BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) will be held
Friday, May 29, 2015, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Community Center
4100 South La Cienega Blvd. Los Angeles, CA
(323) 298-3660

Teleconference Location
Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, 13th Floor, Room 1305
Sacramento, California 95814

10:00 AM - CALL TO ORDER - Sara Amir, Chair

MEETING AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE ROLL CALL

Public Comment and Time Limits: If you wish to speak on an agenda item, please complete a speaking card available near the door to the meeting room. Individuals wishing to comment will be allowed up to three minutes to speak. Speaker times may be reduced depending upon the number of speakers.

1. Roll Call - Avril LaBelle, Executive Secretary
2. Approval of Minutes (April) – Sara Amir, Chair
3. Public Comments - Sara Amir, Chair
4. Consideration of a resolution adopting the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Guidelines for Proposition 1 Competitive Grants – David McNeill, Executive Officer
5. Executive Officer Report: Project Status Update, Fiscal Update, Legislative Update - BHC Staff Representatives
6. Board Member Announcements or Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings - *Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for **July 31, 2015**.*
7. Closed Session - Conference to Discuss Negotiations and Strategies for the Following Properties: 4221-024-017 and 4221-024-018, Agency Negotiator: Karly Katona, Negotiating Party: Mr. Steve Zipp.

   *Pursuant to Government Code Sections **54956.8, 54956.9**, the Conservancy may hold a closed session to discuss and take possible action regarding instructions on real estate negotiations, on personnel matters and/or to receive advice of counsel on pending or potential litigation. Confidential memoranda related to these issues may be considered during such closed session discussions.*

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the Conservancy at (323) 290-5270 at least five days prior to the meeting. For more information about the Conservancy, you may visit our website at www.bhc.ca.gov

STATE OF CALIFORNIA – THE NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056
Phone: (323) 290-5270
Fax: (323) 290-5276

DRAFT

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

Friday, April 17, 2015

Call to Order

A public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) was assembled at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 17, 2015, at the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Community Center, located at 4100 South La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90056.

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Julie Alvis, Sara Amir, Allan Boodnick, Lloyd Dixon, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Yolanda Gorman, Robert Jones, Jason Marshall, Eraina Ortega, Patricia O'Toole *(arrived after roll call,)* Starlett Quarles *(arrived after approval of minutes,)* Craig Sap, Sam Schuchat, Hayden Sohm, Ana Straabe,
Staff Present: David McNeill, Executive Officer; Gail Krippner, Grant Program Manager; Avril LaBelle, Executive Secretary, Christina Bull-Arndt, Supervising Deputy Attorney General.

II. Approval of Minutes (March) – Sara Amir, Chair

The Chair called for a motion to approve the March minutes. Member Boodnick made a motion to approve, Member Dupont-Walker seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken –
9 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, Minutes approved.

III. Public Comments – Sara Amir, Chair

Public comment was invited; however, no comments were made.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action on the Scope and Budget for Hetzler Road Pedestrian Path Agreement #BHC13003 with Culver City – David McNeill, Executive Officer

Mr. McNeill - The Hetzler Road Project is the connector portion of Park to Playa that takes people from the bottom of the hill to the Scenic Overlook, and up to the road that travels past the residences in a manner that allows pedestrians safe access.

The BHC funded a $791,000 grant to the city of Culver City, Department of Public Works (DPW.) Fall of 2014 bids went out and came back higher than expected.

Mr. McNeill asked the board for authority to follow up with negotiations between Culver City DPW, California State Parks, and the contractor; as they formulate a project that comes within our budget, plus any extra money found to reduce or backfill the shortfall for this project. The original shortfall of $633,000 has been brought down to a current shortfall of $269,000. Mr. McNeill stated that partners are looking to bring additional funds to the project so that this important connection can be implemented.

Charles Herbertson, Culver City, Director of Public Works explained that this project is to build a paved walkway, a parallel pathway adjacent to the road. Bids were considerably higher, and DPW is working with partners to lower costs.

The Chair brought forward the motion (Resolution 14-11) Authorizing the Executive Officer to Amend the Scope and Budget for Hetzler Road, Member Dupont - Walker made a motion to approve, Member Gorman seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken –
9 ayes, 1 nay, 0 abstentions, Approved
(See attachments - Memorandum - Item 4: Discussion and Possible Action on the Scope and Budget for Hetzler Road Pedestrian Path Agreement #BHC13003 with Culver City; and Resolution 14-11;)

V. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to the Performance Period for the Milton Street Park Agreement #BHC12000 with the Mountains and Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) – Ana Straabe, MRCA Deputy Chief of Urban Parks and Watershed Projects

Laura Saltzman, MRCA provided comments and remarks. The MRCA is requesting an 18 month extension to the end of 2016 for the performance period Grant #BHC12000; which is helping fund Milton Street Park and the Green Street component. Numerous delays involve - a long permitting process; lack of coordination between departments; and a difference of opinions. MRCA is hoping to resolve issues by the end of this year and move forward. The Green Street is being funded by the BHC and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. If extension is not granted the Green Street would not be completed; funding source would be lost; project would not be built at any time in the near future; opportunity, time, and money already invested would be lost.

The purposes and benefits of the Green Street involve:

- Draining urban runoff and infiltrating water into vegetated extensions coming from sidewalks
- Draining water from the park itself
- Providing both visual and functional complements, and enhancing esthetics
- Replenishing groundwater supply
- Educating the public
- Providing a prototype project for the community to be inspired by and to duplicate
- Reducing impervious surfaces
- Providing a Green connection between school, park, and neighborhood
- Improving pedestrian bicycle safety and helping to calm and slow traffic

Ms. Saltzman went on to say the Milton Street Park will be open to the public this summer, and she is hopeful that the issues with the City will be resolved by the end of 2015. After which the plan is to rebid the Green Street Project; begin an anticipated four months of construction next year; then go to project dedication and grant closeout by the end of 2016.

Mr. McNeill asked if there is an expectation of extra funding needed/funding requests in terms of project management since the process is running longer than anticipated, and the response was no.

The Chair called for a motion (Resolution 14-12) Authorizing an Amendment to the Performance Period for the Milton Street Park Agreement #BHC12000 with the MRCA, Member Dupont - Walker made a motion to approve, Member Sap seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was taken – ***10 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, Approved*** *(For details please see attachments.)*

VI. Executive Officer Report: Project Status Update, Fiscal Update, Legislative Update - BHC Staff Representatives - David McNeill, Executive Officer and Gail Krippner, Grant Program Manager

Project Status Update

DTSC Contract – The contract for implementing the soil management plan will term out the end of this month and the funds will revert back to the bond.

Stoneview Nature Center - L.A. County Parks and Recreation is in the design review process. We have been meeting every few week to discuss the design, the nature center itself, the Bioswale, and the landscaping. Project completion is expected in the summer of 2016.

Loyola Marymount (LMU) - The Parks User Survey. LMU has developed additional questions to refine the next survey, and are training student/surveyors to conduct the survey.. (LMU has discovered that the Scenic Overlook gets 6.54 visitors per minute during the weekdays.)

University of Southern California (USC)
USC has completed their trapping, and are conducting mapping of habitat areas throughout the Baldwin Hills under the USC Study led by Travis Longcore. Data is in and they are compiling the information and conducting the interface for the geospatial portal so that individuals can upload sightings. When completed we will know where the habitat corridors and active areas are

Fiscal Update

The year is coming to a close, and the BHC is remaining on budget. When the new fiscal year begins the BHC will be in a better situation to interview for the Proposition 84 position.
Balances for Capital Outlay are as follows:

Proposition 40	$11,000,000.
Proposition 84	$ 5,000,000.

(Please see Attachment #2 – 2014/2015 Summary Sheet by fund; and Attachment #3 – Bond Cash Fund.)

Legislative Update

The Governor has issued a statewide directive regarding the drought. California restrictions are at 25% and our projects will be impacted in terms of irrigation. On April 27, 2015, there will be a hearing with the Natural Resources Committee at the State Capitol regarding Assembly Bill 466. This is the legislation by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas repealing the sunset date on the BHC.

VII. Board Member Announcements or Proposed Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Mr. McNeill – Proposition 1 Draft Guidelines have been posted on the Bond Accountability Website. After the board meeting today we are having our first Public Workshop at 1:00 p.m.
(See website www.bhc.ca.gov for additional Public Workshop Dates and details.)
April 18, 2015, Edison International, LA Audubon Society, and State Parks Foundation are sponsoring a tree planting at the Scenic Overlook; April 22, 2015, Sony Pictures is having an Earth Day event from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Member Sap – The special event venue has been completed, and is generating a lot of interest. We are looking into having concessions - organic food, juices. We are looking at the Automated Pay Machine Program, and will be installing approximately 30 machines in the district. Two ATMs will be installed in Baldwin Hills at the bottom triangular area and one at the top. The timeline is approximately six months.

Member Dupont-Walker – We now have the Business Interruption Fund to help small businesses deal with losses due to the Crenshaw/LAX Line construction. These businesses can receive up to $50,000 in assistance. This is the first of its kind in the area, and the second in the nation.

The next meeting Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 29, 2015.

(The open session of the meeting ended 11:16 a.m. to convene the closed session.)

VIII. Closed Session - Conference to Discuss Negotiations and Strategies for the Following Properties: 4221-024-017 and 4221-024-018, Agency Negotiator: Karly Katona, Negotiating Party: Mr. Steve Zip.

(Closed Session convened at 11:19 a.m. and concluded 11:41 a.m.)

*Pursuant to Government Code Sections **54956.8, 54956.9**, the Conservancy may hold a closed session to discuss and take possible action regarding instructions on real estate negotiations, on personnel matters and/or to receive advice of counsel on pending or potential litigation. Confidential memoranda related to these issues may be considered during such closed session discussions.*

ADJOURNMENT

There being no more business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Approved:

_____

Sara Amir, Chair Date:

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056
Phone: (323) 290-5270
Fax: (323) 290-5278
www.bhc.ca.gov

Memorandum

To: Governing Board

From: David McNeill, Executive Officer

Date: May 29, 2015

Re: Item 4: Consideration of a Resolution Adopting the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Guidelines for Proposition 1 Competitive Grants

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) staff presented the draft BHC Proposition 1 Program Guidelines (Prop 1 Guidelines) at the March 6, 2015 public meeting. The draft Prop 1 Guidelines were approved by the Governing Board for publishing on the California Natural Resources Bond Accountability and BHC websites as well as circulation at workshops for public input. Three email blasts along with one direct mailing was sent notifying the public the draft Prop 1 Guidelines were available for review and comment. The comment period was open from March 9, 2015 through May 14, 2015. In Southern California, the BHC's draft Prop 1 Guidelines were presented at workshops conducted on April 17, 21 and 23 in Los Angeles. In Northern/Central California, the BHC's draft guidelines were featured at the May 12 and May 13 workshops hosted by the Delta Conservancy in West Sacramento and Stockton respectively. There were a total of 34 workshop attendees between the various locations. Over 10 different agencies were represented as participants, including the L.A. Department of Water and Power, Trust for Public Land, L.A. and California Conservation Corps, Blair Hills Association, L.A. County Parks and Recreation, and the Office of Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas.

The public workshops included an overview of the key eligibility and competitive requirements promulgated in the Prop 1 statue. Hard copies of the draft guidelines were made available for public review and open question and answer sessions to address issues or concerns were conducted. Several inquiries were made and addressed regarding the types of projects and the timing of the funds being available; however no official comments resulted from the open discussions.

The BHC received three written comment letters from the following entities:

1. Trust for Public Land (TPL) dated March 31, 2015
2. U.S. Dept of Commerce - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) dated April 8, 2015

3. Construction Industry Force Account Council (CIFAC) dated March 3, 2015

Category of Comments, Responses, and Recommendations:

Subcontracting (CIFAC)
Requested points and or consideration given for grant applicants to commit to using a competitive bidding process to select licensed contractors, and if applicable, to follow any state law for competitive bidding that might apply to those seeking grants.

