

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

Date: January 18, 2000

THROUGH: LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL OF SANTA MONICA
MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY PROJECTS UNDER PROPOSITIONS
12 AND 13

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council endorse the following projects for consideration of funding by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy should Propositions 12 and 13 pass:

1. Purchase of the Metropolitan Water District property at Hahamongna Watershed Park;
2. Reconstruction of the Flint Wash Bridge in Hahamongna Watershed Park; and
3. Development of Eaton Wash Park Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

In November 1999, a letter was received from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy soliciting project nominations for new Conservancy projects in our area to be funded by State Propositions 12 and 13, and encouraging the City's participation in upcoming Conservancy hearings to receive testimony on proposed projects.

As a result of the passage of SB 333, Pasadena is now a member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Board. The Conservancy's Rim of the Valley sphere of influence includes areas that serve as a conduit to the valley such as the Arroyo Seco and Eaton Canyon.

MEETING OF 01/31/00
01-24-00

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 5.D.(4)

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy will receive \$35 million under Proposition 12, the Safe Neighborhoods Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 to “acquire, improve, or restore park, wildlife, or natural areas, including areas near or adjacent to units of the state park system wherever such units may be situated within a local jurisdiction within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone or Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor.” Proposition 13, The Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Act, also contains substantial funds for which the Conservancy is eligible.

1. Hahamongna Watershed Park Land Acquisition:

The City is proposing to purchase 29.47 acres of Metropolitan Water District land that is adjacent and contiguous with Hahamongna Watershed Park, and allows expansion and enhancement of the park. The site and its uses are compatible with the preliminary master plan, and as owner of this property, the City could see that the use of this property would remain compatible with Hahamongna Watershed Park by preserving and protecting the mature native oak woodland, Arroyo stone walls, trails, and park roads that exist on the property. An appraisal of the value of the property is currently in process.

2. Restoration of Flint Wash Bridge:

On September 27, 1999, Council approved application for a Recreational Trails Program Grant for restoration of Flint Wash Trail Crossing terminus of the La Canada-Verdugo Road between Devil’s Gate Dam and the Old Oak Grove Park service road in the amount of \$575,000 for a project with an estimated total cost of \$718,750. This project is the missing linkage in a trail system that is vast and connects the lower reaches of the Arroyo Seco and the L.A. River to the Santa Monica Mountains, the Rim of the Valley Trail system, and the Angeles National Forest. Conservancy funds would be used as matching funds and to cover any shortfall between the grant application and total project cost should the Recreational Trails Program Grant be partially funded.

3. Eaton Wash Park:

The Eaton Wash Park Master Plan was adopted by Council January 9, 1995. The park is located adjacent to the County’s Eaton Wash Flood Control channel and is a conduit to Eaton Canyon to the north. Landscaping of the site includes preservation of the site’s native oaks, and planting of additional native trees and shrubs. When developed, the park will provide increased passive recreational opportunities for residents of the City. Estimated cost for implementation of the Eaton Wash Park Master Plan is \$2.2 million.


Staff met with the City’s Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy representative and there is concurrence that these three projects should be considered for funding by the Conservancy. The Advisory Committee will make their determination of which projects to support at their February meeting. If the bond measures are approved by the voters in March, the Conservancy will begin project development immediately.

These recommended projects are separate from the Proposition 12 projects previously submitted to the Legislative Committee on November 16, 1999. The projects submitted on November 16 were based on per capita funding and can be used citywide. The projects listed above will use funds designated for the Conservancy which are geographically limited.


FISCAL IMPACT:

If Propositions 12 and 13 pass and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy adopts the proposed projects, the City could receive up to an additional \$3,500,000 for these projects.

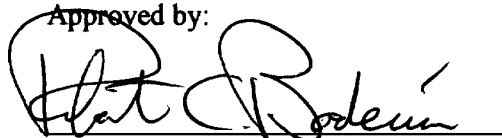
Respectfully submitted,


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