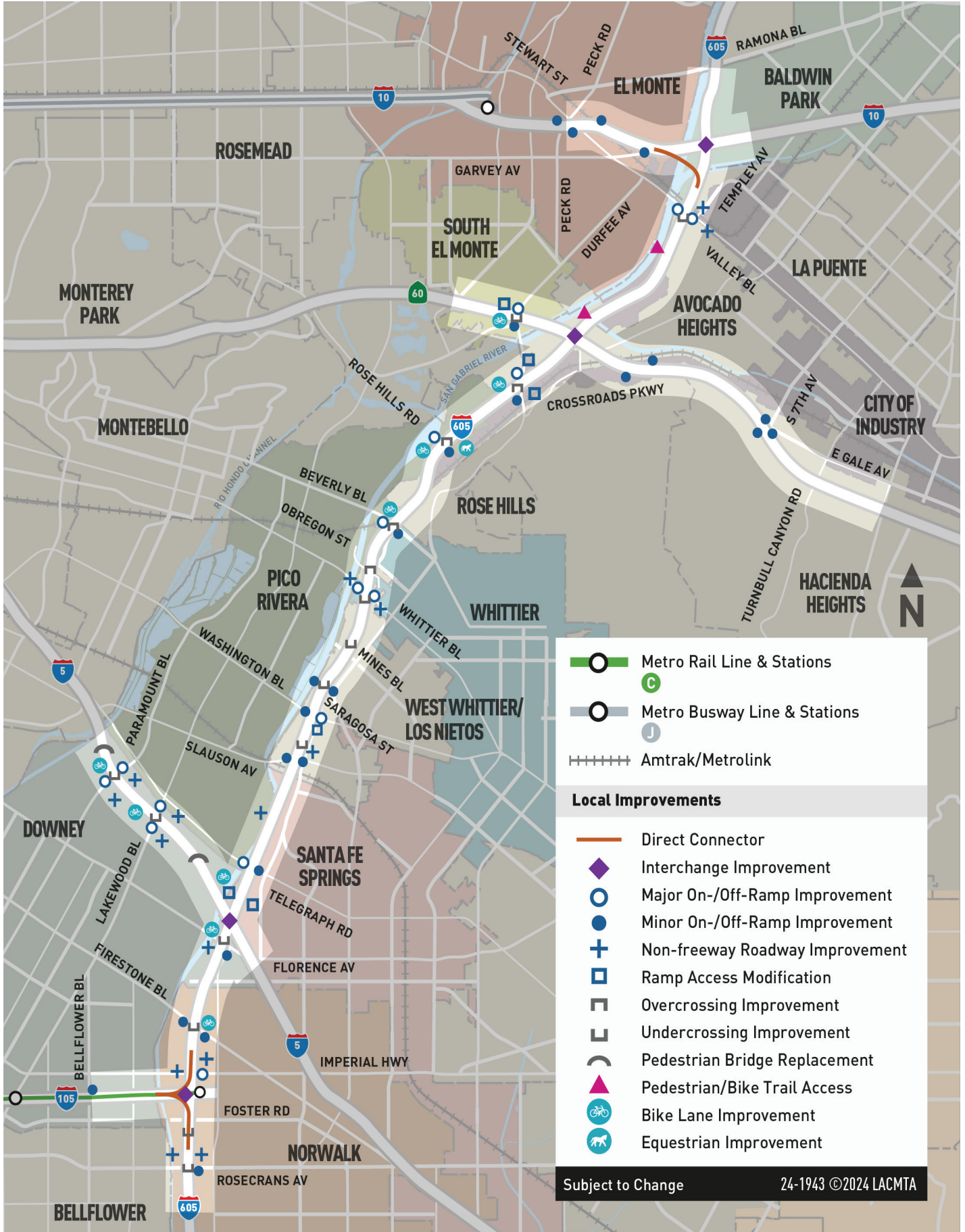
The Project will analyze the following alternatives along I-605:

- > Alternative 1: Existing conditions (no build)
- > Alternative 2: Convert the existing HOV lane in each direction to an ExpressLane and add local multimodal improvements
- > Alternative 3: Convert the existing HOV lane in each direction to an ExpressLane, add a second ExpressLane in each direction, and add local multimodal improvements
- > Alternative 4: Maintain the existing HOV lane in each direction, add a second HOV lane in each direction, and add local multimodal improvements.