Response: The BHC includes language in its award agreements stipulating documentation of a solicitation process is required for hiring subcontractors under its grants. Adding points for following the general terms of our award agreement and or complying with an applicable state law regarding project bidding would not likely improve the competiveness of the grant application scoring process. Additionally, Division 26.7 of the Water Code, Chapter 6, Section 79734 requires that: "For restoration and ecosystem protection projects funded pursuant to this chapter, the services of the California Conservation Corps or a local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps ***shall be used whenever feasible."*** *Since applicants are required to seek the services of the CCC or Local Corps, criteria awarding points for a commitment to a competitive bid process would be conflicting. No change in scoring is recommended.*

Project Solicitation (TPL & NOAA)
Requested to be able to provide an email address for email solicitations for projects rather than checking for updates on the Conservancy's website.

Response: The BHC will provide the opportunity for interested entities to submit email addresses on the BHC Prop 1 Grant page for future solicitations. Additionally the four dates for ongoing grant round submissions during the year will be published on the website tentatively beginning in August. No modification to the language is recommended.

Requested removing or modifying language regarding targeted proposals due to concerns about potential thematic limitations and inflexible project timelines. In lieu of removal, consideration of an option for a 90 day advance notice of the themes to be addressed for any targeted proposal is requested.

Response: In the event the BHC elects to solicit targeted proposals, the overall project themes would not vary from the existing reference material (Prop 1 Statue, Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan, Water Action Plan, BHC Statue and Strategic Plan). Accordingly, there would be no reason to provide an extended advance notice prior to the normal 60 day solicitation period. The BHC will work with applicants that have questions about the specific drivers of the themes and timelines of the targeted proposals during the normal application period. No modification to the language is recommended.

Recommended the Conservancy provide information on targeted annual distribution of funding program.

Response: Per the draft guideline's Section V (a): The Conservancy expects to grant approximately $1 -2 million each year for about five years. However, the amount of funding available will depend upon the amount appropriated to the Conservancy by the State Legislature each year. The amount awarded will also depend on the quality of the proposals submitted. No modification to the language is recommended.

Recommended the Conservancy ensure public transparency and reporting on criteria, scoring, and technical panel selection processes to include the monitoring and assessment of funded projects.

Response: The public comment process for development of the guidelines has established the transparency for the criteria and scoring. Final scoring of project applications will be available for public review and public meetings will be held for any grant proposal being considered for funding approval. The technical panel members will be recommended by staff, vetted to ensure there is no conflict of interest, and approved by the Governing Board during a public meeting. Monitoring and assessment of funded projects will be conducted pursuant to the terms of grant agreement. All reports submitted to the Conservancy pursuant to the grant agreement will be available to the public. No modification to the language is recommended.

Grant Application Process and Timeline (TPL)
Recommended a consultation with conservancy staff is required in advance of the applicant proposal preparation or development.

Response: The conservancy's grant programs have always made staff available to applicants in advance of proposal preparation. This policy works well to increase capacity of new applicants and strengthen the content of the proposal. Applicants should feel free to contact the conservancy in advance regarding the preparation of an eligible project for grant consideration. No modification to the language is recommended.

Evaluation Scoring Criteria (TPL)
Requested more points for project consistency with the California Water Action Plan, the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and Local Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Response: Project consistency with the California Water Action Plan and the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan scores eight points, which is the second highest tier of points available in the evaluation schedule. The draft guidelines scoring criteria covers a wide range of necessary application components without losing the intent of the bond act. The current point system balances several important priorities and mandates. The strongest emphasis is placed on: 1) the Prop 1 statutory objectives; and 2) a complete, well thought out scope of work, budget and schedule. Those top criterions are worth 20

points each. The remaining evaluation criteria points (from eight to five points scoring tier) make up the balance of 60 points towards achieving the threshold of 75 out of 100 points for passing the project evaluation scoring requirement. No change in scoring is recommended.

Requested a definition for "multiple benefits" in evaluation criteria #8.

Response: Evaluation criteria #8 awards points based on "The extent to which the project provides multiple benefits". The language will be changed to better define the criteria as follows: The extent to which the project provides multiple benefits. Multiple benefits means the project would support several different functions within the ecosystem or watershed.

Attachment #1

Baldwin Hills Conservancy

PROPOSITION 1
GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES
FINAL DRAFT
May 29, 2015

GRANTS FUNDED BY THE
Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure
Improvement Act of 2014

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I. Introduction

A. Baldwin Hills Conservancy

The BHC is an independent State agency within the Natural Resources Agency of the State of California. State law established the BHC in 2000 (division 22.7 of the Public Resources Code commencing with section 32550). Its jurisdiction includes the land currently located in Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHSRA); the Baldwin Hills Community; the surrounding property bordered to the south by Slauson Avenue and to the east by La Brea Avenue, including the spur of land extending from Stocker Street to an area between La Brea Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard; Ballona Creek and adjacent property within a quarter mile of Ballona Creek on either side; and from the Santa Monica Freeway (Interstate10) to the Marina Freeway (Interstate 90).

The BHC's mission is to:

- Acquire open space and manage public lands;
- Provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat; and
- Enhance the public's enjoyment and educational experience on public lands in the territory in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in the area.

B. Proposition 1

The Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 ("Prop 1") was approved by voters in November 2014. Prop 1 is codified as Division 26.7 of the Water Code. The purposes of Prop 1 include generating funding to address water quality, water supply and watershed protection and restoration. Chapter 6 of Prop 1 allocates $10 million to the Conservancy for competitive grants for multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects, Water Code Section 79731(a).

II. Program Purposes, Required Criteria and Eligibility

A. Purpose of Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines

These Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines ("Prop 1 Guidelines") establish the process and criteria that the Conservancy will use to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants, pursuant to Prop 1. All projects funded by the Conservancy with Prop 1 must be consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation, Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan, Strategic Plan, Conservancy adopted grant project requirements (See Appendix B), the California Water Action Plan and Prop 1. These Prop 1 Guidelines identify the additional requirements applicable to Prop 1 funded projects and the project evaluation process for those projects. These Prop 1 Guidelines are adopted pursuant to Water Code Section 79706(a) and may be updated periodically.

B. Conservancy Grant Project Requirements and Selection Criteria

The Conservancy has adopted *Grant Project Requirements* setting forth the criteria the Conservancy uses for reviewing its grant applications. The Conservancy's Existing Program Guidelines contain

required criteria that must be satisfied by all projects and additional criteria that are not mandatory but are taken into account for purposes of priority. The required selection criteria are:

- Promotion the Conservancy's statutory programs and purposes;
- Consistency with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan;
- Consistency with purposes of the funding source;
- Support from the public;
- Location (must benefit the Baldwin Hills and Ballona Creek region);
- Need (desired project or result will not occur without Conservancy contribution);
- Greater-than-local interest; and
- Demonstrated expertise in the proposed program area.

C. Purposes of Proposition 1, Chapter 6

The funding from Prop 1 allocated to the Conservancy comes from Chapter 6, "Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds." (See Appendix A) Chapter 6 of Prop 1 sets forth 13 specific purposes of the allocation of funds to the Conservancy ("Chapter 6 purposes"), Water Code Section 79732(a). All Prop 1 grants funded by the Conservancy must achieve at least one of these Chapter 6 purposes.

1) Protect and increase the economic benefits arising from healthy watersheds, fishery resources and instream flow.
2) Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on communities and ecosystems.
3) Restore river parkways throughout the state, including but not limited to projects pursuant to the California River Parkways Act of 2004 and urban river greenways
4) Protect and restore aquatic, wetland and migratory bird ecosystems including fish and wildlife corridors and the acquisition of water rights for instream flow.
5) Fulfill the obligations of the state of California in complying with the terms of multiparty settlement agreements related to water resources.
6) Remove barriers to fish passage.
7) Collaborate with federal agencies in the protection of fish native to California and wetlands in the central valley of California.
8) Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities and promote watershed health.
9) Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, stormwater resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction.
10) Protect and restore coastal watershed including but not limited to, bays, marine estuaries, and nearshore ecosystems.
11) Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management.
12) Assist in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health, instream flows, fish passage, coastal or inland wetland restoration, or other means, such as natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan implementation.
13) Assist in water-related agricultural sustainability projects.

D. Promotion and Implementation of State Plans and Policies

Prop 1 requires that projects be consistent with the goals indentified in the California Water Action Plan which are stated as: 1) a more reliable water supplies; 2) restoration of important species and habitat; 3) a more resilient , sustainably managed water resource system (water supply, water quality, flood protection and environment). Additional state plans and policies are applied in the Conservancy's work program including California's Ecosystem Health Indicator Type III (Urban Tree Canopy) and Type I (Land Management) and the state adopted Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan.

E. Eligible Grantees

Eligible applicants for Prop 1 grant funding from the Conservancy are:

- Public agencies (any city, county, district, joint powers authority, state agency, public college, or public university).
- Non-profit organizations (qualified to do business in California and under Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code with purposes consistent with the BHC's enabling legislation).
- Public utilities, mutual water companies.
- Federally recognized Indian Tribes, State Indian Tribes listed on the Native Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List.

F. Eligible Projects

To be eligible for Prop 1 funding, projects must be consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation, meet the Conservancy's required project selection criteria, support the Conservancy's Strategic Plan and advance at least one of the purposes of Chapter 6 of Prop 1.

Prop 1 funds must be spent consistent with the General Obligation Bond Law, Government Code Section 16727. In general, this means projects must entail the construction or acquisition of capital assets and/or activities that are incidental but directly related to construction or acquisition, such as planning, design and engineering.

Prop 1 contains additional provisions that may make some projects ineligible, these include:

- All projects funded by Prop 1 must be consistent with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the Water Code) and the State's five-year infrastructure plan prepared pursuant to Government Code section 13100.
- Prop 1 cannot be used to fund acquisitions of land by eminent domain. Water Code Section 79711(g).
- Prop 1 funds may only be used for projects that will provide benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations.

III. Grant Application Process and Timeline

A. Project Solicitation

A Request for Proposals to be funded with Prop 1 will be posted on the Conservancy's website and may be updated periodically. The Conservancy may elect to solicit targeted proposals for a specific type of project for the solicitation periods.

B. Project Solicitation Periods

There will be four project solicitation periods each year: August 1-September 30, November 1-December 31, February 1-March 31, and May 1-June 30. Grant applications must be submitted during the solicitation periods.

C. Application Review and Evaluation

1. Completeness

Grant applications will be initially reviewed for completeness. Incomplete grant applications will be returned to the applicant. Grantees may choose to complete the application and resubmit.

2. Screening

Conservancy staff will screen complete grant applications to ensure that:

- the project meets the Conservancy's required grant selection criteria of the Conservancy Program Guidelines;
- the project is consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Plan;
- the project consists of work that is eligible for bond funds under the General Obligation Bond Law;
- the grantee is an eligible entity; and
- the project meets at least one of the Chapter 6 Purposes.

Applications that pass the screening process will remain in the Conservancy's database as eligible for future scoring and potential awards for up to two years. Applications that do not pass the screening process will not proceed to the scoring process. The Conservancy has discretion to either return the application or assist the applicant with gathering additional information, accessing capacity building resources, and re-submitting the proposal for a second screening.

3. Scoring

Complete applications that have passed the screening process will be reviewed and scored by a minimum of three professionals with relevant expertise. Reviewers may include state and federal agency staff and others with relevant expertise, including consultants and academics. All reviewers other than Conservancy staff will be required to document that they do not have a conflict of interest in reviewing any proposals.

All reviewers will score each proposal in accordance with Part IV, "Grant Evaluation and Scoring." Applications with an average score of 75 or better will qualify for grants. If there is a significant discrepancy in the scoring by the three reviewers, additional reviewers may score the proposal. The final score will be the average of all reviews.

D. Grant Award

Conservancy staff will determine which qualified applications to recommend to the Conservancy Board for funding and the amount of funding, taking into account the project's score relative to other eligible projects, the total amount of funding available for Prop 1 projects, the urgency of the project relative to other eligible projects, the Conservancy's Strategic Plan, Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan, and the application of the Conservancy's Required and Additional Project Selection Criteria.

E. Board Meetings

No grant shall be awarded unless the Conservancy Board has approved the grant at a public meeting. The Conservancy typically holds eight public meetings per calendar year. The meeting schedule will be published on the Conservancy's website. The agenda for each public meeting will be published on the Conservancy's website ten days in advance of the meeting. Conservancy staff will prepare a report for each proposed grant presented to the Conservancy Board at a public meeting. The staff report will describe the project and explain how the project is consistent with the Conservancy's enabling legislation, the Conservancy Program Guidelines, the Conservancy's Strategic Plan and the evaluation criteria in these Prop 1 Grant Program Guidelines.

