

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY  
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
*Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill***

**September 17, 2024, Tuesday, 7 p.m.**

The regular meeting will take place in-person. Members of the public can observe and participate in the meeting in person.

**LOCATION:**

**Whittier Senior Center: 13225 Walnut St., Whittier, CA 90602.**

Catherine Houwen, Vice Chair	La Habra Heights
Adam Nazaroff	La Habra Heights
Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
Shelley Andros, Chair	Whittier
Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier
Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier
Matthew Liang	County of Los Angeles
John Ford	County of Los Angeles
Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles

**Members of the public may provide electronic comments by Monday, September 16, 2024, by 4:00 p.m. to [info@habitatauthority.org](mailto:info@habitatauthority.org). Please label the email in the subject heading as “Public Comments.” Public comments may also be verbally heard during item III of the meeting.**

72 hours prior to Citizens Technical Advisory Committee meetings, the entire Citizens Technical Advisory Committee agenda package is available for review, along with any meeting-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee members after distribution of the agenda package, at the Authority’s website, [www.habitatauthority.org](http://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 Andrea Gullo 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) will hold a regular meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) at the above time and location for the purpose of:

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order.
- II. Roll call.
- III. Public comments.
- IV. Approval of Minutes for the July 16, 2024, Advisory Committee Meeting.
- V. Standing Reports:

- a) Report by the Board Liaison on previous month's Authority's Board of Directors meeting.
  - b) Social Media report.
  - c) Committee Member feedback from the public as it relates to the Authority.
- VI. Discussion and possible action recommending that the Board of Directors authorize Executive Director to execute a contract with Nakae and Associates, Inc. for native landscaping to implement the Metro Heights in-lieu fee mitigation restoration project in the amount of \$2,149,150.
- VII. Discussion, receive and file May, June, July and August 2024 Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) Ranger Report.
- VIII. Announcement of Authority's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2024 at 1p.m. to be held at the Sanitation Districts' office, 1955 Workman Mill Rd., Whittier, California 90601.
- IX. Announcement of Authority's Open House on Thursday, October 3, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave, Whittier, California 90602.
- X. Closing remarks (Comments/questions from Committee Members and/or Executive Director).
- XI. Adjournment and announcement of the next meeting.

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority is a public entity established pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act by agreement between the City of Whittier, Los Angeles County, and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. Regular meetings of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee are scheduled for the Tuesday before the third Thursday of every month. Questions about any agenda item can be addressed to Andrea Gullo, Executive Director, 562.945.9003.

Draft Minutes  
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY  
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
July 16, 2024

The meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at the Whittier Senior Center, 13225 Walnut Ave, Whittier, CA 90602.

**I. CALL TO ORDER.**

Vice Chair Houwen 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.

<b>Members Present:</b> Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles
Matthew Liang	County of Los Angeles
Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
Catherine Houwen, Vice Chair	La Habra Heights
Shelley Andros	Whittier
Dr. Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier

<b>Members Absent:</b> Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier
John Ford	County of Los Angeles
Adam Nazaroff	La Habra Heights

**Authority Representatives Present:**

Andrea Gullo, Executive Director  
Marlyn Barajas, Program Analyst  
Michelle Mariscal, Ecologist

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Jeanne Renner from Friends of the Whittier Hills publicly commented on supporting the Habitat Authorities' upcoming endeavors.

Steve Huber from Whittier Area Audubon spoke of volunteering with his wife on the 4th of July for the Habitat Authority as a fire watch patrol in Turnbull Canyon. He also mentioned walking Sycamore Canyon the day before the 4th of July and seeing different bird species, including red-tailed hawks.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 11, 2024, SPECIAL MEETING.**

Member Houwen motioned to approve these minutes as drafted. Member Francis 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. There was discussion regarding the type of content provided on the Habitat Authorities social media pages.

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

Member Cavanaugh mentioned a recent car fire in the hills. The fire was put out quickly, and she thanked the MRCA contracted rangers and the Habitat Authority for their fuel clearance.

**VI. UPDATE, RECEIVE AND FILE FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 AUTHORITY WORKPLAN, AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD REGARDING AUTHORITY WORKPLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25.**

Executive Director Gullo and Ecologist Mariscal gave a PowerPoint presentation on some of the Habitat Authority's workplan activities for FY 23-24. There was a discussion. Executive Director Gullo reviewed the 2024-25 proposed workplan.

Member Houwen motioned to recommend to the Board Authority workplan for fiscal year 2024-25. Member Cavanaugh seconded the motion, and in a vote the motion passed unanimously.

**VII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD REGARDING: A) PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 18, 2024, 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.**

Blair Aas from SCI Consultant Group gave an overview presentation of the Puente Hills Preserve Protection Measure. There was discussion.

Member Liang motioned to recommend to the Board to a) Hold a public hearing on July 18, 2024, for the formation of Community Facilities District No. 2024-01 (Puente Hills Preserve Protection) to Fund Certain Public Services and Related Actions; b) Adopt Resolution 2024-07 entitled Resolution to Form a Community Facilities District and to Levy Special Taxes Therein; c) Adopt 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) Adopt Resolution 2024-09 entitled Resolution Requesting Consolidation of Authority Election with Statewide General Election. Member Francis seconded the motion, and in a vote the motioned passed unanimously.

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

Executive Director Gullo highlighted an article about using drones as a light show on the 4th of July instead of fireworks and another article about fires and homeless encampments in Sepulveda Basin.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

There being no further comments or business to discuss, Chair Andros adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:12 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on August 13, 2024.

MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: September 17, 2024

To: Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Michelle Mariscal, Ecologist

Through: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Agenda Item: **VI. Discussion and possible action recommending that the Board of Directors authorize Executive Director to execute a contract with Nakae and Associates, Inc. for native landscaping to implement the Metro Heights in-lieu fee mitigation restoration project in the amount of \$2,149,150.**

Background:

At the January 2024 meeting, the Board authorized the execution of an in-lieu fee mitigation agreement with Metro Heights Montebello, LLC to satisfy habitat mitigation in an amount of approximately \$3.6 million for restoration of 12 acres of coastal sage scrub habitat on Habitat Authority-owned property in Powder Canyon and Habitat Authority-owned property in the Arroyo Pescadero watershed within La Habra Heights. The agreement was subsequently executed on February 9, 2024.