The Project will include improvements along I-105, I-5, SR-60, and I-10, and will evaluate Transportation System Management/Transportation Demand Management (TSM/TDM) strategies, Complete Streets improvements, transit enhancements, as well as improvements to promote walking, biking, equestrian, and transit access in communities adjacent to the I-605 Corridor.

Additional goals of the I-605 CIP are to provide improvements to facilitate an integrated approach for all modes of transportation. The project team will consider the social, economic, and environmental impacts alongside technical aspects to ensure decisions are made in the best interest of the public.

I-605 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT STUDY AREA



Background

The I-605 freeway is a north-south corridor that traverses from the southeast LA County Gateway Cities to the San Gabriel Valley foothill communities and provides connections to nine east-west interstate freeways and regional routes.

The corridor experiences collisions at rates higher than the statewide average for similar facilities, high travel times, and lower trip reliability during peak commute hours. Traffic congestion continues to impact the project corridor with 300,000 vehicles traversing the corridor per day. Segments of the existing HOV lanes are classified as “degraded” by federal standards, meaning that speeds on the existing HOV lanes are less than 45 miles per hour more than 18% of the time. Additionally, peak hour speeds average less than 45 miles for 29% of the time or more.

Proposed improvements to the I-605 freeway focus on multimodal, safety, and mobility benefits, including pedestrian, bicycle, equestrian trail, and transit connections along the corridor as well as HOV or


ExpressLanes to help increase time reliability. In addition, Metro is implementing new ExpressLanes on the I-105 and currently operates ExpressLanes on the I-10 and I-110. Once complete, an ExpressLane network will connect Los Angeles to Southeast LA County.


About ExpressLanes

Metro ExpressLanes are designed to improve traffic flow and provide motorists, including solo drivers, a more reliable travel option in LA County. ExpressLanes allow vehicles meeting occupancy requirements to travel for free with the use of a FasTrak Flex transponder, while also providing single-occupancy vehicles the option to pay a toll to use the lane.

Tolls for vehicles that don't qualify to travel for free are calculated based on traffic conditions and vary according to the level of congestion – tolls are higher when traffic congestion is heavier and lower when traffic is lighter. ExpressLanes revenue is reinvested into transit services and other improvements along the corridor from which it was generated.

CONTACT US

 **Carlos J. Montez, Project Manager**
Kim Tachiki-Chin, Interim Area Manager, Gateway Cities
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One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-18-2
Los Angeles, CA 90012

 213-922-4091

 1605corridor@metro.net

 metro.net/I-605-CIP

 [@metrolosangeles](https://twitter.com/metrolosangeles)

 [losangelesmetro](https://www.facebook.com/losangelesmetro)

Additional Materials

Minutes
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
April 15, 2024

The special meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee was held on Monday, April 15, 2024, at Palm Park, 5703 Palm Ave, Whittier, CA 90601.

I. CALL TO ORDER.

Chair Andros called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL.

A roll call was taken, and there was a quorum at this time.

Members Present: Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles
Matthew Liang	Couty of Los Angeles
Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
Catherine Houwen, Vice Chair	La Habra Heights
Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier
Dr. Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier
Shelley Andros, Chair	Whittier

Members Absent: Adam Nazaroff	La Habra Heights
John Ford	County of Los Angeles

Authority Representatives Present:

Andrea Gullo, Executive Director
Marlyn Barajas, Program Analyst
Kenn Hughes, MRCA Deputy Chief Ranger

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

There were no public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 26, 2024, SPECIAL MEETING.

Vice Chair Houwen motioned to approve these minutes as drafted. Member Liang seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motioned passed unanimously.

V. STANDING REPORTS:

a. REPORT BY BOARD LIAISON ON PREVIOUS MONTH'S AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING.

Vice Chair Houwen, Board Liaison, provided this report.

b. SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT.