F. Grant Agreement

Once the Conservancy has approved a grant at a public meeting, Conservancy staff will work with the grantee to prepare a grant agreement setting forth the terms and conditions of the grant. The grantee must sign the grant agreement and comply with conditions in order to receive funds.

IV. Grant Evaluation and Scoring

A. Scoring

Complete grant applications that have passed the screening process will be evaluated and scored using the evaluation criteria set forth below. An application must achieve an average score of 75 or better to qualify for a grant.

B. Evaluation Scoring Criteria:

	Criteria	Points
1	The extent to which the project achieves one or more of the purposes of Chapter 6 of Prop 1.	20 points
2	The extent to which the application includes a complete, reasonable and well thought out proposed scope of work, budget and schedule.	20 points
3	The extent to which the project promotes and implements the objectives of the California Water Action Plan; Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan; California Health Indicators Type III or I; local Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.	8 points
4	The extent to which the applicant demonstrates experience successfully implementing similar projects or demonstrates appropriate and necessary partnerships to complete the project.	8 points
5	The extent to which the applicant demonstrates that the project has community support.	8 points
6	Whether the project is consistent with best scientific practices, where achievable or appropriate.	8 points
7	The extent to which the project leverages the resources of private, federal, state or local funding sources. Projects that have at least 25% matching funds will receive 3 points. Projects with greater than 50% matching funds	8 points

	will receive 8 points. Bonus points for projects with greater than 100% matching funds see below.	
8	The extent to which the project provides multiple benefits. Multiple benefits means the project would support several different functions within the ecosystem or watershed.	5 points
9	The extent to which the applicant demonstrates a clear and reasonable method for measuring and reporting the effectiveness of the project.	5 points
10	The extent to which the project employs new or innovative technology or practices.	5 points
11	The extent to which the project will deliver sustainable outcomes in the long-term.	5 points

BONUS POINTS:
Projects that have >100% matching funds from private, federal, or local funding sources will receive 5 bonus points.

Up to 15 bonus points will be awarded to proposed projects that primarily benefit communities with high pollution burdens and/or high population characteristic scores, based on CalEnviroScreen maps, as follows:

5 points = CalEnviroScreen score of 61% -70% (on any of the 3 maps)
10 points = CalEnviroScreen score of 71%-80% (on any of the 3 maps)
15 points = CalEnviroScreen score of 81% or higher (on any of the 3 maps)

Projects that use the California Conservation Corps or certified local conservation corps for project implementation will receive 5 bonus points. In the event the corps is approached and unavailable for the project, a written waiver from the corps may be substituted to receive the bonus points.

V. Additional Information

A. Available Funding

The Conservancy expects to grant approximately $1 -2 million each year for about five years. However, the amount of funding available will depend upon the amount appropriated to the Conservancy by the State Legislature each year. The amount awarded will also depend on the quality of the proposals submitted.

B. Additional Project Considerations

The California Conservation Corps (CCC) and the California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC) need to be consulted to see if it is feasible to use their services for projects before applying to this program. The Conservancy set up the following process to follow for this consultation:

Step 1: Prior to submittal of an application or project plan to the Funder, Applicant prepares the following information for submission to both the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and CALCC (who represents the certified community conservation corps):

- Project Title

- Project Description (identifying key project activities and deliverables)
- Project Map (showing project location)
- Project Implementation estimated start and end dates

Step 2: Applicant submits the forgoing information via email concurrently to the CCC and CALCC representatives:
California Conservation Corps representative:
Name: CCC Prop 1 Coordinator Email: Prop1@ccc.ca.gov
Phone: (916) 341-3100

California Association of Local Conservation Corps representative:
Name: Crystal Muhlenkamp Email: inquiry@prop1communitycorps.org
Phone: 916-426-9170 ext. 0

Step 3: Within five (5) business days of receiving the project information, the CCC and CALCC representatives will review the submitted information, contact the applicant if necessary, and respond to the applicant with a Corps Consultation Review Document (see Appendix C) informing them:
(1) It is NOT feasible for CCC and/or certified community conservation corps services to be used on the project; or
(2) It is feasible for the CCC and/or certified community conservation corps services to be used on the project and identifying the aspects of the project that can be accomplished with Corps services.

Step 4: Applicant submits application to Funder that includes Corps Consultation Review Document.

- Agencies acquiring land may use the Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000 (Division 28 of the Public Resources Code. Water Code Section 79711(h).
- Where appropriate, grantees will be required to provide signage informing the public that the project received Prop 1 funding. This requirement will be addressed in the grant agreement.

C. Grant Provisions

Following Conservancy Board approval of a grant, staff will prepare a grant agreement with detailed conditions specific to the project. The grant agreement must be signed by the grantee before funds will be disbursed. Several typical grant agreement provisions are:

- Actual awards are conditional upon funds being available from the state.
- Grantees must submit a detailed project work program and budget.
- Grant funds will only be paid in arrears on a reimbursement basis.
- Grantees may be required to reimburse the Conservancy for some or all of the disbursed grant funds if the project is not completed.
- Grantees must have liability insurance.

D. Environmental Documents

The Conservancy is required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Grant applicants should consider whether their proposed project will trigger the need for an environmental impact report or negative declaration or whether a CEQA exemption applies. How CEQA applies and the status of CEQA compliance must be addressed in the grant application. Projects must have completed the CEQA process before starting construction.

E. Project Monitoring and Reporting

All grant applications must include a monitoring and reporting component that explains how the effectiveness of the project will be measured and reported. The monitoring and reporting component will vary depending on the nature of the project. The grant application evaluation will assess the robustness of the proposed monitoring program. In addition, Conservancy staff will work with grantees to develop appropriate monitoring and reporting templates and procedures.

F. Leveraging Funds

The Conservancy will award additional points to applicants with significant matching funds. The amount of leveraged funding will be specifically identified in every staff recommendation for potential approval by the Conservancy Board.

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Appendices

Appendix A: Chapter 6 of Proposition 1

Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters, and Watersheds

79730.
The sum of one billion four hundred ninety-five million dollars ($1,495,000,000) shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature from the fund, in accordance with this chapter, for competitive grants for multibenefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities.

79731.
Of the funds authorized by Section 79730, the sum of three hundred twenty-seven million five hundred thousand dollars ($327,500,000) shall be allocated for multibenefit water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and restoration projects for the watersheds of the state in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) Baldwin Hills Conservancy, ten million dollars ($10,000,000).
(b) California Tahoe Conservancy, fifteen million dollars ($15,000,000).
(c) Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy, ten million dollars ($10,000,000).
(d) Ocean Protection Council, thirty million dollars ($30,000,000).
(e) San Diego River Conservancy, seventeen million dollars ($17,000,000).
(f) San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, thirty million dollars ($30,000,000).
(g) San Joaquin River Conservancy, ten million dollars ($10,000,000).
(h) Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, thirty million dollars ($30,000,000).
(i) Sierra Nevada Conservancy, twenty-five million dollars ($25,000,000).
(j) State Coastal Conservancy, one hundred million five hundred thousand dollars ($100,500,000). Eligible watersheds for the funds allocated pursuant to this subdivision include, but are not limited to, those that are in the San Francisco Bay Conservancy region, the Santa Ana River watershed, the Tijuana River watershed, the Otay River watershed, Catalina Island, and the central coast region.
(k) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, fifty million dollars ($50,000,000).

79732.

(a) In protecting and restoring California rivers, lakes, streams, and watersheds, the purposes of this chapter are to:

(1) Protect and increase the economic benefits arising from healthy watersheds, fishery resources, and instream flow.

(2) Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on California's communities and ecosystems.

(3) Restore river parkways throughout the state, including, but not limited to, projects pursuant to the California River Parkways Act of 2004 (Chapter 3.8 (commencing with

Section 5750) of Division 5 of the Public Resources Code), in the Urban Streams Restoration Program established pursuant to Section 7048, and urban river greenways.
(4) Protect and restore aquatic, wetland, and migratory bird ecosystems, including fish and wildlife corridors and the acquisition of water rights for instream flow.
(5) Fulfill the obligations of the State of California in complying with the terms of multiparty settlement agreements related to water resources.
(6) Remove barriers to fish passage.
(7) Collaborate with federal agencies in the protection of fish native to California and wetlands in the central valley of California.
(8) Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health.
(9) Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, stormwater resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction.
(10) Protect and restore coastal watersheds, including, but not limited to, bays, marine estuaries, and nearshore ecosystems.
(11) Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management.
(12) Assist in the recovery of endangered, threatened, or migratory species by improving watershed health, instream flows, fish passage, coastal or inland wetland restoration, or other means, such as natural community conservation plan and habitat conservation plan implementation.
(13) Assist in water-related agricultural sustainability projects.

(b) Funds provided by this chapter shall only be used for projects that will provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations.

79733.

Of the funds made available by Section 79730, the sum of two hundred million dollars ($200,000,000) shall be administered by the Wildlife Conservation Board for projects that result in enhanced stream flows.

79734.

For restoration and ecosystem protection projects under this chapter, the services of the California Conservation Corps or a local conservation corps certified by the California Conservation Corps shall be used whenever feasible.

79735.

(a) Of the funds authorized by Section 79730, one hundred million dollars ($100,000,000) shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for projects to protect and enhance an urban creek, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 7048, and its tributaries,

pursuant to Division 22.8 (commencing with Section 32600) of, and Division 23 (commencing with Section 33000) of, the Public Resources Code and Section 79508.

(b) (1) Of the funds authorized by Section 79730, twenty million dollars ($20,000,000) shall be made available to the secretary for a competitive program to fund multibenefit watershed and urban rivers enhancement projects in urban watersheds that increase regional and local water self-sufficiency and that meet at least two of the following objectives:

(A) Promote groundwater recharge and water reuse.

(B) Reduce energy consumption.

(C) Use soils, plants, and natural processes to treat runoff.

(D) Create or restore native habitat.

(E) Increase regional and local resiliency and adaptability to climate change.

(2) The program under this subdivision shall be implemented by state conservancies, the Wildlife Conservation Board, the state board, or other entities whose jurisdiction includes urban watersheds, as designated by the secretary. Projects funded under the program shall be a part of a plan developed jointly by the conservancies, the Wildlife Conservation Board, the state board, or other designated entities in consultation with the secretary.

(c) At least 25 percent of the funds available pursuant to this section shall be allocated for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.

(d) Up to 10 percent of the funds available pursuant to this section may be allocated for project planning.

79736.

Of the funds authorized by Section 79730, four hundred seventy-five million dollars ($475,000,000) shall be available to the Natural Resources Agency to support projects that fulfill the obligations of the State of California in complying with the terms of any of the following:

(a) Subsection (d) of Section 3406 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Title 34 of Public Law 102-575).

(b) Interstate compacts set forth in Section 66801 of the Government Code pursuant to Title 7.42 (commencing with Section 66905) of the Government Code.

(c) Intrastate or multiparty water quantification settlement agreement provisions, including ecosystem restoration projects, as set forth in Chapters 611, 612, 613, and 614 of the Statutes of 2003.

(d) The settlement agreement referenced in Section 2080.2 of the Fish and Game Code.

(e) Any intrastate or multiparty settlement agreement related to water acted upon or before December 31, 2013. Priority shall be given to projects that meet one or more of the following criteria:

(1) The project is of statewide significance.

(2) The project restores natural aquatic or riparian functions, or wetlands habitat for birds and aquatic species.

(3) The project protects or promotes the restoration of endangered or threatened species.

(4) The project enhances the reliability of water supplies on a regional or interregional basis.

(5) The project provides significant regional or statewide economic benefits.

79737.

(a) Of the funds authorized by Section 79730, two hundred eighty-five million dollars ($285,000,000) shall be available to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for watershed restoration projects statewide in accordance with this chapter.

(b) For the purposes of this section, watershed restoration includes activities to fund coastal wetland habitat, improve forest health, restore mountain meadows, modernize stream crossings, culverts, and bridges, reconnect historical flood plains, install or improve fish screens, provide fish passages, restore river channels, restore or enhance riparian, aquatic, and terrestrial habitat, improve ecological functions, acquire from willing sellers conservation easements for riparian buffer strips, improve local watershed management, and remove sediment or trash.