Subsequently, the Authority's contracted restoration ecologist, Land IQ, prepared a Habitat Restoration Plan (HRP) which was approved in early August. As outlined in the HRP, the scope of work for the restoration contractor includes two years of site preparation, hydroseeding and installation of container plants, and five years of maintenance, all in close coordination with the project restoration ecologist. The site preparation and maintenance periods will include weeding an additional buffer area surrounding the restoration sites; this area will be hand seeded with a native seed mix during the final year of maintenance to provide a native vegetation buffer against weed re-infestation. The project timeframe is anticipated to be from fall/winter in fiscal year 2024/25 through fiscal year 2031/32. If the proposed contract is approved, the restoration contractor would begin work mid-October.

Attached is the proposal by Nakae and Associates, Inc in the amount of \$2,149,150 (Exhibit A). This amount is approximately 2% higher than the original estimate to accommodate specific actions described in the HRP for the project (e.g., increasing the length of fencing used to decommission an active social trail, increased cost of native seed

collection, etc.). The contract amount includes a 2% contingency to cover unforeseen costs or circumstances.

According to Section 2-1 of the Authority's Purchasing Policy, contracts over \$25,000 need Board approval. Also, in accordance with section 4-4 of the Purchasing Policy, it is recommended that if competitive procurement of services is not in the best interest of the Authority, it can be waived. It is recommended that competitive procurement is not in the best interest of the Authority. A contract with Nakae to implement native habitat restoration is recommended because (1) the proposed contractor is known to possess the needed experience and qualifications, and is the most satisfactory for Habitat Authority purposes, (2) the project under consideration is unique and specialized enough that a low bid would entail undue risk, (3) they are uniquely familiar with the Habitat Authority's Preserve, (4) this project will tie into existing irrigation installed and operated by Nakae for other Authority mitigation projects and use of this irrigation by another contractor could jeopardize current projects, and (5) they have proven to successfully complete other habitat restoration projects on time and within budget.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact with this project. The costs associated with this work would be covered with the funds received under the associated mitigation agreement. This proposal fits within the project budget. Please see the attached chart of projected costs associated with this project (Exhibit B).

Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that they authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with Nakae and Associates, Inc.

13 August 2024

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT  
 PRESERVATION AUTHORITY  
 Attn: Ms. Michelle Mariscal  
 7333 Greenleaf Ave.  
 Whittier, CA 90602

Re: Metro Heights Mitigation – **Revision #1**

Dear Ms. Mariscal:

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide the following **revised** proposal for the above referenced project. Our proposal is based on the attached 'Bid Sheet'. Please see below for an overview of the work as it pertains to the mitigation areas, buffer areas and miscellaneous work.

**BID OVERVIEW**

**I. MITIGATION SITE IMPLEMENTATION & MAINTENANCE**

<i>Protective Fencing</i> .....	\$	6,136.00
<i>Decommissioning Social Trail</i> .....	\$	4,015.00
<i>Temporary Fencing / Barriers to Decommission Trail</i> .....	\$	28,400.00
<i>Project Signage – Large Explanatory Signs</i> .....	\$	5,100.00
<i>Project Signage – Small Signs on Rope</i> .....	\$	1,008.00
<i>Cross Ripping 0.75 Acres</i> .....	\$	1,320.00
<i>Site Preparation Clearing</i> .....	\$	71,400.00
<i>Temporary Irrigation Systems</i> .....	\$	289,630.00
<i>2 Year Grow &amp; Kill Program</i> .....	\$	176,400.00
<i>Thatch Removal Prior to Hydroseeding</i> .....	\$	38,520.00
<i>Hydroseeding</i> .....	\$	160,971.00
<i>Container Planting</i> .....	\$	134,352.00
<i>Maintenance Year 1 (includes 120-day maintenance)</i> .....	\$	208,740.00
<i>Maintenance Year 2 (includes remedial seeding)</i> .....	\$	162,555.00
<i>Maintenance Year 3 (includes remedial seeding)</i> .....	\$	101,595.00
<i>Maintenance Year 4</i> .....	\$	81,420.00
<i>Maintenance Year 5</i> .....	\$	49,200.00
<i>Temporary Irrigation Removal</i> .....	\$	37,520.00
<b>Mitigation Subtotal</b> .....	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,558,282.00</b>



**II. BUFFER AREAS IMPLEMENTATION & MAINTENANCE**

Site Preparation Clearing Weed Buffer.....	\$	53,163.00
2 Year Buffer Weed Control During Mitigation Grow & Kill .....	\$	187,110.00
Maintenance Year 1 Buffer Weed Control .....	\$	44,847.00
Maintenance Year 2 Buffer Weed control .....	\$	43,065.00
Maintenance Year 3 Buffer Weed Control .....	\$	41,877.00
Maintenance Year 4 Buffer Weed Control .....	\$	31,482.00
Maintenance Year 5 Buffer Weed Control .....	\$	30,294.00
Thatch Removal Prior to Hand Seeding.....	\$	12,075.00
Hand Seed Weed Buffer (end of maintenance year 5).....	\$	52,845.00
<b>Buffer Areas Subtotal.....</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>496,758.00</b>

**III. MISCELLANEOUS**

Time & Material Cost for Maintenance of Yellow Rope & T-Posts Due to Vandalism, Wear & Tear, Damage, Etc.....	\$	15,000.00
2% Contingency .....	\$	41,400.00
Performance / Payment Bond.....	\$	37,710.00
<b>Miscellaneous Subtotal.....</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>94,110.00</b>

**TOTAL BASE BID .....\$2,149,150.00**

**Notes**

This job has been bid with California Prevailing Wage Rate Determinations for “Landscape / Irrigation Laborer / Tender” (Determination # SC-102-X-14-2023-2 and 2A), “Landscape Operating Engineer” (Determination # SC-63-12-33-2023-1), and “Landscape Maintenance Laborer” (Determination # SC-LML-2023-1).