Program Analyst Barajas provided this report.

c. COMMITTEE MEMBER FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC AS IT RELATES TO THE AUTHORITY.

There was discussion about the Habitat Authority's participation in the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts Earth Day event. It was mentioned that it was a good event and the Habitat Authority's booth had a lot of visitors. It was also mentioned that Friends of the Whittier Hills had a booth next to the Habitat Authority's.

Executive Director Gullo gave a presentation to the YMCA Service Club.

Member Cavanaugh mentioned that she will contact the Lions Club and the Rotary Club for an opportunity to have Executive Director Gullo present.

VI. DISCUSSION, RECEIVE AND FILE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2024 MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (MRCA) RANGER REPORTS.

Ranger Hughes provided this report, and the reports were received and filed.

VII. PRESENTATION BY AUTHORITY CONSULTANT, TEAMCIVX, AND DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY RESULTS PROCESSED BY AUTHORITY CONSULTANT FAIRBANK, MASLIN, MAULLIN, METZ & ASSOCIATES.

Joy Kummer from TeamCivX gave this presentation. After the presentation the Committee had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss.

Chair Andros received and filed this item.

VIII. CLOSING REMARKS (COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR).

There was a discussion about the Habitat Authority's Earth Day event on April 20th.

Executive Director Gullo highlighted that Hills for Everyone included the Habitat Authority in their newsletter. Also, Friends of the Whittier Hills included featured articles written by Ecologist Mariscal and Executive Director Gullo in their newsletter, the Hillside Herald.

Executive Director Gullo explained what the recent public records request means and asked that if the Committee has any documents regarding the East San Gabriel Valley Area Plan to send them over to the Habitat Authority's info email.

IX. ADJOURNMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING.

There being no further comments or business to be discussed, Chair Andros adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. It was mentioned that the next regularly scheduled meeting in May will be in another facility.



**Puente Hills
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill



July 10, 2024

Maria Espinoza
10318 Bogardus Ave.
Whittier, CA 90603
md_espinoza@hotmail.com

Dear Ms. Espinoza,

Thank you for the generous donation of the garden gloves to the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority. Your donation estimated to be over \$500 is very appreciated and will be put to good use!

This gift contributed to the Habitat Authority's mission of preserving and protecting the Puente Hills Preserve. Contributions like this help our agency to continue to preserve the hills for the benefit of wildlife, their habitat, and people. Your support means a lot to us.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gullo

Andrea Gullo
Executive Director

Activists, residents worry that worsening homeless fires threaten Sepulveda Basin

Fires, explosions and encampments make the Basin dangerous for many



Pat Bates Treasurer, San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve in Van Nuys on Wednesday, July 3, 2024. (Photo by Hans Gutknecht, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG)

By [OLGA GRIGORYANTS](#) | ogrigoryants@scng.com |

Los Angeles Daily News

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During her recent field trip in the Sepulveda Basin, Pat Bates encountered a fire consuming dry grass and sending dark plumes in the air. Bates and her friend who accompanied her on the walk successfully put out the blaze. But since the incident, Bates has been hesitant about going back to the sprawling fire-prone open space.

Bates, treasurer at the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, a nonprofit that works to protect bird habitat, came across two-story tents, construction materials, and propane tanks popping up in an area known as a wildlife reserve.

In recent years, the Sepulveda Basin has become the site of fires and also home to homeless encampments. Last year the Audubon group estimated that about 150 people were living in the Sepulveda Basin.

She worries that the homeless encampments could potentially trigger a serious blaze in the fire-prone area.



“We are very frustrated,” Bates said. “Why is anybody allowed to bring construction materials in and live there?”

File photo of a man walking his bicycle to his encampment in the Sepulveda Basin near Burbank Blvd. (Photo by Dean Musgrove, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG)

Councilmember Imelda Padilla, who represents Council District 6, said in a statement she shared concerns with the Audubon Society about the recent fire that broke out in the Sepulveda Basin.

“Ensuring the safety of everyone, including firefighters, first responders, LAUSD students, staff, and the community is a top priority for me and I am relieved that all the injured firefighters were able to recover,” according to her statement.