(c) For any funds available pursuant to this section that are used to provide grants under the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program, a priority shall be given to coastal waters.

(d) In allocating funds for projects pursuant to this section, the Department of Fish and Wildlife shall only make funds available for water quality, river, and watershed protection and restoration projects of statewide importance outside of the Delta.

(e) Funds provided by this section shall not be expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of Delta conveyance facilities.

(f) Funds provided by this section shall only be used for projects that will provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits or improvements that are greater than required applicable environmental mitigation measures or compliance obligations, except for any water transfers for the benefit of subsection (d) of Section 3406 of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Title 34 of Public Law 102-575).

79738.

(a) Of the funds authorized by Section 79730, eighty-seven million five hundred thousand dollars ($87,500,000) shall be available to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for water quality, ecosystem restoration, and fish protection facilities that benefit the Delta, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Projects to improve water quality or that contribute to the improvement of water quality in the Delta, including projects in Delta counties that provide multiple public benefits and improve drinking and agricultural water quality or water supplies.

(2) Habitat restoration, conservation, and enhancement projects to improve the condition of special status, at risk, endangered, or threatened species in the Delta and the Delta counties, including projects to eradicate invasive species, and projects that support the beneficial reuse of dredged material for habitat restoration and levee improvements.

(3) Scientific studies and assessments that support the Delta Science Program, as described in Section 85280, or projects under this section.

(b) In implementing this section, the department shall coordinate and consult with the Delta city or Delta county in which a grant is proposed to be expended or an interest in real property is proposed to be acquired.
(c) Acquisitions pursuant to this section shall be from willing sellers only.
(d) In implementing this section state agencies shall prioritize wildlife conservation objectives through projects on public lands or voluntary projects on private lands, to the extent feasible.
(e) Funds available pursuant to this section shall not be used to acquire land via eminent domain.
(f) Funds available pursuant to this section shall not be expended to pay the costs of the design, construction, operation, mitigation, or maintenance of Delta conveyance facilities.

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Appendix B: State Coastal Conservancy Project Selection Criteria

Project Selection Criteria

As Adopted by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy on June 5, 2003

GRANT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

(For use in the determination of the priority of Conservancy grants and projects authorized under Division 22.7 of the California Public Resources Code)

STANDARD REQUIRMENTS

a. **Promotion of the Conservancy's statutory programs and purposes**
b. **Consistency with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan**
c. **Consistency with purposes of the funding source**
d. **Support from the public**
e. **Location** (must benefit the Baldwin Hills and Ballona Creek region)
f. **Need** (desired project or result will not occur without Conservancy participation)
g. **Greater-than-local interest**
h. **Demonstrated expertise in the proposed program area**

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

a. **Urgency** (threat to a resource from development or natural or economic conditions; pressing need; or a fleeting opportunity)
b. **Resolution of more than one issue**
c. **Leverage** (contribution of funds or services by other entities)
d. **Conflict resolution**
e. **Innovation** (for example, environmental or economic demonstration or education)
f. **Readiness** (ability of the grantee and others to start and finish the project in a timely manner)
g. **Enhances or improves ongoing or existing Conservancy projects**
Cooperation (extent to which the public, nonprofit groups, landowners and others will participate in the project)

Appendix C:California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps

Proposition 1 - Water Bond
Corps Consultation Review Document
February 23, 2015 Version

Unless an exempted project, this Corps Consultation Review Document must be completed by California Conservation Corps and Community Conservation Corps staff and accompany applications for projects or grants seeking funds through Proposition 1, Chapter 6, Protecting

Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters and Watersheds. Non-exempt applications that do not include this document demonstrating that the Corps have been consulted will be deemed "noncompliant" and will not be considered for funding.

1. Name of Applicant: Project Title:

To be completed by Applicant:
Is this application solely for planning or acquisition?

- ☐ Yes (application is exempt from the requirement to consult with the Corps)
- ☐ No (proceed to #2)

To be completed by Corps:
This Consultation Review Document is being prepared by:

- ☐ The California Conservation Corps (CCC)
- ☐ California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC)

2. Applicant has submitted the required information by email to the California Conservation Corps (CCC) and California Association of Local Conservation Corps (CALCC):

- ☐ Yes (applicant has submitted all necessary information to CCC and CALCC)
- ☐ No (applicant has not submitted all information or did not submit information to both Corps – application is deemed non-compliant)

3. After consulting with the project applicant, the CCC and CALCC has determined the following:

- ☐ It is NOT feasible for CCC and/or certified community conservation corps services to be used on the project (deemed compliant)
- ☐ It is feasible for the CCC and/or certified community conservation corps services to be used on the project and the following aspects of the project can be accomplished with Corps services (deemed compliant).

CCC AND CALCC REPRESENTATIVES WILL RETURN THIS FORM AS DOCUMENTION OF CONSULTATION BY EMAIL TO APPLICANT WITHIN FIVE (5) BUSINESS OF RECEIPT AS VERIFICATION OF CONSULTATION. APPLICANT WILL INCLUDE COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT AS PART OF THE PROJECT APPLICATION.

APPENDIX D – GRANT ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING REQUIREMENTS

The list below details the documents/records that State Auditors would need to review in the event of a Grant Agreement being audited. Grantees should ensure that such records are maintained for each State funded Program/Project. Where applicable, this list also includes documents which will be

required for audit purposes in the grant proposal and during reporting and invoicing, relating to cost accounting for any funding match or in-kind service committed to by the Grantee.

State Audit Document Requirements

Internal Controls:

1. Organization chart (e.g. Grantee's overall organization chart and organization chart for the State funded Program/Project).
2. Written internal procedures and flowcharts for the following:
    a. Receipts and deposits
    b. Disbursements
    c. State reimbursement requests
    d. State funding expenditure tracking
    e. Guidelines, policies, and procedures on State funded Program/Project
3. Audit reports of the Grantee's internal control structure and/or financial
4. Statements within the last two years.
5. Prior audit reports on State funded Program/Project.

State Funding:

1. Original grant agreement, any amendment(s) and budget modification documents.
2. A list of all bond funded grants, loans or subventions received from the State.
3. A list of all other funding sources for each Program/Project.

Agreements:

1. All subcontractor and consultant contracts and related documents, if applicable.
2. Agreements between the Grantee, member agencies, and project partners as related to the State funded Program/Project.

Invoices:

1. Invoices from vendors and subcontractors for expenditures submitted to the State for payments under the Grant Agreement.
2. Documentation linking subcontractor invoices to State reimbursement requests and related Grant Agreement budget line items.
3. Reimbursement requests submitted to the State for the Grant Agreement.

Cash Documents:

1. Receipts (copies of warrants) showing payments received from the State.
2. Deposit slips or bank statements showing deposit of the payments received from the State.
3. Cancelled checks or disbursement documents showing payments made to vendors, subcontractors, consultants, and/or agents under the Grant Agreement.

Accounting Records:

1. Ledgers showing receipts and cash disbursement entries for State funding.

2. Ledgers showing receipts and cash disbursement entries of other funding sources.
3. Bridging documents that tie the general ledger to reimbursement requests submitted to the State for the Grant Agreement.

Administration Costs:

1. Supporting documents showing the calculation of administration costs.

Personnel:

1. List of all contractors and Grantee staff that worked on the State funded Program/Project.
2. Payroll records including timesheets for contractor staff and the Grantee's staff

Project Files:

1. All supporting documentation maintained in the Program/Project files.
2. All Grant Agreement-related correspondence.

APPENDIX E – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Applicant – an entity that is formally submitting a grant application. This is the same entity that would enter into an agreement with the State should the grant be awarded. The grant applicant must be an eligible entity.

Application – an individual application package for grants pursuant to this grant program, including a detailed proposal responding to the Proposal Solicitation and any required attachments (also referred to as a "Proposal").

California Water Action Plan – a plan released by Governor Edmund G. Brown in January 2014, with the objectives of more reliable water supplies, the restoration of important species and habitat, and more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure. Proposition 1 provides funding to implement these objectives (CWC §79071(e)).

Disadvantaged Community – means communities meeting the definition in CWC §79505(a).

Economically Distressed Areas – means areas meeting the definition in CWC §79702(k).

Eligible costs – expenses incurred by the Grantee during the agreement performance period of an approved agreement that may be reimbursed by the Conservancy.

Eligible entity – means public agencies, nonprofit organizations, public utilities, federally recognized Indian tribes, state Indian tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's California Tribal Consultation List, and mutual water companies (CWC §79712(a)).

Evaluation Criteria – a set of required and/or desired attributes used to assess the relative merits of proposals.

Evaluation Panels and advisory committees – one or more groups of representatives of the Conservancy, its member public agencies, partner agencies and entities, and technical and scientific advisors assembled to review and evaluate all complete and eligible proposals and to make funding recommendations to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board.

Grant agreement – an agreement between the Conservancy and the Grantee specifying the payment of funds by the Conservancy for the performance of the project scope by the Grantee within the term of the agreement.

Grantee – refers to the applicant once funds are awarded for a proposal and a grant agreement is executed (i.e., a grant recipient).

Grantor – Baldwin Hills Conservancy, which administers grants pursuant to budget act provisions. Conservancy bond funds are appropriated in the BHC budget. The BHC will ultimately be the Grantor in any grant agreement resulting from this program.

Multiple benefits - means the project would support several different functions within the ecosystem or watershed.

Nonprofit organization – means an organization qualified to do business in California and qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of the United States Code (CWC §79702(p)).

Performance measure – a quantitative measure used to track progress toward project objectives and desired outcomes.

Project – refers to a work effort included in the proposal to be performed and accomplished by the applicant. Provided the project meets eligibility criteria, it may include land acquisition; planning, permitting, and CEQA compliance; design and working drawings; and/or construction of physical facilities and other improvements.

Proposal – refers to the detailed application submitted for a project proposed for funding (see also "Application).

Proposition 1 – "Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014" passed by California voters on November 4, 2014, and as set forth in Division 26.7 of the California Water Code. Proposition 1 authorizes the Conservancy's grant program under CWC §79731(g).

Public agency – means a state agency or department, special district, joint powers authority, city, county, city and county, or other political subdivision of the state (CWC §79702(s)).

April 10, 2015

Ms. Avril Labelle, Executive Secretary
Baldwin Hills Conservancy
5120 Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056

RE: Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines Draft

Ms. Labelle,

The Construction Industry Force Account Council (CIFAC) is a non-profit organization that works with public entities to assist in compliance with the California Public Contract Code. We represent contractor organizations and various building trades. I am the Southern Region Field Representative for CIFAC, a local resource for cities, counties, school districts and special districts.

The intent of the California Public Contract Code is found in Section 100. This includes clarification of bid requirements, ensuring a transparent, uniform and objective bid process that will stimulate competition to ensure the public is getting the best value for every public dollar spent, and eliminating favoritism, fraud or corruption and misuse of public funds.

Upon review of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Draft Guidelines, you have included Evaluation Scoring Criteria goals that could easily be obtained if a competitive bid process were used to invite skilled, experienced and licensed contractors. Therefore, we encourage the Conservancy to include language that supports and encourages the use of a competitive bid process for capital improvement projects to be funded by Prop 1.

Please find attached CIFAC's letter to Ms. Janelle Beland, Undersecretary, California Natural Resources Agency, supported by our member organizations. We would like to thank you for this opportunity to suggest the following language be added to your guidelines as it was presented in our letter to Ms. Beland:

Additional points and/or consideration will be given to those entities seeking grants that commit to using a competitive bidding process to select licensed contractors, and if applicable, to follow any state law for competitive bidding that may apply to those seeking grants.