There is a ‘Predetermined Increase’ of \$3.30 per hour for the “Landscape / Irrigation Laborer / Tender” effective August 1, 2024, and an additional ‘Predetermined Increase’ of \$3.40 per hour effective August 1, 2025. These wage increases have been included herein.

There is a ‘Predetermined Increase’ of \$4.00 per hour for the “Landscape Operating Engineer” effective November 1, 2024. This wage increase has been included herein.

### **Notes (continued)**

There may be a significant deduct in cost if the 'buffer' areas are able to be sprayed in lieu of weed-eating and hand weeding, and if the seeding of these areas at the end of the 5-year maintenance period is deleted from the scope of work.

### **Specific Exclusions**

- Permits and fees.
- Federal / Davis-Bacon Wage requirements.
- Repair or replacement due to force majeure, vandalism or negligent acts by others, detrimental soil conditions.
- Biological monitoring or reports.
- Survey and / or staking.
- Pedestrian control.
- Erosion control.
- Erosion repairs.
- SWPPP (plan or implementation).
- Grading.
- Road repair.
- Import and / or export of soil.
- Soils analysis / tests.
- Removal of concrete and / or asphalt.
- Tree removal.
- Removal of rootballs and / or stumps.
- Clean-up and haul-off of debris due to illegal dumping by others.
- Soil amendments / fertilizer (except for mycorrhizal inoculum to be applied with seed mixes and inoculation with container plants).
- Removal or thinning of native vegetation.
- Root guards for plants.
- Caging around plants for foliage protection from browsing animals.
- Plant basin mulch.
- Irrigation plans.
- Irrigation plan submittal(s) to the water district or city.
- Buried irrigation systems. All irrigation systems will be installed on grade.
- Cost of water.
- Cost of water meters.

Page 4 of 4  
Metro Heights Bid Overview – cont.

- Haul-off of cut vegetation in 'Higher Native Weed' buffer areas during the 2 year grow & Kill program. (cut vegetation from the initial site preparation operation in these areas will be hauled to an offsite legal landfill).
- Haul-off of cut vegetation in 'Higher Native Weed' buffer areas during the 5 year maintenance period (cut vegetation from the thatch removal prior to buffer seeding will be hauled to an offsite legal landfill).
- Removal of yellow rope and t-posts at the end of the 5-year maintenance period.
- Delineation (such as staking, flagging, painting, etc.) of habitat types.
- 'Yelomine' mainline pipe, 'Yelomine' pipe fittings, valves and impact sprinkler heads are the property of Nakae & Associates, Inc. and shall be used for the sole purpose of temporary irrigation. Once the native seed and plants have been established and no longer require supplemental irrigation to survive, the irrigation components mentioned above will be removed and taken to Nakae & Associates, Inc. construction yard.
- Chain link fencing for the 'barrier' at Powder Canyon is the property of Nakae & Associates, Inc. and shall be used for the sole purpose of a temporary barrier in order to deter pedestrian access into the mitigation areas until vegetation has become established. Once the native seed and plants have grown and upon direction from the project biologist, the chain link fencing will be removed and taken to Nakae & Associates, Inc. construction yard.
- Repairs to chain link fencing due to damage from vandalism or negligent acts by others.
- Reducing seed spread by collecting seeds from the ground and placing them in containers per HMMP page 34, "Biosecurity Measures During Control Activities" under Item 2. If this is needed at any time, this can be done for an additional cost submitted as a additive change order.
- The pricing on this proposal is valid for 60 days.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding this proposal at (949) 786-0405.

Sincerely,



Reid Dowden

Attachment(s)



**12-Acre Metro Heights Off-Site Coastal Sage Scrub Habitat Restoration  
Mitigation Project within the Puente Hills Preserve**