File photo of Los Angeles firefighters battling a brush fire in the Sepulveda Basin. (Photo by Mike Meadows, Contributing Photographer)

Padilla added: “I am exploring different solutions and actively working with different departments to address the issue of encampments and to reduce fire hazards in the area. Additionally, I am dedicated to making the Sepulveda Basin

Vision Plan a reality, transforming it into a safe, thriving ecological and recreational hub for our community and future generations.”

Bates and others from the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society are urging elected officials to enforce the rules in the no-camping zone and keep people from setting up propane tanks and other materials that can set off a fire.

The area is owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers which leases large portions of the basin to the city’s Department of Recreation and Parks. Representatives with the department didn’t immediately return requests for comment.

In late June, a fire that involved brush and manmade materials started in the Sepulveda Basin. As firefighters began putting out the blaze amid triple-digit temperatures, something exploded, [sending a firefighter to the ground who suffered a head trauma, according to officials](#). One firefighter had his ear severed and later re-attached at the hospital. Ten other firefighters were also injured and transported to a hospital for assessment.

LAFD spokesperson Lyndsey Lantz said the fire department was still investigating the cause of the explosion. She added that LAFD and LAPD investigators found suspicious devices.

“We don’t have confirmation at this point on what those are,” she said, adding that all 11 firefighters injured during the June 24 fire have been released from the hospital.

It’s not the first time fire has erupted in Sepulveda Basin.

In 2020, a fire broke out and quickly spread to six acres, forcing the shutdown of the 405 Freeway. It took 100 firefighters to bring the blaze under control. It was not clear what caused the fire. Once firefighters extinguished the blaze, they discovered a body in the Sepulveda Basin. [In 2019, a brush fire started in the Basin amid red-flag fire conditions](#), consuming nearly 60 acres and sending a thick plume of dark smoke into the air.

[Rob Glushon, president of Encino Property Owners Association and Encino resident](#), said encampments that pose fire hazards should be cleared. He said he was concerned about 11 firefighters injured during the late June fire at the Basin. “The city knows that people camp out there,” Glushon said. “They should know that there are propane tanks or other dangerous materials that are capable of exploding. It’s important that city officials take action in places with dangerous fire hazards and risks.”

Bates said she worries that hiking in the Basin has become dangerous.

“If you walk through where the encampments have been, if there’s propane tanks everywhere, you don’t know what’s there,” she said.



Pat Bates Treasurer, San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve in Van Nuys on Wednesday, July 3, 2024. (Photo by Hans Gutknecht, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG)

She said some people bring construction materials to build two-story structures.

Audubon Society President Katheryn Barton was recently on a trip with a group of LAUSD students when they encountered a man with machetes, screaming and yelling.

“While they haven’t directly threatened us, it’s unnerving when you are walking around with a group of 10 to 12 third-graders,” Barton said.

The society sponsors outdoor programming for students from LAUSD schools willing to learn about wildlife. But bringing the children into the area dotted with encampments becomes worrisome.

“Our main concern is public safety,” Barton said, adding that the fire danger is so extreme in the Basin during hot summer months. “There’s so much weedy growth and so many encampments.”

DAILY BREEZE

Rancho Palos Verdes will increase the size of its Fourth of July drone show

More than 4,000 showed up for last year's 100-drone show. The City is adding another 50 drones this year, said officials, so come early.

By [MICHAEL HIXON](mailto:mhixon@scng.com) | mhixon@scng.com | The Beach Reporter

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The city of Rancho Palos Verdes will host its second Fourth of July drone show on Independence Day. Pictured is its first Fourth of July drone show with around 100 LED drones creating various images celebrating the holiday at the Ken Dyda Civic Center. (photo courtesy of RPVtv)

Last year, Rancho Palos Verdes celebrated its 50th birthday with numerous events including the city's first Fourth of July drone light show.

The drone show will return on Independence Day this year, bigger and better, according to city officials.

"Most cities last year weren't doing something like that," said City Manager Ara Mihranian in a recent interview. "It exceeded my expectations and everyone's expectations. We had thousands of people come to the (Ken Dyda) Civic Center in an afternoon and evening event. It was a huge success."