Cathryn Hilliard, Executive Director
837 Arnold Drive, Suite 200, Martinez, CA 94553 • phone 800-755-3354 • *fax* 925-957-1800 • *email* info@cifac.org • *web* www.cifac.org

Sincerely,

Shari Bacon

Shari Bacon, Southern Region Field Representative
Construction Industry Force Account Council (CIFAC)
P.O. Box 5923
Riverside, CA 92517

Attachment

CIFAC construction industry force account council

Steve Harris, President Dave Thomas, Vice President Bill Koponen, Secretary Mike Hester, Treasurer

March 3, 2015

Ms. Janelle Beland, Undersecretary
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposed Draft Language for Water Bond Guidelines

Dear Undersecretary Beland:

The Construction Industry Force Account Council (CIFAC) and its member organizations hereby wish to make formal comment on the Draft Language for Water Bond Guidelines to be used by Conservancies and others to solicit applications, evaluate proposals and award grants of Proposition 1 funds. The Bond titled, **the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014**, has the potential to not only provide reliable water supplies, restore habitat and improve infrastructure throughout the State, but to also offer economic benefit and work force training in some of the areas of California hit hardest by the recent economic downturn.

CIFAC is a non-profit organization that is supported through the construction industry and works to ensure that a fair, competitive and transparent process is used throughout the State in the spending of public works dollars. CIFAC represents contractor organizations and various building trades. We are an apolitical organization with the sole focus on the best practices of the delivery of public works monies.

We ask that, included in draft language for Water Bond Guidelines, the following be added:

Additional points and/or consideration will be given to those entities seeking grants that commit to using a competitive bidding process to select licensed contractors, and if applicable, to follow any state law for competitive bidding that may apply to those seeking grants.

Cathryn Hilliard, Executive Director
837 Arnold Drive, Suite 200, Martinez, CA 94553 • phone 800-755-3354 • *fax* 925-957-1800 • *email* info@cifac.org • *web* www.cifac.org

Thank you for your consideration and please contact our office should you have any questions.

Kindest regards,

Cathryn Hilliard

Cathryn Hilliard
Executive Director

CIFAC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THIS REQUEST:

Tom Holsman
Associated General Contractors of California

Tim Cremins
California-Nevada Conference of Operating Engineers

Jose Mejia
California State Council of Laborers

Kate Mergen
Southern California Contractors Association

Cesar Diaz
State Building and Construction Trades Council of California

Emily Cohen
United Contractors

cc: Martha Guzman-Aceves, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

CIFAC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
West Coast Region

April 8, 2015

Mr. David F. McNeill
Baldwin Hills Conservancy
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, California 90056

Dear Mr. McNeill:

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) appreciates the many years of collaboration with the State to further salmon and steelhead (salmonid) recovery in California. This letter serves to advance the State and Federal collaboration in accordance with Proposition 1 and provide comments on the draft guidelines outlining the process, procedures, and prioritization criteria to fund watershed protection and restoration including water storage and conservation.

To achieve the Proposition 1 objectives of assisting in recovery of endangered or threatened species and ensuring funds are used for projects that provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits, it is our recommendation all program entities utilize the best available information found in formalized species or watershed plans such as State and Federal recovery plans. In California, there are 10 salmonid species, one green sturgeon southern population segment and one eulachon southern population segment that are federally listed as threatened or endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act. NMFS is required to prepare recovery plans for these federally listed species and plans are now final for:

- Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon;
- Central California Coast coho salmon;
- Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon;
- Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon;
- Central Valley steelhead;
- South-Central California Coast steelhead; and
- Southern California Coast steelhead.

The Coast Multispecies recovery plan (Central California Coast steelhead, Northern California steelhead, and California Coastal Chinook), the green sturgeon plan and the eulachon plan are under development. The Federal recovery plans for California's salmonids were developed in cooperation with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and many others, and reflect the best available information, and bring significant new information into the public domain.

Recovery plans can be used by Proposition 1 project applicants as well as the program administering entities to identify:

- priority watersheds which have a greater influence on long-term salmonid viability;
- the intrinsic potential of stream reaches to support spawning and rearing salmonids which can guide actions to areas more likely to respond to restoration;
- priority recovery actions for estuarine and freshwater habitats that address factors limiting salmonid recovery, including water conservation;
- priorities for green sturgeon recovery; and
- research and monitoring needs and priorities that refine recovery goals and track and assess the effectiveness of recovery activities.

For projects benefiting salmonids, NMFS recommends a geographic and limiting factor focus of funds to those areas of greater importance to salmonid viability and persistence in California. Priority watersheds for California's anadromous salmonids and green sturgeon, and factors limiting their recovery, are identified in the aforementioned recovery plans and summarized in the enclosed tables[1]. Decisions to focus funds to specific areas do not imply other areas are less important or not needed for recovery. Rather, decisions to focus are necessary to ensure funds are optimizing benefits to fisheries and ecosystem processes. Should Proposition 1 program funds be tracked to priorities and actions identified in Federal recovery plans, NMFS would be able to more explicitly report to Congress in 5-Year Status Reviews and Biennial Reports to Congress on our collective efforts and successes to recover California's native anadromous fishes.

We have the following additional recommendations on solicitations, review criteria, and program processes:

- Provide information on the targeted annual distribution of the funding program.
- Ensure public transparency and reporting on criteria, scoring, and technical and selection panel processes to include the monitoring and assessment reports of funded projects.

[1] The watersheds ranked priority "A" are highest priority for species recovery and may include key areas supporting monitoring and/or conservation hatchery programs. Watersheds ranked as a priority "B" or "C" are other watersheds that may be needed for recovery but are considered lower in priority, relative to "A" watersheds. The intent is not to exclude watersheds but request that priority "A" watersheds are weighted more heavily if competing with priority "B" or "C" watersheds. Similarly, "B" watersheds should be weighted more than "C" watersheds. Also note the priority watersheds are grouped into Diversity Strata or Diversity Groups in the attached tables. Salmon and steelhead restoration and recovery efforts must be occurring across all groups to make meaningful strides in the recovery of the species'.

- Program guidelines, solicitations, and review criteria should: (1) make specific reference to anadromous fishes and their habitats and the associated state and Federal recovery plans, (2) utilize recovery plan information, and (3) include website links to recovery plans as appropriate to program objectives.

- Encourage grant applicants to develop projects that support actions specified in recovery plans or require salmonid projects align with recovery actions in a state or Federal recovery plan (e.g., The Fisheries Restoration Grant program requires all projects link directly to a state or Federal recovery action).

- Develop a mechanism to track projects that are implementing Federal recovery plan priorities and actions to improve State and national reporting to Congress on progress.

- Invite NMFS as a technical reviewer or member of the grant program selection panel on salmonid and sturgeon related projects, provided technical review participation by NMFS does not exclude NMFS from potential selection panel membership.

- Consider the ability for applicants to apply for both the Watershed Restoration Grant Program and the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program with one application if the proposal benefits fish.

- Clarify that resource conservation districts are eligible for the programs.

- The NOAA Restoration Center's Northern California Office *Restoration Programmatic Biological Opinion for Restoration Projects* provides an estimated cost savings for taxpayers ranging from $25,000 to $64,000 per project. Consider using existing permitting efficiencies that are already in place such as the RGP 12 and RGP 78 for Proposition 1-funded projects that fit within those programs. If this is not feasible, work with NMFS and others to streamline permitting to reduce permitting costs and bring more dollars to on-the-ground restoration.

- Provide information in the solicitation notice regarding potential permits required for implementation projects such as agency websites and/or regional contact information. This small detail can help reduce the number of projects that have to delay or are unable to implement funded projects because of failure to meet all the environmental compliance requirements.

- A statewide grant program that aims to produce on the ground projects for environmental benefits will require a high degree of oversight to ensure projects are designed and implemented correctly to provide the targeted benefits. Regional coordinators committed to the grant program will be vital to program success. Consider allocating staff or funding dedicated coordinators to the various regions to improve communication, coordination and implementation of Proposition 1 funds with cooperating entities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We look forward to a higher level of collaboration to ensure the continued protection and restoration of the States anadromous fisheries resources.

If you have questions please direct them to Charlotte Ambrose, California Programs Coordinator, at 916-930-3704.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Rutten
NOAA Restoration Center
Southwest Region Supervisor

Maria Rea
Assistant Regional Administrator
California Central Valley Office

Alecia Van Atta
Acting Assistant Regional Administrator
California Coastal Office

Enclosure

Avril Labelle

From: Eva Kuczynski [Eva.Kuczynski@tpl.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 2:19 PM
To: Avril Labelle
Cc: Mary Creasman
Subject: The Trust for Public Land's comments on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Proposition 1 Grant Guidelines
Attachments: TPL_Baldwin Hills Guidelines Letter Prop 1.pdf

Dear Avril,

Please see attached for The Trust for Public Land's comments on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines. We appreciate having had the chance to review these guidelines and we look forward to working with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy in the future.

Thank you,

Eva Kuczynski

Eva Kuczynski
Public Grants Manager
The Trust for Public Land
101 Montgomery Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94104
415-800-5290

Creating parks and protecting land for people
tpl.org

THE TRUST for PUBLIC LAND

California Office
101 Montgomery St.
Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA
94104
T. (415) 495-4014
F. (415) 495-0840
www.tpl.org

VIA EMAIL

March 31, 2015

David F. McNeill, Executive Officer
Baldwin Hills Conservancy
5120 Goldleaf Circle,
Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056

Re: Baldwin Hills Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines 2015-2016

Dear David,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant Program Guidelines which establish the process and criteria that the Conservancy will use to solicit applications, evaluate proposals, and award grants. We have reviewed the Conservancy's guidelines and support the Conservancy in their commitment to prioritizing acquisition of open space in the area, consistent with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan. Our few comments are listed below:

- **Section III.A, Project Solicitation (p.5):** We would like to be able to provide an email address and receive solicitations for projects via email, rather than checking for updates on the Conservancy's website.
- **Section III.A, Project Solicitation (p.5):** We would advise against targeted proposals with thematic limitations and encourage flexibility in project solicitations as thematic limitations may conflict with tight, relatively inflexible project timelines. If the language is left as is, the Conservancy could miss the opportunity to participate in some very important but time-limited projects as a result. Should the Conservancy move forward with targeted proposals, significant (minimum 90 day) advanced notice should be provided on the themes addressed in upcoming grant RFPs.
- **Section III.B, Grant Application Process and Timeline (p. 5):** We recommend that consultation with conservancy staff be required in advance of proposal preparation. This consultation is invaluable for prospective applicants interested in putting the best projects forward and makes the application process more efficient for all parties. Furthermore, this minor yet vital technical assistance can provide invaluable information to prospective applicants with less capacity or experience to become more competitive for these funds.
- **Section IV.B, Evaluation Scoring Criteria (p.7):** We would like to see more points awarded to Criteria 3. Project consistency with the California Water Action Plan, the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and local Integrated Regional Water Management Plan are critical to furthering the goals of Proposition 1 while advancing local priorities.

- **Section IV.B, Evaluation and Scoring Criteria (p.8):** We would like to see a definition of "multiple benefits" in Criteria 8.

The Trust for Public Land looks forward to working with the Conservancy through this program. Please let me know if you have any questions or require further information. I can be reached at 415-495-4014 x 309.

Sincerely,

Mary Creasman
California Director of Government Affairs
The Trust for Public Land

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056
(323) 290-5270 Phone
(323) 290-5278 Fax
www.bhc.ca.gov

Memorandum

To: Governing Board

From: David McNeill, Executive Officer

Date: May 29, 2015

Re: Item 5: Executive Officer Report

Legislative Update

Baldwin Hills Sunset Date Repeal: On February 23rd, AB 466 – Ridley-Thomas, was introduced to the California Legislative Assembly (Attachment #1). This bill seeks to strike the repeal language for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act, which is currently authorized to sunset in January 2018. Of the ten state conservancies, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and the San Diego River Conservancy are the only two conservancies with a sunset date remaining in their enabling statutes. The bill was approved by unanimous vote in the Assembly Committee for Natural Resources on April 27th, and was referred to suspense file on May 6th by the Assembly Committee for Appropriations pending future budget hearings.

Projects Status Report

Please see the updated Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) Local Assistance/Capital Outlay Projects Status Report (Attachment #2).

Fiscal Update

Please see BHC Summary Expenditure Sheet by Fund (Attachment #3), and the BHC Prop 40 & Prop 84 Bond Cash Funds (Attachment #4). The reports correspond with the end of month nine (9) of the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year.

Assembly Bill 446

BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

INTRODUCED 02.19.2015

Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas 54th District

SUMMARY

AB 446 would extend the operation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy indefinitely. Specifically, this bill would delete the Conservancy's January 1, 2018, repeal date.