**BID SHEET**

DESCRIPTION	UNIT	UNIT COST	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Protective Fencing	LF	\$ 1.30	4,720	\$ 6,136.00
Decommissioning Social Trail	LF	\$ 5.50	730	\$ 4,015.00
Install 6' Tall Chain Link Fencing Barrier w/ Posts In-Ground	LF	\$ 57.50	400	\$ 23,000.00
Remove 6' Tall Chain Link Fencing Once CSS Vegetation has Grown	LF	\$ 13.50	400	\$ 5,400.00
Project Signage – Large Explanatory Signs	EA	\$ 850.00	6	\$ 5,100.00
Project Signage – Small signs placed on Yellow Rope at 100 Foot Intervals	EA	\$ 21.00	48	\$ 1,008.00
Time and Material Cost for Maintenance of Yellow Ropes and T-bar Posts due to Vandalism, Wear and Tear, Damage, etc.	NTE	\$ 15,000.00	1	\$ 15,000.00
Cross Ripping to a Depth of 18"	AC	\$1,760	0.75	\$ 1,320.00
Site Preparation Clearing	AC	\$ 5,950.00	12	\$ 71,400.00
Site Preparation Clearing Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 8,950.00	5.94	\$ 53,163.00
Pumps, Booster Pumps	LS	\$ 37,550.00	1	\$ 37,550.00
Mainline Irrigation and Installation	LF	\$ 21.20	5,200	\$ 110,240.00
Temporary Irrigation System and Installation	AC	\$ 11,820.00	12	\$ 141,840.00
Irrigated Grow-and-Kill - Year 1	AC	\$ 7,350.00	12	\$ 88,200.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 15,750.00	5.94	\$ 93,555.00
Irrigated Grow-and-Kill - Year 2	AC	\$ 7,350.00	12	\$ 88,200.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 15,750.00	5.94	\$ 93,555.00
Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Inoculum to be Added to the Hydroseed	EA	\$ 7.80	720	\$ 5,616.00
Fertilizer packet – Container Plants	EA	\$ 0.25	3,732	\$ 933.00
Container Plant Costs <sup>[1]</sup>	EA	\$ 7.25	3,732	\$ 27,057.00
Seed Mix Cost - 12-acre Restoration Area <sup>[2]</sup>	LS	\$ 95,715.00	1	\$ 95,715.00
Plant Thatch Removal Prior to Hydroseeding	AC	\$ 3,210.00	12	\$ 38,520.00
Two Step Hydroseeding	AC	\$ 4,970.00	12	\$ 59,640.00
Container Plant Installation	EA	\$ 28.50	3,732	\$ 106,362.00
120-day Plant Establishment Period (PEP)	AC	\$ 6,795.00	12	\$ 81,540.00
Maintenance – Year 1	AC	\$ 10,600.00	12	\$ 127,200.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 7,550.00	5.94	\$ 44,847.00
Remedial Hand-seeding	AC	\$ 3,025.00	0.6	\$ 1,815.00
Maintenance – Year 2	AC	\$ 13,395.00	12	\$ 160,740.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 7,250.00	5.94	\$ 43,065.00
Remedial Hand-seeding	AC	\$ 3,025.00	0.6	\$ 1,815.00
Maintenance – Year 3	AC	\$ 8,315.00	12	\$ 99,780.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 7,050.00	5.94	\$ 41,877.00
Maintenance – Year 4	AC	\$ 6,785.00	12	\$ 81,420.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 5,300.00	5.94	\$ 31,482.00
Maintenance – Year 5	AC	\$ 4,100.00	12	\$ 49,200.00
Weed Control – Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 5,100.00	5.94	\$ 30,294.00
Plant Thatch Removal Prior to Hand-seeding Weed Buffer	AC	\$ 3,450.00	3.5	\$ 12,075.00
Seed Mix Cost - Weed Buffer <sup>[3]</sup>	LS	\$ 37,795.00	1	\$ 37,795.00
Hand-seed Weed Buffer <sup>[4]</sup>	AC	\$ 4,300.00	3.5	\$ 15,050.00
Temporary Irrigation Removal	LS	\$ 37,520.00	1	\$ 37,520.00
Performance/Payment Bond	LS	\$ 37,710.00	1	\$ 37,710.00
2% Contingency	LS	\$ 41,400.00	1	\$ 41,400.00
<b>TOTAL BASE BID</b>				<b>\$ 2,149,150.00</b>

<sup>[1]</sup> Shall include cost of arbuscular mycorrhizal inoculum for inoculation of container plants

<sup>[2]</sup> Shall include cost for CSS restoration seed mix and 5% extra seed for remedial seeding

<sup>[3]</sup> Shall include cost of arbuscular mycorrhizal inoculum to be applied during seeding

<sup>[4]</sup> Seeding of the weed buffer area to be completed during the Maintenance Phase of the Project after sufficient weed control is achieved

LF = linear foot

EA = each

NTE = not to exceed

AC = acre

LS = lump sum

Exhibit B

Budget Unit Code #53932

Fiscal Year starting July 1

Metro Heights MITIGATION

Contracted	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032	* Contracted Total	Estimated
Restoration Contractor**		\$ 613,652.00	\$ 190,705.00	\$ 484,918.00	\$ 283,465.00	\$ 182,246.00	\$ 134,979.00	\$ 103,898.00	\$ 155,287.00		\$ 2,149,150.00	\$ 2,102,957.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist	\$ 25,305.25	\$ 22,331.61	\$ 27,423.87	\$ 48,995.15	\$ 32,234.55	\$ 41,048.45	\$ 42,193.21	\$ 39,292.25	\$ 35,192.99	\$ 16,907.88	\$ 330,925.21	
Irrigation Water/Utilities***	\$ 3,004.53	\$ 5,376.86	\$ 16,521.04	\$ 17,615.48	\$ 55,797.13	\$ 41,135.74	\$ 3,025.63	\$ 3,088.26			\$ 145,564.67	
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)****		\$ 50,000.00									\$ 73,600.00	\$ 73,600.00
Staff/ranger Time	\$ 10,067.20	\$ 11,433.14	\$ 17,862.60	\$ 18,291.45	\$ 18,731.75	\$ 19,028.93	\$ 19,183.82	\$ 19,486.96	\$ 14,603.63		\$ 148,689.49	
<b>Total per fiscal year</b>	<b>\$ 38,376.98</b>	<b>\$ 702,793.61</b>	<b>\$ 252,512.51</b>	<b>\$ 569,820.08</b>	<b>\$ 390,228.43</b>	<b>\$ 283,459.12</b>	<b>\$ 199,381.66</b>	<b>\$ 165,765.47</b>	<b>\$ 205,083.62</b>		<b>\$ 2,847,929.37</b>	

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

\*\*Final contracted amount increased from originally budgeted amount (\$2,102,957) due to HRP changes; includes 2% contingency, two years of grow-kill cycles, seed collection, and plant propagation cost

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

\*\*\*\*Includes 10% overhead

Fiscal Year starting July 1

ACTUAL Spent	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031	Spent Total <sup>†</sup>	REMAINING (contracted minus spent)
Restoration Contractor - Nakae										\$ -	\$ 2,149,150.00
Land IQ - Restoration Ecologist	\$ 17,440.00	\$ 4,480.00								\$ 21,920.00	\$ 309,005.21
Irrigation Water/Utilities										\$ -	\$ 145,564.67
Misc. (fencing, easement, etc.)	\$ 11,800.00	\$ 449.65								\$ 12,249.65	\$ 61,350.35
Staff/ranger Time										\$ -	\$ 148,689.49
<b>Total per fiscal year</b>	<b>\$ 29,240.00</b>	<b>\$ 4,929.65</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>						<b>\$ 34,169.65</b>	<b>\$ 2,813,759.72</b>