The 12-to 13-minute patriotic show will feature around 150 drones, up from 100 last year.

"We are working with the vendor to change and enhance the choreography to the music, so I think we're going to end up having a better production for this year," Mihranian said

The family-friendly day of activities, from 3 to 9 p.m. at the Civic Center, will feature live music, family games, rides and inflatables, beer and wine booths, craft vendors, and food trucks.

"It's free to the public, so it's the city's way of giving back to the community," Mihranian said.

Fireworks are illegal in RPV year around, including those tagged "safe and sane," and the entire Palos Verdes Peninsula as well, due to the threat of wildfires.

Fines for illegal fireworks range from \$1,000 to \$7,500 in the city.

Mihranian said, for years, the city hosted a day-long Fourth of July celebration.

“There have been times that the city has said, ‘Why don’t we try to bring fireworks to the city and make it part of our annual event?’” Mihranian said. “However, knowing that we’re a very high fire severity zone and the sensitivity with the marine ecology and so forth, it was never feasible.”

But drone shows are “safe and much more sensitive to the environment.”

Redondo Beach, for example, last year hosted a drone show, as they were unable to meet the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board’s stricter over-the-water regulations. But this year, the city has gone back to traditional pyrotechnics.

In San Pedro, meanwhile, organizers announced earlier this month, they are switching to a drone show over Cabrillo Beach after their traditional fireworks producer backed out. The Cabrillo Beach celebration will be on Saturday, July 6.

RPV’s Fourth of July Celebration is Thursday, July 4, with the drone show beginning around 8:45 p.m. at the Ken Dyda Civic Center, located at 30940 Hawthorne Blvd.

Parking is limited so Mihranian said when more than 4,000 showed up for last year’s event, it was a challenge for late attendees.

“(The) Last half hour right before the show started, we just saw this influx of cars coming to the Civic Center,” he said. “So if anything, my message to the community is, come early, find a comfortable spot, and just enjoy the day so that you’re not rushing and scrambling to find a parking space.”

For more information, email parks@rpvca.gov, call (310) 544-5260, or visit rpvca.gov.

Whittier Daily News

SoCal's relationship with 4th of July fireworks might be changing. Here's why

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Photo by Chuck Bennett, Contributing Photographer

Fourth of July.

A holiday meant to be spent outside in the simmering Southern California summer sun — dining on freshly grilled hot dogs, donning your most patriotic ensemble, and communing with friends and family.

And, once the sun sets, enjoying fireworks.

But recently, in Southern California, fireworks displays — once seemingly inextricable from the Fourth of July holiday — [have lost some of their sparkle](#) because of growing concerns over the potential impact the shows have on animals, people and, particularly, the environment.

Worries that multiple large fireworks shows on Fourth of July, coupled with the use of personal ones, put pets at risk of running away or being lost, negatively impact veterans and others with PTSD, and hurt the environment, have long existed — but have come to a head in recent years.

There are still plenty of traditional fireworks shows planned for Fourth of July across Southern California this year, including in Redondo Beach, Long Beach, Torrance, Hollywood, Burbank and Oxnard, among others.

And the fireworks industry, according to the American Pyrotechnic Association, is more popular across the country than ever — with community fireworks displays generating more than \$500 million in revenue nationwide last year alone.

But this year, several other Southern California cities, including Laguna Beach, Lake View Terrace and San Fernando have opted for drone shows instead. And two beloved Fourth of July fireworks shows — one in Long Beach and one in San Pedro — were canceled outright.

So, what's changing?

The California difference

A major factor in California, of course, is the law — particularly the way fireworks are regulated throughout the state.

WDN, June 29, 2024

1 | Page

California has long been a leader in strict environmental regulations — ranging from water quality to preserving natural resources — and that’s no different when it comes to the state’s relationship with fireworks.

Last year, the Los Angeles County Regional Water Quality Control Board, which is charged with protecting water quality in the LA and Ventura regions, adopted a new fireworks-related permitting process — which has thrown some event organizers for a loop.