BACKGROUND

The Baldwin Hills is located six miles from downtown Los Angeles and four miles from the Pacific Ocean in one of the most densely populated urban areas in the state. Based on U.S. census data collected in 2010, and acreage totals compiled within a five-mile radius of the park, the communities in and around the Baldwin Hills are quantifiably park poor, with only one acre per thousand residents; the region falls far below the National Recreation and Parks Association standard of six acres per thousand residents.

Neighborhoods populated by minorities and recent immigrants are especially short of park space. Because of the disproportionate burden of chronic disease that affects minority communities it is essential that urban open space is promoted and protected. Studies show that people who have access to open space and public parks exercise more. Regular physical activity has been shown to improve both physical and mental health by reducing the risk of a wide range of diseases, including heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, and diabetes and relieving symptoms of depression and anxiety.

With the lack of urban open space and public parks accessible to minority communities, the protection of Baldwin Hills has become the centerpiece of a legacy for park equity in urban Los Angeles. The Baldwin Hills Conservancy has led the acquisition and park development effort in Baldwin Hills by adopting the Baldwin Hills Master Plan, increasing the public parklands by 33% through acquisitions, and implementing plans for over 25 key projects focused on increasing public access and development of facilities. Through leveraged local resources averaging about $10 million a year, about half of the open space in the territory is protected along with miles of new trails, acres of habitat, and a series of multi-benefit open space amenities. With the Conservancy's continued application of innovative acquisition and planning strategies, Baldwin Hills will ultimately offer a world-class range of active and passive recreation opportunities for park visitors while providing new opportunities for education and stewardship of the adjacent ecological resources.

The elimination of the Conservancy's sunset date is essential for the continuation of the master plan's implementation and the accomplishment of the agency's statutory mission. Removing the sunset date will allow the Conservancy to capitalize on current progress directly benefiting the public and to execute new and existing fiscal plans and projects pursuant to: (1) Proposition 40, California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002; (2) Proposition 84, the Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Act of 2006; and (3)

Proposition 1, the Water Quality Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014. Dedicated allocations of bond funds under the aforementioned propositions remain available for expenditure exclusively by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. Therefore, if there is no certainty that the Conservancy will exist beyond 2018, multi-year projects that are supported by the bond funds would be in jeopardy.

EXISTING LAW

- Section 32555 of the Public Resources Code establishes the Baldwin Hills Conservancy to acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area, and to provide recreational, open space, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and lands for educational uses within the area.

- Section 32580 of the Public Resources Code provides that the Conservancy's authorization will sunset on January 1, 2018 unless deleted or extended.

THIS BILL

This bill would:

- Allow for the continuation of the implementation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's master plan and the agency to accomplishment its statutory mission.

- Ensure that the bond funding, approved by the voters, allocated for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy is administered effectively for the public benefit.

- Protects urban open space to ensure that the diverse population served by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has access to public parks, which improves physical and mental health.

SIMILAR LEGISLATION

AB 392, (Atkins) 2015, San Diego River Conservancy, would delete the January 1, 2020, repeal date, thereby extending the operation of the San Diego River Conservancy indefinitely. The San Diego River Conservancy and the Baldwin Hills Conservancy are the only conservancies in the state that have a sunset date. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy that were established after the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and San Diego River Conservancy do not have a sunset date.

SUPPORT

City of Culver City
County of Los Angeles
Community Health Councils
Mujeres De La Tierra
The Nature Conservancy
The Natural Resources Defense Council
Sara Amir, Chair of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board
The Social Justice Learning Institute

Attachment #1

ASSEMBLY BILL No. 446

Introduced by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas

February 23, 2015

An act to repeal Section 32580 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 446, as introduced, Ridley-Thomas. Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act establishes the Baldwin Hills Conservancy in the Natural Resources Agency to, among other things, acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area, and provide recreational, open space, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and lands for educational uses within the area. Existing law provides that the act will remain in effect until January 1, 2018.

This bill would eliminate the January 1, 2018, repeal date, thereby extending the operation of the act indefinitely.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 32580 of the Public Resources Code is repealed.

~~32580. This division shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2018, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted~~

~~statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2018, deletes or extends that date.~~

O

Attachment #1

COUNCIL FOR
WATERSHED HEALTH

April 13, 2015

Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
California State Legislature
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

Honorable Assemblyman Ridley-Thomas:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Council for Watershed Health, I am writing in support of AB 446 to repeal the sunset date for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC).

The Baldwin Hills Parklands represent the natural resource conservation portal to the State's most diverse population. With more than 3 million people living in a three-mile radius of the BHC territory, state led programs and policies are readily delivered to constituents within a twenty-minute walk, bus ride or drive. The Baldwin Hills Parklands currently include 767 acres of protected land and continue to expand. Moreover, long lists of world-class natural and recreational amenities require funding and leadership for planning and implementation. The BHC is the sole agency responsible for implementing the State mandated Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and is a part of the Greater Los Angeles Integrated Water Management Plan.

The BHC has a proven track record of collaboration, project implementation, cost leveraging and the committed Governance to accomplish its statutory mission. The voter mandated capital outlay and local assistance programs administered through the BHC continue to make much needed funding available for acquisitions, site improvements, habitat restoration and watershed protection. With the passage of Proposition 1, and the prospect of future state park bond initiatives being put forward, the preservation and restoration of the last large open space in the Ballona Creek Watershed will remain a priority for decades to come.

As a trusted hub for watershed research, analysis and education in the greater Los Angeles region, the Council for Watershed Health is committed to seeing the work of the Conservancy continue in the same spirit as the remaining Conservancies in the State. We envision Southern California as a model of sustainable, urban watershed management, with clean waters, reliable local water supplies, restored native habitats, ample parks and open spaces, integrated flood management, and revitalized rivers and urban centers. This is why we have long supported the work of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and why we now support AB 446. I urge the legislature to pass the bill and remove the BHC sunset date. This action would allow the BHC to continue its mission in parity with efforts in other parts of the state.

Sincerely,

Michael Drennan
President, Board of Directors

Nancy L.C. Steele, D.Env
Executive Director

CC: Assemblymember Das Williams, Chair of the Natural Resources Committee
David McNeil, Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Board of Directors, Council for Watershed Health

700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
www.watershedhealth.org | +1 213.229.9945
a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation

Attachment #1

2176

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Sacramento Legislative Office

1100 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 441-7888 • Fax (916) 445-1424
http://ceo.lacounty.gov

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

SACHI A. HAMAI
Interim Chief Executive Officer

ALAN FERNANDES
Chief Legislative Representative

May 1, 2015

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas), As Introduced – SUPPORT
Relating to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Hearing Set May 6, 2015, in the Assembly Appropriations Committee

Dear Assembly Member Gomez:

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors supports AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas).

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act establishes the Baldwin Hills Conservancy in the California Natural Resources Agency to, among other things, acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area. These provisions sunset on January 1, 2018. AB 446 would delete the sunset date.

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation reports that AB 446 would allow the Conservancy to continue its acquisition, planning and development processes for a two-square-mile park and open space area in urban Los Angeles County. The Department also notes that only two of the ten conservancies in the State have statutory sunset dates. By repealing the statutory sunset date, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy would be given parity with its other conservancies.

I urge your **"AYE"** vote on AB 446. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 441-7888.

Sincerely,

ED BERENDS
Legislative Representative

c: Assembly Member Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
Each Member and Consultant,
Assembly Appropriations Committee

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Attachment #1

Baldwin Hills Conservancy
5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290
Los Angeles, CA 90056
Phone: (323) 290-5270
Fax: (323) 290-5276
www.bhc.ca.gov

March 4, 2015

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
Assemblyman,
California State Legislature
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

Dear Assemblyman Ridley-Thomas:

As Chair of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC), I am writing in support of AB 446, to repeal our agency's sunset date. The creation of two-square-miles of protected open space and parkland in the most densely populated area of Los Angeles County, speaks to the State of California's new commitment to investing in natural areas that are in close proximity to underserved constituents.

I have served on the Governing Board since its inception, and have witnessed the positive impact our agency has had on the urban landscape, park visitors, and precious habitat. Our work has expanded the parklands by 33%, restored dozens of acres of habitat, planned and developed over 20 new vital projects, and brought awareness of the natural watershed to hundreds of students at surrounding elementary schools and high schools.

The BHC has a proven track record of successful collaboration, project implementation, cost leveraging, and the committed governance to accomplish its statutory mission. The voter mandated capital outlay and local assistance programs administered through the BHC continue to make much needed funding available for implementing the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan.

The BHC is the sole agency responsible for implementing the State mandated Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan. Currently the Parklands include 767 acres of protected land, and it continues to expand. The vision of world-class natural and recreational amenities within those lands requires funding and leadership for planning and implementation. With the passage of Proposition 1, and the prospect of future state park bond initiatives being put forward by legislators, the work being conducted by the BHC and its ongoing mission must be left open for pursuit all the way to completion.

The BHC was conceived at the forefront of the 2002 Urban Park Movement, and since that time, studies of Los Angeles' "open space equity" reveal that there are: 17.4 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents of predominantly White neighborhoods; 1.6 acres per, predominantly Hispanic neighborhoods; and 0.8 acres per, predominantly African American neighborhoods. It has taken more than a decade to establish the concept of park equity as a critical public mandate; the BHC remains active and committed to addressing this issue.

The BHC is one of ten conservancies within the State of California that is on a shortlist of only two that still have a sunset date in their statute. I urge the legislature to pass AB 446 removing the sunset date, allowing the BHC to continue its vital mission along with fellow conservancies.

Sincerely,

SARA AMIR, Chair
Baldwin Hills Conservancy Board

Attachment #1

SOCIAL JUSTICE LEARNING INSTITUTE

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO ACHIEVE EQUITY AND JUSTICE

8653 S. Regent Street
Inglewood, CA 90301
Office: 323.952.7382
Fax: 310.935.4765
www.sjli.org

March 4, 2015

Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
California State Legislature, State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Honorable Assemblyman Ridley-Thomas:

I am writing in support of AB 446, Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas' bill to repeal the sunset date for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC). As a stakeholder in creating the largest urban park conceived in over 100 years, we at the Social Justice Learning Institute (SJLI) are committed to seeing the work of the Conservancy continue in the same spirit as the remaining Conservancies in the State. The Baldwin Hills Parklands represent the natural resource conservation portal to the State's most diverse population. With more than 3 million people living in a 3-mile radius of the BHC territory, state led programs and policies are readily delivered to constituents within a 20-minute walk, bus ride or drive.

BOARD OF ADVISORS

The BHC was conceived at the forefront of the 2002 urban park movement and is one of ten conservancies in the State of California. It has taken more than a decade to establish the concept of park equity as a critical public mandate, however as of today, the BHC is still on the shortlist of just two state conservancies that have a sunset date in their statute. The Baldwin Hills Parklands currently include 767 acres of protected land and continue to expand. Moreover, long lists of world-class natural and recreational amenities require funding and leadership for planning and implementation. The BHC is the sole agency responsible for implementing the State mandated Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan.

The BHC has a proven track record of collaboration, project implementation, cost leveraging and the committed Governance to accomplish its statutory mission. The voter mandated capital outlay and local assistance programs administered through the BHC continue to make much needed funding available for acquisitions, site improvements, habitat restoration and watershed protection. With the passage of Proposition 1, and the prospect of future state park bond initiatives being put forward, the ongoing mission of creating a two-square-mile park in the heart of urban Los Angeles must be left open for pursuit through to its completion.

Once again, SJLI supports AB 466 and urges the legislature to pass the bill and remove the BHC sunset date. This action would allow the BHC to continue its mission in parity with conservancies in other parts of the state.

Sincerely,

D'Artagnan Scorza, Executive Director

CC: Baldwin Hills Conservancy

Attachment #1

CITY OF CULVER CITY

9770 CULVER BOULEVARD
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA 90232-0507
CITY HALL Tel. (310) 253-6000
FAX (310) 253-6010

MEGHAN SAHLI-WELLS
MAYOR

MICHEÁL O'LEARY
VICE MAYOR

COUNCILMEMBERS
JIM B. CLARKE
JEFFREY COOPER
ANDREW WEISSMAN

March 19, 2015

The Honorable Das Williams, Chair and
Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas) Baldwin Hills Conservancy. (As Introduced on February 23, 2015) – SUPPORT.