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

\$ 2,813,759.72

<sup>†</sup>SPENT TOTAL DOES NOT INCLUDE RETENTION TO BE BILLED FOR CURRENT FY

Funds Anticipated to be Contracted	\$ 2,801,736
Anticipated Contingency (20%)	\$ 558,627
(Proposed) Committed Contingency	\$ (46,193)
<b>RESTORATION TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,314,170</b>
Access Fee	\$ 240,000
Admin fee	\$ 5,000
<b>Funds Provided by Agreement</b>	<b>\$ 3,605,363</b>
<b>Total Remaining (Funds provided minus access fee and funds spent on committed contracts)</b>	<b>\$ 3,280,000</b>



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
Franklin Canyon Park  
2600 Franklin Canyon Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210  
Phone (310) 858-7272 Fax (310) 858-7212

August 31, 2024

**Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority  
Ranger Services Activities for May, June, July and August 2024**

- Continued general patrol for: providing visitor information, identifying hazardous conditions and correcting illegal activity.
- Continued general maintenance for: graffiti removal, vandalism repair, litter and dumping removal, fence and gate repairs, sign installations and repairs and trail maintenance.
- Attended Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority cabinet meeting.
- Completed a Jr Ranger program for 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Los Robles Academy Elementary school in Hacienda Heights. Habitat Authority Ecologist and Docents helped lead the hike.
- Attended the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Habitat Authority) Board meeting and the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee meeting.
- Participated in the Habitat Authority monthly management meetings.
- Participated in our ranger monthly management meetings.
- Attended Habitat Authority volunteer meeting.
- Attended the La Habra Heights Fire briefing for multi-agency wildfire drill.
- Participated in "Whittier Police National Night Out" event at Parnell Park in Whittier. It was well attended with several thousand people.
- Participated in "Greater San Gabriel Valley National Night Out" event at Schabarum Regional Count Park.
- Providing extra patrol for 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Worked with Whittier Police, L.A.Co. Sheriff, L.A. Co. Fire, La Habra Heights Fire, La Habra Heights Fire Watch, Whittier CERT and local homeowner groups. Several Habitat Authority staff, docents and trail watchers assisted in monitoring various access points. No incidents were reported.

- Continue to notify the Habitat Authority staff of all unsuccessful animal road crossings that are observed at or near Habitat Authority property. During the months of May, June, July and August the following animals were observed.
  - Two Racoons on Harbor Blvd.
  - Two Skunks on East Road.
- Continue to conduct perimeter patrols of all property for fence damage, illegal access points, rope swings, and encroachments.
- Monitored the contractors for the fuel clearance in La Habra Heights, Whittier, Hacienda Heights. Worked with local Fire Inspectors and Fire Marshals. Toured properties with La Habra Heights Fire Marshal and his replacement. Our clearance efforts passed inspections.
- Utilized the Habitat Authority tractor/mower to clear several roads/trails including:
  - Gray Squirrel Trail.
  - Powder Canyon Trail.
  - Black Walnut Trail.
  - Purple Sage Trail.
  - Buena Vista Trail.
  - Arroyo San Miguel Trail.
  - Bob Henderson Loop Trail.
  - Deer Loop Trail.
  - The road to the Whittier landfill in Arroyo Pescadero.
  - Peppergrass Trail.
  - Access roads to the water tanks in Hellman Park.
  - Rattlesnake Ridge Trail.
  - Turnbull Canyon Trail.
  - Sumac Trail.
  - Workman Ridge Trail.
  - Elderberry Trail.
  - Sycamore Canyon Trail.
  - Dark Canyon Trail.
- Continue to monitor the Harbor underpass. Cleaned up a large amount of trash from a homeless camp. The camp was discovered by Habitat Authority Ecologist while she was performing bird surveys.
- Removed a rope swing along Dark Canyon Trail in Sycamore Canyon.
- Continue to pick up dog defecation at all the trailheads.
- Continue to patrol the SCE, Brea 57 site and Monterey mitigation sites in Powder Canyon and the Olinda site in Arroyo San Miguel.



- Discovered a homeless person sleeping in the Arroyo Pescadero restroom. He was escorted off the property.
- Discovered a homeless person camping in Hellman Park. The subject fled from the rangers. The debris was removed. They have not returned.
- Off-roaders stuck in the Preserve next to Harbor Blvd. Vehicle was impounded. Installed a secure fence and gate at the end of Ranch Hill in La Habra Heights to prevent future incidents.
- Due to safety concerns and overcrowding at the Turnbull Canyon entrance this summer we worked with the owner of the property and Whittier Police Dept. to secure the vacant lot that is next to the entrance. We had to re-secure the chain once in May. Met with Whittier Police at the site regarding new dumping. New owners were contacted and removed the debris.
- Monitoring the surveillance cameras at various trailheads in attempt to catch the vehicle break-in perpetrators. We are also coordinating with Whittier Police and L.A. County Sheriff. Whittier Police has shared that our cameras have let to several warrants being issues for suspects and arrests.
- Continue to contact the Los Angeles County Department of Street Maintenance regarding the graffiti along Turnbull Canyon Road.
- Discovered a small encroachment in Arroyo Pescadero. The homeowner was contacted and he removed the bricks and turf grass the next day.
- Responded to a car fire in Hellman Park. Whittier City employee slid off of the cleared road and caught the weeds on fire. L.A. County Fire extinguished the fire quickly containing it to only a 20 ft X 20 Ft area.
- Rescued six ducklings from a resident that lives next to the Preserve. The ducklings were transported by Authority staff to a local rescue facility.
- Picked up dumping including:
  - Several empty 50 gallon barrels along Fullerton Road.
  - Large tree stumps in Powder Canyon.
  - Debris along Harbor Blvd.
  - Branches at Turnbull Canyon Trailhead.
- Continue to check and re-post trail closure signs and rope-fence at unauthorized trails and restoration areas in Turnbull Canyon, Worsham Canyon, Powder Canyon and Hellman Park.
- Repaired water leak at Powder Canyon.
- Replaced the plexi-glass in the interpretive display at Arroyo Pescadero.



