



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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2/03/2010
MRCA
Agenda Item V(e)

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

June 30, 2009

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE PD-3

25

JUNE 30, 2009

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**HABITAT RESTORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MOUNTAINS
RESTORATION TRUST AND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO FUND 2.2
ACRES OF OFF-SITE ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION AND PLANT 60 OAK TREES
FOR ROAD REPAIR PROJECTS
IN THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 3)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to sign the habitat restoration agreement between the Mountains Restoration Trust and the County of Los Angeles and delegate authority to the Director Public Works or her designee to execute future amendments to the agreement to provide, restore, maintain, monitor, and report on 2.2 acres of Mountains Restoration Trust-owned property, and to plant and monitor 60 oak trees, as mitigation for twenty-six existing road repair projects and other future projects in the Santa Monica Mountains.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that this habitat restoration agreement is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
2. Approve and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee to sign the habitat restoration agreement between the Mountains Restoration Trust and the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works and delegate authority to the or her designee to execute future amendments to the habitat

restoration agreement. The habitat restoration agreement provides for the Mountains Restoration Trust to provide, restore, maintain, and monitor 2.2 acres of mitigation and to plant and monitor 60 oak trees for existing and future projects in the Santa Monica Mountains. The Department of Public Works will finance the contract cost in the amount of \$284,400.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to fulfill the conditions of the permits issued by the California Coastal Commission for twenty-six 2004-05 Winter Rainstorm projects and to provide for mitigation for other future projects by restoring and revegetating 2.2 acres with specified plant species and to plant and monitor 60 oak trees for a five year period to mitigate the construction impacts at the project sites. The contract amount is based on a negotiated price of \$102,000 per acre to perform the revegetation work plus an additional \$60,000 for the oak tree planting and monitoring.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) by contracting for specialized services not currently provided by the Department of Public Works (Public Works).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The total cost to implement the habitat restoration agreement (Agreement) is \$284,400. We are seeking reimbursement for a portion of the project cost under Federal and State disaster assistance programs. Funding for this project is included in the Third Supervisorial District's Proposed Road Construction Program in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Proposed Road Fund Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) is a California Public Benefit Nonprofit Organization recognized as a 501 (c) (3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service. This contract is a standard agreement used by MRT for off-site mitigation services and will be approved as to form by County Counsel prior to execution by the Director of Public Works or her designee.

Public Works has contracted or will soon contract for the following construction projects:

No.	Project Name	Mitigation Area (acres)	Oak Tree Planting (No.)
1	Corral Canyon @ MM 0.02	0.003	
2	Fairside Drive @ MM 0.29	0.003	
3	Fernwood Pacific Drive @ MM 0.90	0.010	
4	Grandview Drive 60' N/O Falls Drive	0.000	30
5	Greenleaf Canyon Road @ MM 0.25	0.069	
6	Hillside Drive @ MM 1.09	0.017	
7	Hillside Drive 170-277' S/O MM 1.09	0.034	
8	Hillside Drive 30' - 65' S/O MM 1.09	0.024	
9	Hillside Drive 90'-130' S/O MM 1.09	0.028	
10	Hume Road @ MM 0.94	0.003	
11	Hume Road Landslide: Briarbluff-Castlewood	0.689	
12	Las Flores Canyon Road 130' S/o MM 0.30	0.017	
13	Latigo Canyon Road @ MM 1.05	0.007	
14	Latigo Canyon Road @ MM 2.08	0.028	
15	Latigo Canyon Road @ MM 6.41	0.010	
16	Latigo Canyon Road @ 125' to 175' S/O MM 1.14	0.036	
17	Malibu Canyon Road @ MM 3.17	0.131	
18	Newton Canyon Road Et Al	0.096	30
19	Piuma Road @ MM 2.81	0.015	
20	Saddle Peak @ MM 0.88	0.024	
21	Schueren Road @ MM 1.27	0.258	
22	Seabreeze Drive @ 130' N/O MM 0.20	0.031	
23	Tuna Canyon Road MM 4.97/4.98/5.04	0.207	
24	Valley Drive @ House Number 1534	0.007	
25	Vera Canyon Road @ Lofty Hill	0.006	
26	Vera Canyon Road -150' North of cul de sac	0.023	
	Subtotal	1.776	60
	Mitigation for future projects	0.424	0
	Total mitigation	2.20	60

In order to carry out these projects, Public Works requested and obtained permits from the California Coastal Commission. As a condition of these permits, Public Works is required to mitigate construction impacts to the environment by restoring and

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revegetating a combined total area of approximately 1.776 acres, including the planting of 60 oak trees. The 2.2 acres of total mitigation area covered in the agreement includes 0.424 acres of that will be banked for future projects.

MRT owns properties in the vicinity of our project sites that would meet the restoration and revegetation and oak tree planting mitigation requirements. MRT is willing to set aside, restore, maintain, monitor, and report to the permit agencies to meet the mitigation requirements for the fee of \$102,000 per acre and \$60,000 for oak trees for a total of \$284,400 for 2.2 acres.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

This Agreement is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15333 of the CEQA guidelines for small habitat restoration.

The twenty-six named projects are exempt from CEQA per Section 15269 (a) of the CEQA guidelines for emergency projects in a disaster stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor of California. Appropriate environmental documentation will be prepared and brought to the Board of Supervisors for any future projects, which will utilize this agreement for mitigation.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Restoration and revegetation of the mitigation site will enhance the environment and provide habitat to compensate for areas impacted by the construction projects.

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CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Public Works, Programs Development Division.

Respectfully submitted,


GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

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Attachment

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel
Department of Public Works (Public Relations)
Executive Office