Dear Chair Williams and Committee Members:

The City of Culver City supports AB 446, which would eliminate the January 1, 2018 repeal date of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act and extend the operation of the Act indefinitely. Culver City is home to a portion of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (Conservancy), and over the past several years, the Conservancy Board has been effective in acquiring and managing public lands within the Baldwin Hills area. The Conservancy's actions have resulted in the successful implementation of popular recreational, open space, wildlife habitat restoration, and environmental protection activities. The public has also enjoyed this area in the Baldwin Hills for its fitness and educational opportunities.

Further, the City has served as a partner to the Conservancy in creating amenities to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety at the widely-used Scenic Overlook. In 2013, the Jefferson Boulevard Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Improvements Project resulted in a safer and more direct route for cyclists and pedestrians to access the Scenic Overlook and the surrounding area. Funding for this project was provided by a grant from the Conservancy with a 25% match from Culver City. This is just one example of the past and expected continued cooperation between the Conservancy and the City.

Culver City hopes that AB 446 is signed into law so that the City and Conservancy, together, may continue the legacy of our region's parks and other open spaces. If you wish to speak to me further about AB 446, please feel free to contact me at (310) 845-5831. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Meghan Sahli-Wells
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Holly J. Mitchell, Member of the State Senate
The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the State Assembly
The Honorable Members of the City Council
John M. Nachbar, City Manager

Attachment #1

CHC
Community Health Councils, Inc.

3731 Stocker Street
Suite 201
Los Angeles, CA 90008

Tel: 323.295.9372
Fax: 323.295.9467
www.chc-inc.org

05 April, 2015

Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N. Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support AB-446 (Ridley-Thomas) to Eliminate Baldwin Hills Conservancy's Repeal Date.

Dear Assembly Member Williams and Committee Members,

Community Health Councils (CHC) writes to express our enthusiastic support for AB 446. CHC is a non-profit, community-based health education and policy organization committed to promoting social justice and achieving equity in health, community, and environmental resources for underserved populations. By indefinitely extending the operation of and ensuring that voter-approved bond funding continues to be allocated to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (the "Conservancy"), this bill will allow the Conservancy to continue to enhance the capacity of the Baldwin Hills parklands, one of the few remaining open spaces in Los Angeles, to provide essential natural habitat as well as opportunities for active and passive recreation for neighboring communities.

The Baldwin Hills parklands constitute a critical and threatened open space resource in a densely populated, park-poor region of Los Angeles. The area is home to thriving communities of native Southern California plants and animals that otherwise suffer from a lack of safe and healthy habitats. Additionally, the Baldwin Hills serve as a place of respite and connection with the natural environment for neighboring communities in park-poor South Los Angeles.

Disadvantaged communities like South Los Angeles bear a disproportionate share of environmental burdens stemming from incompatible land uses and a lack of green space in densely populated urban areas. A 2009 Department of Recreation and Parks Needs Assessment concluded that the City of Los Angeles as a whole lacks the appropriate levels of neighborhood and community parks that are close to homes and that the parks that do exist are not equitably distributed. Strikingly, residents in the South Los Angeles Planning Area have access to approximately .52 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents while city residents outside of the plan area have access to 5.62 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Additionally, residents countywide

Attachment #1

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

Sacramento Field Office
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 1290
Sacramento, California 95814

tel [916] 449-2850
fax [916] 442-2377

nature.org
nature.org/california

March 31, 2015

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
California State Assembly, District 54
State Capitol, Room 2176
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 446, Baldwin Hills Conservancy – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas:

The Nature Conservancy (Conservancy) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. For more than 50 years, the Conservancy has safeguarded and improved the health of natural landscapes and local communities from Mt. Shasta to the Mexican border, from the high Sierra to Big Sur and the waters off our coast.

The Conservancy's biodiversity conservation mission extends to natural lands and open spaces in urbanized areas, including those within the Greater Los Angeles region. Greater Los Angeles lies within the California Floristic Province, where the rare Mediterranean climate fosters high levels of native plant endemism and rarity. As commercial and residential development expanded across the Los Angeles basin and its adjacent valleys, the mountains and hillsides of Los Angeles County have grown in importance as refuges for biodiversity. Today, these refuges contain 14 taxa that are federally or state listed as threatened or endangered, or are candidates for listing, and 18 unlisted rare plants and 13 rare natural communities.

Baldwin Hills, a large, undeveloped open space in the Los Angeles basin, is one such refuge. In 2013 the Conservancy recognized Baldwin Hills as having a high or very high potential for biodiversity restoration due to the presence of important natural habitats, including coastal sage scrub, swamps, grasslands, oak woodlands, and riparian areas. Dr. Kimball Garret, the curator of ornithology for the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, has further identified Baldwin Hills' special ornithological importance. Baldwin Hills harbors a much greater number of breeding and visiting species than do the nearby, developed lowlands. 166 bird species have been found in the Baldwin Hills. Of those, 41 species nest in Baldwin Hills, with 3 species—the California Quail, Bewick's Wren, and Spotted Towhee—dependent on its coastal sage scrub, a plant community type that was once plentiful in California, but is now rare due to coastal development.

The Conservancy supports AB 446 in light of the biodiversity value of Baldwin Hills and the importance of continued acquisition and restoration efforts by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

Please contact me at (916) 596-6674 or pgarza@tnc.org with any questions. Thank you.

Attachment #1

Sincerely,

Pablo Garza
Associate Director, External Affairs & State Policy
California Program

Cc: David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy, via email

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Sacramento Legislative Office
1100 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 441-7888 • Fax (916) 445-1424
http://ceo.lacounty.gov

SACHI A. HAMAI
Interim Chief Executive Officer

ALAN FERNANDES
Chief Legislative Representative

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

March 25, 2015

The Honorable Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
State Capitol, Room 4005
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas), As Introduced – SUPPORT
Relating to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Awaiting hearing in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee

Dear Assembly Member Williams:

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors supports AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas).

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act establishes the Baldwin Hills Conservancy in the California Natural Resources Agency to, among other things, acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area. These provisions sunset on January 1, 2018. AB 446 would delete the sunset date.

The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation reports that AB 446 would allow the Conservancy to continue its acquisition, planning and development processes for a two-square-mile park and open space area in urban Los Angeles County. The Department also notes that only two of the ten conservancies in the State have statutory sunset dates. By repealing the statutory sunset date, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy would be given parity with its other conservancies.

I urge your **"AYE"** vote on AB 446. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 441-7888.

Sincerely,

ED BERENDS
Legislative Representative

c: Assembly Member Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
Each Member and Consultant,
Assembly Natural Resources Committee

Attachment #1

March 31, 2015

Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via Fax: 916-319-2092

RE: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas) Baldwin Hills Conservancy - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Williams and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC"), which has 1.4 million members and activists, 250,000 of whom are Californians, we write in support of Assembly Bill 446 by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas. This bill would extend the operation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy indefinitely.

Since its inception in 2000, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has effectively acquired and managed open space and parkland in a predominantly minority and quantifiably park-poor region of Los Angeles County. The access provided by the Conservancy has helped bestow on this community, as well as neighbors nearby, the proven benefits of public parks: improved physical and mental health as a result of increased exercise, particularly decreases in heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, diabetes, and the symptoms of depression and anxiety. The Conservancy has achieved great success to date and has outlined an innovative vision for the future. Allowing its termination in 2018 would deny Los Angeles County residents, in one of the densest urban areas of the state, access to open space and the healthier future envisioned by the Conservancy, and would jeopardize ongoing multiyear projects currently in motion.

AB 446 would extend the Conservancy's life indefinitely by deleting its January 1, 2018 repeal date. This is a reasonable approach to both protect the Conservancy's open space achievements and allow a successful program to continue its good work. Removing the termination date would ensure the continued implementation of the Conservancy's master plan in line with its statutory mission, and ensure that voter-approved bond funding is administered effectively to help improve the lives of urban residents.

We request your support for AB 446 when it comes before you. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Damon K. Nagami

Damon Nagami
Senior Attorney
Director, So. California Ecosystems Project

Victoria Rome

Victoria Rome
California Legislative Director

Cc: Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

1314 2ND STREET SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 T 310.434.2300 F 310.434.2399 NRDC.ORG

Attachment #1

March 6, 2015

Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
California State Legislature
Sacramento, CA 94249-0054

Honorable Assemblyman Ridley-Thomas:

I am writing in support of AB 446, Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas' bill to repeal the sunset date for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC). As a stakeholder in creating the largest urban park conceived in over 100 years , Mujeres de la Tierra is committed to seeing the work of the Conservancy continue in the same spirit as the remaining Conservancies in the State. The Baldwin Hills Parklands represent the natural resource conservation portal to the State's most diverse population. With more than 3 million people living in a three mile radius of the BHC territory, state led programs and policies are readily delivered to families and their children within a twenty minute walk, bus ride or drive.

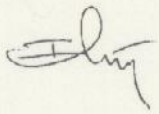
The BHC was conceived at the forefront of the 2002 urban park movement and is one of ten conservancies in the State of California. It has taken more than a decade to establish the concept of park equity as a critical public mandate, however as of today, the BHC is still on the shortlist of just two state conservancies that have a sunset date in their statute. The Baldwin Hills Parklands currently include 767 acres of protected land and continue to expand. Moreover, long lists of world-class natural and recreational amenities require funding and leadership for planning and implementation. The BHC is the sole agency responsible for implementing the State mandated Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan.

The BHC has a proven track record of collaboration, project implementation, cost leveraging and the committed Governance to accomplish its statutory mission. The voter mandated capital outlay and local assistance programs administered through the BHC continue to make much needed funding available for acquisitions, site improvements, habitat restoration and watershed protection. With the passage of Proposition 1, and the prospect of future state park bond initiatives being put forward, the ongoing mission of creating a two-square-mile park in the heart of urban Los Angeles must be left open for pursuit through to its completion.

Attachment #1

Once again, Mujeres supports AB 466 and we urge the legislature to pass the bill and remove the BHC sunset date. This action would allow the BHC to continue its mission in parity with conservancies in other parts of the state.

Sincerely,



Irma R. Muñoz, President

Mujeres de la Tierra

CC: Baldwin Hills Conservancy

Attachment #1

LADERA HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

5357 W. CENTINELA AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045-2003
Voice Mail: 424-256-LHCA
Website: www.laderaheights.org

OFFICERS

President
Tracie Tabor Lyons

Vice President
Dorothy Harris

Secretary
Sandra Goldsmith Bennett

Treasurer
Willa M. Hector

DIRECTORS

Rick Aldridge
Ronni Cooper
Alma Fowlkes
Eva J. Green
Don Hellwig
Ruth Lawrence
Clifford Neuman
Alvetia Smith
Ron Woods

May 19, 2015
Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via Fax: 916-319-2092

RE: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas) Baldwin Hills Conservancy - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Williams and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Ladera Heights Civic Association, we write in support of Assembly Bill 446 by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas. This bill would extend the operation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy indefinitely.

Since its inception in 2000, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has effectively acquired and managed open space and parkland in a predominantly minority and quantifiably park-poor region of Los Angeles County. The access to open space and parkland provided by the Conservancy has helped our community tremendously. Access to public parks improve physical and mental health, as a result of increased exercise, particularly decreases in heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, diabetes, and the symptoms of depression and anxiety.
The Conservancy has achieved great success to date and has outlined an innovative vision for the future. Allowing its termination in 2018 would deny Los Angeles County residents, in one of the densest urban areas of the state, access to open space and the healthier future envisioned by the Conservancy, and would jeopardize ongoing multiyear projects currently in motion.

The community of Ladera Heights consists of almost three thousand households. The Ladera Heights Civic Association's mission is to promote neighborliness, improve the quality of life and enhance property values in the community. The termination of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy would have a direct impact on our core values. As a community organization, we are committed to making sure this does not happen.

The Ladera Heights Civic Association supports AB 446 and urges the legislature to pass the bill and remove the BHC sunset date. This action would allow the BHC to continue its mission in parity with conservancies in other parts of the state.