- Re-paint ADA parking stalls and red curbs at Arroyo Pescadero.
- Repair “No Stopping” signs at Powder Canyon.
- Install new “No Bikes” sign at Hellman Park gate.
- Covered illegal trail in Hacienda Heights with brush.
- Observed wires down from power pole on Turnbull Canyon Trail. Subjects cut down a telephone pole to steal the wires. The wires on the ground were cable wires and not power lines. Local utility company was notified and it has been repaired.
- Dealt with various violations including:
  - In the Preserve after hours at Hellman Park, Hacienda Heights, Powder Cyn. and Arroyo Pescadero.
  - Parking violations at Powder Canyon, Arroyo Pescadero, Hacienda Hills Trailhead, Sycamore Canyon and Ford property.
  - Loud music in Arroyo Pescadero and Hacienda Hills.
  - Marijuana at Turnbull Canyon Trailhead.
  - Alcohol in Arroyo Pescadero and Turnbull Canyon.
  - Inhaling nitrous oxide gas at the Ford property.
  - Off-road motorcycle at Ford property.
  - Motorized minibikes in Hacienda Heights.
  - Removing cactus at Ford property.
  - Flying a drone at Arroyo Pescadero Trailhead.
  - Electric bikes in Powder Canyon, Hacienda Heights and Turnbull Canyon.
  - Dogs off leash at Hacienda Hills and Arroyo Pescadero.
  - Bikes in Arroyo Pescadero and Sycamore Canyon.
- Received several calls during the months of May, June, July and August to our 24-hour ranger emergency services number including:
  - Inquiring about volunteering.
  - Found baby bird.
  - Deer trapped inside residents fenced yard.
  - Inquiring about Eagle Scout projects.
  - Asking if we have restrooms at Arroyo Pescadero.
  - Inquiring when Hacienda trail opens.
  - Reporting a water leak at Hacienda Hills trailhead.
  - Requesting trees be trimmed behind her house on Aurora Crest.
  - Several calls for hikers locked in at Hellman Park.
  - Caller concerned about mountain lions.
  - Reporting a couple picking flowers on the Black Walnut trail.
  - Caller reporting an odd guy approaching her.
  - Reporting someone walking on the trail after closing.

- Reporting several people waiting for the gate to open at Hacienda Hills trailhead at 0800 hrs.
- Reporting a bird flew into her window and is lying on its back.
- Inquiring if Turnbull Canyon can be opened at 7am for a team builder event.
- Several calls for hikers locked in at Hacienda Hills trailhead.
- Reporting illegally parked vehicle at Hacienda Hills trailhead.
- Inquiring about the ranger residence at Sycamore Canyon.
- Reporting the gate at Black Walnut is unlocked.
- Reporting the gate at Los Palomas is open.
- Reporting a dog at Hellman Park is having heat issues.
- Whittier Police reporting missing person in Turnbull Canyon.
- Reporting a deer trapped in their yard.
- Reporting hikers locked in at the end of Orange Grove Ave.
- Inquiring about weed clearance in Worsham Canyon.
- Reporting trees leaning on his fence need to be trimmed.
- Whittier Police requesting to unlock the gate at Corinthia.
- Reporting a peacock in Whittier.
- Reporting a baby deer stuck in her fence on East Road.
- Reporting a dog on Skyline trail is having heat issues.
- Reporting coyotes living at a vacant house in Whittier.
- Lost keys at Arroyo Pescadero.
- Inquiring about parking at Arroyo Pescadero.
- Inquiring about weed clearance.
- Reporting a dog in Sycamore Canyon.
- Reporting a pipe water leak on the Sycamore trail.
- Reporting a homeless person at Hacienda Hills trailhead.
- Fireworks seen at the top of Turnbull Canyon.
- Whittier Police inquiring about the locks on the Corinthia gate.
- Lost ID on the Coyote trail.
- Sierra Club inquiring about the lock on the Hacienda Hills trailhead gate.
- Reporting motorcycles in Turnbull Canyon.
- Inquiring when the Arroyo Pescadero gates open.
- Rose Hills inquiring about a fire the previous day.
- Reporting bobcat in their backyard.
- Whittier resident concerned about coyotes.
- Reporting a hole under the fence at Hellman Park.
- Jogger inquiring why rangers are following him.
- Caller reporting rangers chased him and what did they do with his property.
- Inquiring if they can park their RV on Turnbull Canyon.
- Reporting cars in the Hacienda Hills trailhead parking lot before park hours.

- Reporting oil drums on the side of Fullerton Road.
  - Reporting 3 boys on ebikes in Turnbull Canyon.
  - Reporting a van stuck in the Preserve.
  - Inquiring why Hellman Park parking lot is closed to vehicles.
  - Reporting white powder on the trail at Arroyo Pescadero.
  - Reporting a rattlesnake at Hacienda Hills trailhead is leaving.
  - Water Dept requesting gate to be opened at the end of Orange Grove Ave.
  - Requesting permission to take cactus at Sycamore Canyon.
- Continue to work closely with Executive Director Andrea Gullo on various projects and assignments as requested.

If you have any questions, or would like any additional information, please feel free to contact me anytime. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*K E Hughes*

Kenn Hughes  
Deputy Chief Ranger

# Additional Materials



**Puente Hills  
Habitat Preservation Authority**

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

**Habitat Authority's 30th Anniversary  
Celebration**

*Please  
join us!*



**Saturday,  
September | 21, | 2024**

**1 PM - 3 PM  
1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier**

**The following special recognitions &  
acknowledgements will be made at the event:**

- **Founder's Award**
- **Legacy Awards**
- **Volunteer Stewardship Awards**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 28, 2024**

## **Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Celebrates 30 Years of Preservation and Community Engagement**

*Whittier, CA* — The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Habitat Authority) is thrilled to announce its 30th Anniversary Celebration, a landmark event honoring three decades of dedicated preservation efforts and community involvement. The celebration will take place on **September 21st at the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts office (1955 Workman Mill Rd, Whittier, CA 90601) from 1pm to 3pm**. The event is free and open to the public, and those interested can RSVP at [bit.ly/30YR\\_PHHPA](https://bit.ly/30YR_PHHPA).