One major fireworks producer, Pyro Spectaculars, pulled out several shows planned for Fourth of July in 2023, causing [Redondo Beach’s King Harbor display](#) to be canceled and forcing Long Beach’s Big Bang on the Bay to find another pyrotechnic company to put on their July 3 event. Big Bang on the Bay and organizer John Morris have been at the center of the battle between environmentalists and fireworks proponents.

The show was canceled this year after Morris and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Long Beach — which took on [Big Bang on the Bay](#) planning duties to this year — were unable to secure a California Coastal Commission permit before the deadline.

In 2021, the Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation, a nonprofit advocacy group, filed a lawsuit against Morris and his Naples Restaurant Group, arguing organizers had violated the Clean Water Act by disseminating pollutants into the water. CERF sought to ban the show.

But a [federal judge ruled against the environmental group](#), despite finding sufficient evidence to prove fireworks discharge entered Alamitos Bay during the 2022 show, a violation of the CWA. The judge, though, also said there was not enough evidence to show a continuous problem — or that such issues were likely to occur in the future.

Still, because CERF was able to prove that at least one Clean Water Act violation occurred, the ruling set a precedent that over-the-water fireworks shows should be regulated under that law via a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, which aims to prevent water pollution by regulating the sources that cause it.

A little more than a month later, the water board adopted the new permitting process, requiring fireworks show organizers to establish and comply with a “best management practices plan,” which describes the procedures they’ll use to avoid polluting the water.

And eventually, permittees will also have to comply with additional water quality monitoring provisions, but a process for those has yet to be established, CERF’s legal director, Livia Beaudin, said in a Friday, June 28, interview.

“That is a longer-term process that hasn’t come to fruition yet,” Beaudin said. “I think it’ll be a while before we fully see the benefits of the permitting.”

But still, some pyrotechnic companies and the American Pyrotechnics Association argue that California’s stricter rules have already made it more difficult for cities to put on grandiose fireworks displays.

“We’re in our own little country in California because the regulations are so different,” said the APA’s executive director, Julie Heckman, who also sits on CalFire’s Fireworks Advisory

Committee. “The regulations for fireworks, as well as permitting and licensing fees, are being revised.”

And those additional requirements, Heckman said in a Thursday, June 27, interview, can cause trouble for some fireworks shows — especially since the industry is currently experiencing a shortage of pyrotechnics who are qualified to manage the logistics of putting on a fireworks show.

San Pedro’s [nearly 75-year-old Fourth of July fireworks show at Cabrillo Beach](#) was also cancelled this year, with the event’s organizer saying that the pyrotechnic company they’d hired pulled out last minute — with little explanation.

“Depending on that particular company and how many shows they have contracted for the Fourth of July weekend,” Heckman said, “it may be that they didn’t have enough equipment, crew or trained technicians.”

Some pyrotechnic companies, Heckman added, may be discouraged from doing business in places with more complicated regulatory processes.

“The permits, the type of monitoring that they’re requesting, is really cost prohibitive,” Heckman said. “It could be that (extra monitoring/permits) eats into their profits for the show.”

But to CERF, complying with the additional regulations — which haven’t all been put into practice yet — is a matter of proper planning. And willingness.

Pyro Spectaculars, which did not respond to a request for comment for this story, was staunchly against the new permitting process from the beginning — arguing that the requirements would be too much of a burden.

Beaudin, though, noted that most of the new monitoring requirements housed within the permit are fairly reasonable, and only mandate certain provisions where feasible for organizers of over-the-water fireworks shows.

“There are all kinds of caveats in the permit, like, ‘as long as it’s feasible, as long as it’s safe,’” Beaudin said. “So if (a company) can show that something just cannot be done, or puts the pyrotechnics operators or technicians at risk, compromises their safety in any way — the board’s not going to force them to do it.”

Drones over fireworks

But far removed from the controversies surrounding the water board’s rules on the coast, several other cities in Southern California have opted to go the drone show route instead of fireworks.

Laguna Beach officials, for example, decided earlier this year to switch the town’s more than 30-year-old Fourth of July fireworks celebration to a drone show.