Sincerely,

Tracie Tabor Lyons, President

Attachment #1

EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS WEST AREA NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL 2000

Serving the communities of: Arlington Park, Baldwin Hills, Baldwin Village, Baldwin Vista, Cameo Woods, Crenshaw Manor, Leimert Park & Village Green

President: Danielle Lafayette • **Vice President:** Yvonne Ellett • **Recording Secretary:** Dianne Robertson • **Treasure:** Edmond Warren
Board members: Erma Mickens, Carl Morgan, Jackie Ryan, Robin Gilliam, Ashley Thomas, Washensky Wilson, Mary Darks, Johnny Raines, Jason Lombard, Misy Wilks, Nick Hill

May 2, 2015

Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via Fax: 916-319-2092

RE: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas) Baldwin Hills Conservancy - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Williams and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council, we write in support of Assembly Bill 446 by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas. This bill would extend the operation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) indefinitely.

Since its inception in 2000, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has effectively acquired and managed open space and parkland in a predominantly minority and quantifiably park-poor region of Los Angeles County. The access to open space and parkland provided by the Conservancy has helped our community tremendously. Access to public parks improves physical and mental health, as a result of increased exercise, particularly decreases in heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, diabetes, and the symptoms of depression and anxiety.

The Conservancy has achieved great success to date and has outlined an innovative vision for the future. Allowing its termination in 2018 would deny Los Angeles County residents, in one of the densest urban areas of the state, access to open space and the healthier future envisioned by the Conservancy, and would jeopardize ongoing multiyear projects currently in motion.

Once again, Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council supports AB 466 and urges the legislature to pass the bill and remove the BHC sunset date. This action would allow the BHC to continue its mission in parity with conservancies in other parts of the state.

Sincerely,

Danielle J. Lafayette – Chair

Attachment #1

Cherrywood/Leimert Block Club
P.O.B. 561634
Los Angeles, CA 90056
info@cherrywoodleimertblockclub.com
cherrywoodleimertblockclub.com

MAY 18, 2015

Assembly Member Das Williams, Chair
Assembly Natural Resources Committee
1020 N Street, Room 164
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via Fax: 916-319-2092

RE: AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas) Baldwin Hills Conservancy - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Williams and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Cherrywood/Leimert Park Block Club the oldest and largest block club in the Leimert Park area with a consistent paid membership of approximately 115 households, we write in support of Assembly Bill 446 by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas. This bill would extend the operation of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy indefinitely.

Since its inception in 2000, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has effectively acquired and managed open space and parkland in a predominantly minority and quantifiably park-poor region of Los Angeles County. The access to open space and parkland provided by the Conservancy has helped our community tremendously. Access to public parks improves physical and mental health, as a result of increased exercise, particularly decreases in heart disease, hypertension, colon cancer, diabetes, and the symptoms of depression and anxiety.

The Conservancy has achieved great success to date and has outlined an innovative vision for the future. Allowing its termination in 2018 would deny Los Angeles County residents, in one of the densest urban areas of the state, access to open space and the healthier future envisioned by the Conservancy, and would jeopardize ongoing multiyear projects currently in motion.

Once again, Cherrywood/Leimert Park Block Club supports AB 466 and urges the legislature to pass the bill and remove the BHC sunset date. This action would allow the BHC to continue its mission in parity with conservancies in other parts of the state.

Sincerely,

Stephen B. Thomas

PRESIDENT

Attachment #1

Date of Hearing: May 6, 2015

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
Jimmy Gomez, Chair
AB 446 (Ridley-Thomas) – As Introduced February 23, 2015

Policy Committee: Natural Resources Vote: 9 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill eliminates the 2018 sunset date for the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC), thereby extending the conservancy indefinitely.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Increased annual administrative state costs of between $369,000 and $615,000 per year (special funds) beginning in FY 2017-18.

The BHC's administrative support and operations budget is from the Environmental License Plate Fund (ELPF) and has averaged $369,000 over the last three years. There are also two bond funded support positions budgeted for $246,000 (Proposition 1).

COMMENTS:

1) **Purpose.** According to the author, neighborhoods across Los Angeles populated by minorities and recent immigrants are especially short of park space. Access to park space is important for Greater Los Angeles because of the proven health benefits of public parks.

   The author further notes the BHC has achieved great success to date and has outlined an innovative vision for the future. Allowing the Baldwin Hills Conservancy to sunset would deny Los Angeles access to open space and the healthier future envisioned by the Conservancy. Additionally, removing the sunset date would allow the Baldwin Hills Conservancy to continue its mission in parity with the other eight out of ten conservancies that do not have a sunset date impacting their ability to develop ongoing multiyear projects.

2) **Background.** The BHC was established in 2000 in the Natural Resources Agency (NRA BHC to acquire public lands within the Baldwin Hills area. BHC jurisdiction covers approximately 2 square miles and it is the smallest of the state's 10 conservancies.

   BHC is located approximately 6 miles from downtown Los Angeles. There is significant oil production activity in the BHC's jurisdiction. BHC plans to restore former oil production lands and open them to the public as oil production ceases. The goal of BHC is to eventually connect public land into one big park (2 square miles) to serve the area. This will provide access to open space in a region that is lacking parks.

BHC was subject to a Department of Finance (DOF) audit in 2008, which found deficiencies with BHC's pre-awarding processes, monitoring and oversight of projects. BHC responded to the audit and agreed to take several corrective actions to address the deficiencies found.

To ensure proper oversight, the Legislature may wish to consider extending the sunset date rather than eliminating it.

3) **Resource Bond Funding.** BHC received an allocation of $40 million from Proposition 40 (2002), $10 million from Proposition 84 (2006), and $10 million from Proposition 1 (2014). The Proposition 1 funds are meant for multi-benefit water quality, water supply, and watershed protection and restoration projects.

4) **State Conservancies.** There are currently 10 state conservancies located within the Natural Resources Agency: a) Sierra Nevada Conservancy; b) California Tahoe Conservancy; c) State Coastal Conservancy; d) San Joaquin River Conservancy; e) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy; f) Coachella Mountains Conservnacy; g) San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Conservancy; h) Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; i) Baldwin Hills Conservancy; and j) San Diego River Conservancy.

Analysis Prepared by: Jennifer Galehouse / APPR. / (916) 319-2081

Attachment #2

Baldwin Hills Conservancy
Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report
5/29/15

Capital Outlay Grantee/Administrator	Project Title	ContractID	Fund Source	Funds Allocated	PROJECT STATUS
California Dept. of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)	Environmental Monitoring and Soil Management Plan Implementation	BHC11004	Prop 40	$465,000	**Term ends 6/30/15.**
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)	Milton Street Park Construction	BHC12000	Prop 84	$2,000,000	**Park portion on-schedule and will be open to public in Summer 2015; Green Street portion will be a second phase; it will be re-bid separately when permits are obtained from City of L.A.**
Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks & Recreation	Stoneview Nature Center	BHC12002	Prop 40	$5,000,000	**Design-build meetings in-progress; expected Project completion Winter 2016.**
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)	Park to Playa Trail - Stocker Corridor Section	BHC12005	Prop 40	$1,030,000	**Construction started March 2015; expected project completion Summer 2016.**
City of Culver City	Hetzler Road Pedestrian Path at BHSO	BHC13003	Prop 84	$791,000	**Budget shortfall determined after initial bids; Contractor will honor original bid for 3 months; to reduce costs some items will be removed from scope; all partners working on funding solutions.**
University of Southern California (USC)	Baldwin Hills Biota Update	BHC13002	Prop 84	$140,794	**Wildlife cameras and traps deployed at KHSRA and BHSO; Data collected will identify feeding rituals and migration patterns within the Parklands.**
Loyola Marymount University (LMU)	Parklands User Survey Study	BHC14000	Prop 84	$236,042	**New survey questions are being finalized; Next survey period Summer 2015.**

Attachment #3

Baldwin Hills
2014/15 Summary Sheet by Fund

As of 3/31/15	PCA #	Original Appropriation	Remaining Appropriation	EXP + ENC	BALANCE	Encumber by	Liquidate by
ELPF - #0140, Support							
2014 Budget Act Item 3835-001-0140	10001	$ 373,000.00	$ 373,000.00	$ 258,698.03	$ 114,301.97	06/30/15	06/30/17
Prop 40 - #6029, Support							
2014 Budget Act Item 3835-001-6029	10005	$ 115,000.00	$ 115,000.00	$ 71,542.06	$ 43,457.94	06/30/15	06/30/17
Prop 84 - #6051, Support							
2014 Budget Act Item 3835-001-6051	10009	$ 101,000.00	$ 101,000.00	$ -	$ 101,000.00	06/30/15	06/30/17
Prop 40 - #6029, Capital Outlay							
2005 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20003	$ 8,648,000.00	$ 8,031,000.00	$ 2,975,288.19	$ 5,055,711.81	06/30/14	06/30/16
Reimbursement	16003	$ 2,000,000.00	$ 2,000,000.00	$ -	$ 2,000,000.00	06/30/14	06/30/16
2004 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20002	$ 7,200,000.00	$ 7,200,000.00	$ 3,794,725.06	$ 3,405,274.94	06/30/14	06/30/16
2003 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20001	$ 7,200,000.00	$ 7,200,000.00	$ 5,199,999.11	$ 2,000,000.89	06/30/13	06/30/15
Reimbursement	16001	$ 1,000,000.00	$ 1,000,000.00	$ -	$ 1,000,000.00	06/30/13	06/30/15
2002 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	22000	$ 15,000,000.00	$ 15,000,000.00	$ 14,473,955.70	$ 526,044.30	06/30/13	06/30/15
Reimbursement	16000	$ 15,000,000.00	$ 14,755,000.00	$ -	$ 14,755,000.00	06/30/13	06/30/15
Prop 84 - #6051, Capital Outlay							
2008 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30001	$ 3,050,000.00	$ 3,050,000.00	$ 931,794.00	$ 2,118,206.00	06/30/14	06/30/16
2014 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30003	$ 3,120,000.00	$ 3,120,000.00	$ 236,042.00	$ 2,883,958.00	06/30/17	06/30/19

Attachment #4

BOND CASH FUNDS
2014/15

	CASH ALLOCATED	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
2015 COMMERCIAL PAPER TE			
PROP 84:	$441,819.00	277,296.40	$164,522.60
Upfront Bond Cash Allocated:	109,536.00		
Adjustment Per JE0042129, 4/8/15	252,283.00		
Adjustment Per JE0045690	80,000.00		
	441,819.00		
2010 SPRING BAB SALE			
PROP 40:	$579,277.00	579,277.00	$0.00
PROP 84:	$829,272.44	829,272.44	$0.00
Upfront Bond Cash Allocated:	2,137,455.25		
Adjustment Per JE0016196, 4/24/13	(1,308,182.81)		
	829,272.44		
2010 DECEMBER BAB SALE			
PROP 40:	$380,954.00	380,954.00	$0.00
PROP 84:	$43,760.00	43,760.00	$0.00
Upfront Bond Cash Allocated:	603,452.18		
Adjustment Per JE0044343, 4/21/15	(222,498.18)		
	380,954.00		
Upfront Bond Cash Allocated:	0.00		
Adjustment Per JE005125, 8/1/14	193,760.00		
Adjustment Per JE0026561, 12/23/14	(150,000.00)		
	43,760.00		
2010 DECEMBER TE SALE			
PROP 40:	$60,547.82	0.00	$60,547.82
2010 SPRING TE SALE			
PROP 40:	#REF!	1,397,505.11	$284,862.75
PROP 84:	$1,095,534.16	See adjusments below	$0.00
2009 OCTOBER TE SALE			
PROP 40:	$1,812,376.87	1,812,376.87	$0.00
PROP 84:	$188,122.75	188,122.75	$0.00
Upfront Bond Cash Allocated:	1,089,020.23		
Adjustment Per JE0016197, 10/5/12	3,257,633.82		
Adjustment 04/24/13	(3,564,321.18)		
Adjustment 12/15/14	1,030,044.00		
	1,812,376.87		
Upfront Bond Cash Allocated:	80,000.00		
Adjustment on 7/29/10	117,000.00		
Adjustment on 8/1/214	(8,877.25)		
	188,122.75		
2009 MARCH SALE			
PROP 40:	$901,961.01	901,961.01	$0.00

Total Bond Cash: 509,933.17