Since its establishment in 1994, Habitat Authority has been committed to preserving and protecting the open space and natural habitats of the Puente Hills area. Over the past three decades, Habitat Authority has safeguarded over 3,800 acres of vital habitat, including Hacienda Hills, Turnbull Canyon, Sycamore Canyon, Hellman Park, Arroyo Pescadero, and Powder Canyon. The Habitat Authority offers vital environmental and community benefits by preventing wildfires, preserving natural habitats, and providing recreational opportunities.

The Habitat Authority's work has been made possible by the collaboration and support of its partners, volunteers, and the local community. The 30th Anniversary Celebration will feature several guest speakers from our local community, including Habitat Authority founders, local environmental leaders, and public officials who have supported the preservation mission over the years. This anniversary event serves as a testament to what can be achieved through shared commitment and passion for the environment.

"The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority was founded with a vision to protect this incredible natural landscape for future generations, and we are immensely proud of the progress we have made over the past 30 years," said Ivan Sulic, Chair of the Habitat Authority's Board of Directors.

"This milestone anniversary is not only a celebration of our achievements but also an opportunity to thank the community for their unwavering support. We look forward to continuing our mission of preservation and stewardship in the years to come," said Andrea Gullo, Executive Director of Habitat Authority.

Admission to the 30th Anniversary Celebration is free, and all are welcome. For more information about the event, volunteer opportunities, or the work of the Habitat Authority, please visit [www.HabitatAuthority.org](http://www.HabitatAuthority.org).

**Media Contact:** Andrea Gullo, Executive Director, 562.201.3581, [agullo@habitatauthority.org](mailto:agullo@habitatauthority.org)



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

# Join Our Open House!

The Open House will focus on the Habitat Authority's recent work around preservation and wildfire preparedness as well as a discussion of the Board's decision to place Measure PH on the ballot and form the Community Facilities District.

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**WHERE:**

Whittier Community Center  
7630 Washington Ave

**WHEN:**

Thursday, October 3rd, 2024  
From 6-8 pm

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There will be a short presentation starting at 6:30 pm, followed by an opportunity to mingle and speak with our volunteers, rangers and staff members one-on-one.

**Scan here to RSVP!**



 [habitatauthority.org](https://habitatauthority.org)





August 13, 2024

Jeffery Nordschow  
Rose Hills Memorial Park  
3888 Workman Mill Rd  
Whittier, CA 90601

Dear Mr. Nordschow,

Thank you for the generous tax-deductible donation of \$1,000.00 to the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority. Your donation is very appreciated.

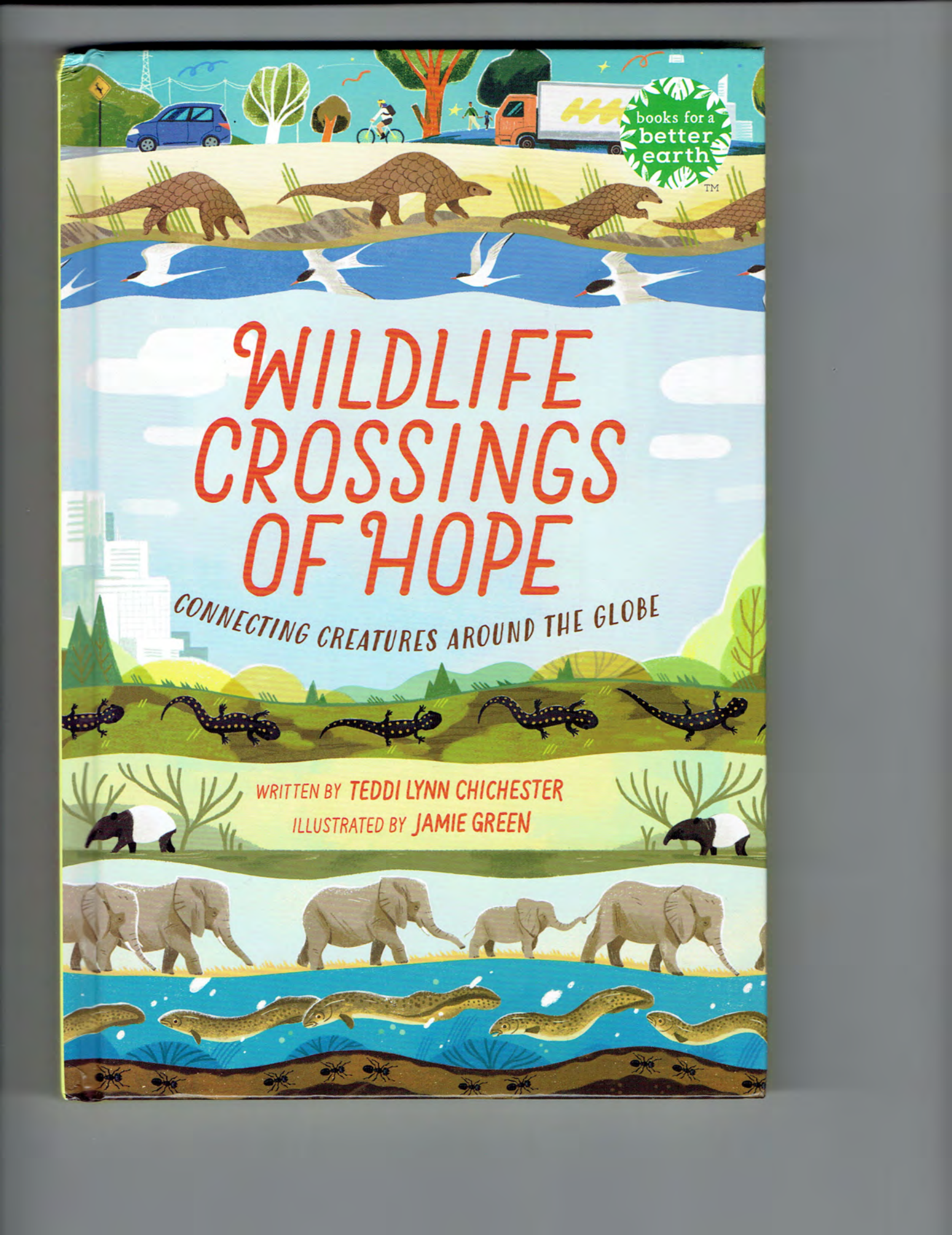
This gift contributed to the Habitat Authority's mission of preserving and protecting the Puente Hills Preserve. Contributions like this help our agency to continue to safeguard the hills for the benefit of wildlife, their habitat, and people. Your support and partnership mean a great deal to us.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gullo  
Executive Director