The suggestion was made by the city’s Environmental and Sustainability Committee to be more conscious of the environment and the community’s animals, nearby wildlife and sea creatures impacted by the blast and debris.

The City Council bumped the budget for the 15-minute show to \$75,000 for 300 drones, more than the \$42,000 the fireworks show was expected to cost this year.

“This comes down to the environment,” Councilmember Alex Rounaghi said previously. “The impact on the ocean creatures is significant, the impact on the animals is significant, the impact on the veterans is significant.”

Laguna Beach has since received some pushback as a result of the decision, and the City Council has agreed to wait for additional community feedback before deciding how to celebrate the Fourth in 2025.

“Hopefully, we can design a show that is a cool experience for residents and visitors alike,” Rounaghi said. “The community could turn this into something great to celebrate our country and the community on the Fourth of July.”

The show will take place over Heisler Park, the beachfront park from which fireworks were traditionally launched.

It’s not just over-the-ater fireworks shows that cause concerns, however.

Environmental concerns related to fireworks are also at the forefront in some San Fernando Valley neighborhoods.

The Sylmar and Sunland-Tujunga communities, according to Sylmar Neighborhood Council President Kurt Cabrera-Miller, are in high fire hazard zones — and residents there are concerned about potential dangers posed by both organized fireworks displays and residents setting off their own fireworks.

“While we will enjoy the show, we hope that law enforcement will still wrap up and be diligent about cracking down on some of the illegal fireworks,” Cabrera-Miller said, “especially in the high fire severity zone.”

Other major drone shows this year will include one in Lake View Terrace on Sunday, June 30; one in Downtown Los Angeles at Gloria Molina Grand Park; and one in San Fernando Valley, to name a few.

Mixed reviews for drone shows

While both the decisions to and reasons for cities replacing fireworks with drone shows have been controversial, drones themselves have been divisive as well.

For some people, they offer an engaging, beautiful light show display — fit with charming figures prancing in the sky, music and more — while others find them, well, boring and underwhelming.

Redondo Beach Councilmember Nils Nehrenheim, for example, described that city’s last-minute drone show last year underwhelming at best.

“It was extremely undramatic,” Nehrenheim said of the show. “People were watching and saying, like, ‘Is that it? That’s all we got? Where’s the finale?’”

And given what it cost the city to put on the show — about \$80,000 for an eight- to nine-minute display — it was especially underwhelming.

“It was not like a fireworks show; it was completely different,” he said. “(Fireworks are) cool. It’s the music, it’s the bang, it’s the smoke — it’s the surprise and the sudden immediacy of the (fireworks). It hits you and you say, ‘Wow, that’s cool.’”

And residents, Nehrenheim added, are excited for the [return of the King Harbor Fireworks this July 4](#).

For others, though, drone shows offer a new and exciting take on an American tradition — without the potential negative consequences.

“It’s a new experience and gets people excited, said Kyle Pivnick, vice president of Sky Elements Drone Shows. “It’s really a niche offering.”

His company, which did the Redondo Beach show last year and also puts on drone shows at Dodger Stadium, said new technology allows for larger shows with more complicated, bespoke designs that include multimedia elements and curated music.

“I would say we haven’t seen anyone disappointed,” Pivnick said.

And, according to CERF, California isn’t the only state pushing for more drone shows: There’s interest nationwide, Beaudin said, even if fireworks still hold a firm grip on the way Americans celebrate the Fourth of July.

“There’s been a push for drones all over the country, like people have been taking issue with fireworks for a whole host of reasons,” Beaudin said. “Isn’t it more patriotic to say we care so much about our health, our people, our climate — we’re OK with celebrating in a different way?”

Still, fireworks remain immensely popular in both Southern California and across the country — and they likely won’t fizzle out anytime soon.

But public opinion, at least in some circles, does appear to be shifting, or at least opening up to the possibility that drone shows are a feasible alternative — and, in some cases, a great addition — to fireworks spectacles.

“I (also) love fireworks,” Pivnick said.

There is, he added, a place for both fireworks and drones.

The coming years may reveal whether that’s true.

Staff writers Donna Littlejohn, Olga Grigoryants, and Erika Ritchie contributed to this report.