Copy: Board of Directors  
Advisory Committee





books for a  
better  
earth

# WILDLIFE CROSSINGS OF HOPE

CONNECTING CREATURES AROUND THE GLOBE

WRITTEN BY TEDDI LYNN CHICHESTER

ILLUSTRATED BY JAMIE GREEN



## PAW PRINTS AND DEER SELFIES IN A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UNDERPASS: AN UP-CLOSE LOOK

If Mount Kenya has its rambling elephant herds and the Hollywood Hills their international celebrity mountain lion, Puente Hills Preserve, several miles southeast of Griffith Park, boasts its own wild feline star. When gracing the Preserve with his presence, ZEK the bobcat ranges a roomy landscape: 4,000 acres (1,619 hectares) of oak groves and flowering buckwheat that's nestled amid freeways, subdivisions, and mini-malls.

As traffic increased on Harbor Boulevard, a major Southern California thoroughfare, ZEK and his bobcat cousins found their range shrinking and their lives threatened when they tried to ford the endless stream of cars. Just as P-22 became the poster cat for what will be the world's largest green bridge, ZEK helped inspire Los Angeles County's first dedicated wildlife underpass. And like all the best critter crossings, this cavernous tunnel, completed in 2006 for \$1.4 million, links protected open space on each side of the road, 4,600 acres (1,862 hectares) to the west and, to the east, an impressive 14,000 acres (5,666 hectares). Stretching 160 feet (49 meters) beneath the road, comparable to the length of the overpasses we've just viewed, the structure is four times longer than Tony the elephant's much cozier culvert.

One sunny August morning, Michelle Mariscal, ecologist with the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, meets me just inside the Preserve. Mariscal knows these hills as well as anyone: grassland for burrowing spadefoot toads, hardy chaparral where coyotes stalk their prey, and coastal sage scrub,

perfect nesting grounds for one of the the region's most threatened birds, the coastal California gnatcatcher.

Studying, restoring, and protecting the ecosystem: add to Mariscal's enviable job description the one "duty" (she clearly doesn't see it as such) that brings me to the park today. Every week or so, she visits the underpass to retrieve the SD (secure digital) card from the trail camera and to investigate footprints. Since people aren't allowed in the crossing, she hopes to see only paw and hoof marks!

We climb into Mariscal's truck and head out of the tranquil Preserve, entering Harbor Boulevard and a completely different world—of buildings, power lines, and noise. In a few minutes, Mariscal pulls over near a brushy hillside. We've arrived at the underpass, but I never would have known it was there. And that's just how Mariscal and her fellow scientists want it. We scramble down a steep ravine, and there it is: a large, corrugated metal tube, plugged into the road's concrete foundation and surrounded by dry foliage (it's summer in SoCal, after all). A commemorative plaque doubles as a stern Keep-Out sign, both warning and educating would-be trespassers that human scent can deter wildlife.

As Mariscal opens the thick lock on the camera trap installed at the entrance, she gives me the go-ahead for a quick walk inside. The highly insulated structure keeps out traffic noise, so I hear only the soft crunch of my hiking boots on the sandy ground. The tunnel feels both spacious and secure, and I imagine the soft pads of a slinky bobcat or the spiky feet of a greater roadrunner, another native species, pressing into the earth. The far side of the tunnel opens into a vista that includes



oil wells, concrete walls, houses, and those ubiquitous power lines. Yet I can see a clear path through a deep, vegetated arroyo that animals can follow. This arroyo, or gully, is a segment of the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor that regained wholeness with the completion of the underpass.

When I return to the entrance, Mariscal kneels down to show me some prints. Deer, bobcat, coyote, none of which I could have identified without her keen eye. Thankfully, no boots or tennis shoes! Just before we go—we don't stay long in a place not meant for us—Mariscal secures the camera. So sensitive that even butterflies can trigger it, this device captures ten thousand images a week that she and a whole army of volunteers comb through. Handsome ZEK and other bobcats, I learn, have shown up on film a number of times, confirming that the underpass is connecting members of this keystone carnivore species with one another and with needed habitat.

On the drive back to the Preserve parking lot, Mariscal and I talk about how, more and more, wildlife are forced into smaller spaces, living near and even in disturbed landscapes such as those encircling the Preserve. Yet we also both find hope in people's willingness to set aside land just for wild creatures, like the coyotes and cactus wrens, skunks and gopher snakes that make their home in the Puente Hills Preserve, and that commute through the Harbor Boulevard Wildlife Underpass.

When I get home, I pore over a sampling of camera trap snapshots that Mariscal has emailed me. A coyote pup with outsize ears gazes soulfully into the lens. A mother mule deer and her fawn nibble on the grass edging the tunnel entrance. A bobcat (not ZEK, as this one isn't wearing a radio collar)

poses confidently, her spotted coat and dignified profile creating a striking portrait. Clearly this roomy underpass in the heart of ultra-developed Southern California feels like a real refuge for them. They're not hurrying through, but lingering, taking a breath and a maybe bite to eat—sheltered from the traffic above, free to continue on their own travels, when they're good and ready.

As we continue our tour of vegetated bridges and secluded tunnels, we'll travel to some truly ambitious crossing projects to get a closer look at how an incredibly varied group of species is making its way across and under urban expressways and rural roads. And we'll check in on the historic Liberty Canyon project, which promises to link two struggling populations of mountain lions, patiently awaiting their bridge to a brighter future, and to one another.