

DATE: March 26, 2018

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 13: Consideration of a resolution approving a Proposition 84 grant to the National Forest Foundation for San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative facilitation and support (RMC 17024)

PROGRAM AREA: Mountains, Hills, Foothills

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

JURISDICTION: LA County Districts 1 and 5 (Solis and Barger)

PROJECT MANAGER: Joseph Gonzalez

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC Board authorize approval of a grant to the National Forest Foundation for the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative facilitation and support in the amount of \$25,931. The performance period for this grant will be eighteen (18) months beginning in April 1, 2018-September 30, 2019 (RMC17024).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The National Forest Foundation (NFF) has facilitated the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (“Collaborative”) since it was established in early 2015. The NFF serves as a neutral facilitator and has worked with the Collaborative to develop consensus goals, objectives, and comments on items relating to the Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument– A project vicinity map is included as Exhibit A. The work of the Collaborative has been groundbreaking in gathering diverse perspectives and viewpoints to achieve consensus findings.

In order for NFF to continue their facilitation, the RMC recommends providing funds for Collaborative facilitation and support through September 2019, to match the \$7,921 NFF has already raised from REI (private funds) toward facilitation and travel for FY18/19. The funding would provide for Collaborative cooperative discussions, Steering committee discussions, records of all discussions, support for topical committees as they develop their work plans and accomplish their objectives, and the writing of letters and proposals for support, information, and funding. See Exhibit B for the scope of work, budget and schedule details.

The mission of the Collaborative is to identify, analyze, prioritize and advocate for values, resources, investments, management objectives and implementation practices that sustainably benefit all communities throughout the region, the Angeles National Forest, and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, and to promote and foster local and regional support for such efforts.

BACKGROUND: The Collaborative is a broad-based group of individuals representing local governments, tribal interests, state agencies, environmental and recreational organizations, community groups, businesses, land trusts, forest leaseholders and a wide spectrum of other forest users—see Exhibit C for a membership list. The Collaborative was formed immediately following the Monument designation by interested parties and organizations. Since that time, Collaborative members worked

cooperatively with each other and with the U.S. Forest Service to discuss differing viewpoints and reach consensus on the future management of the Monument.

Currently the Collaborative has a Steering Committee and four topical Committees working to enhance National Monument management and accessibility for local communities, in four areas: Trails and Recreation, Transportation, Volunteer Engagement, and Conservation Education. Each Committee will develop a work plan to identify each Committee's objectives and associated tasks, assignments, and timelines to achieve objectives. Committees will identify and track their own action items and report out on them at the Collaborative meetings. Currently each draft work plan contains between 3-5 objectives, and each Committee is working to specify the tasks needed to accomplish those objectives.

The Collaboratives purpose is to advocate for the resources, management objectives, and implementation strategies that will sustainably benefit the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument as well as the Angeles National Forest and all communities throughout the region. Specifically, as an example, the SGMCC provided a 17-page letter of comments regarding the proposed San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Plan.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This grant will award a grant to National Forest Foundation for San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative facilitation and support in the amount of \$25,931. The funds for this grant will come from remaining Proposition 84 grant funds also known as the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 under Planning & Monitoring 75050(g)(1).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) statute provides in part that:

Section 32602: There is in the Resources Agency, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which is created as a state agency for the following purposes:

- (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory.
- (b) To preserve the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River consistent with existing and adopted river and flood control projects for the protection of life and property.
- (c) To acquire open-space lands within the territory of the conservancy.

Section 32604: The conservancy shall do all of the following:

- (a) Establish policies and priorities for the conservancy regarding the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River, and their watersheds, and conduct any necessary planning activities, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

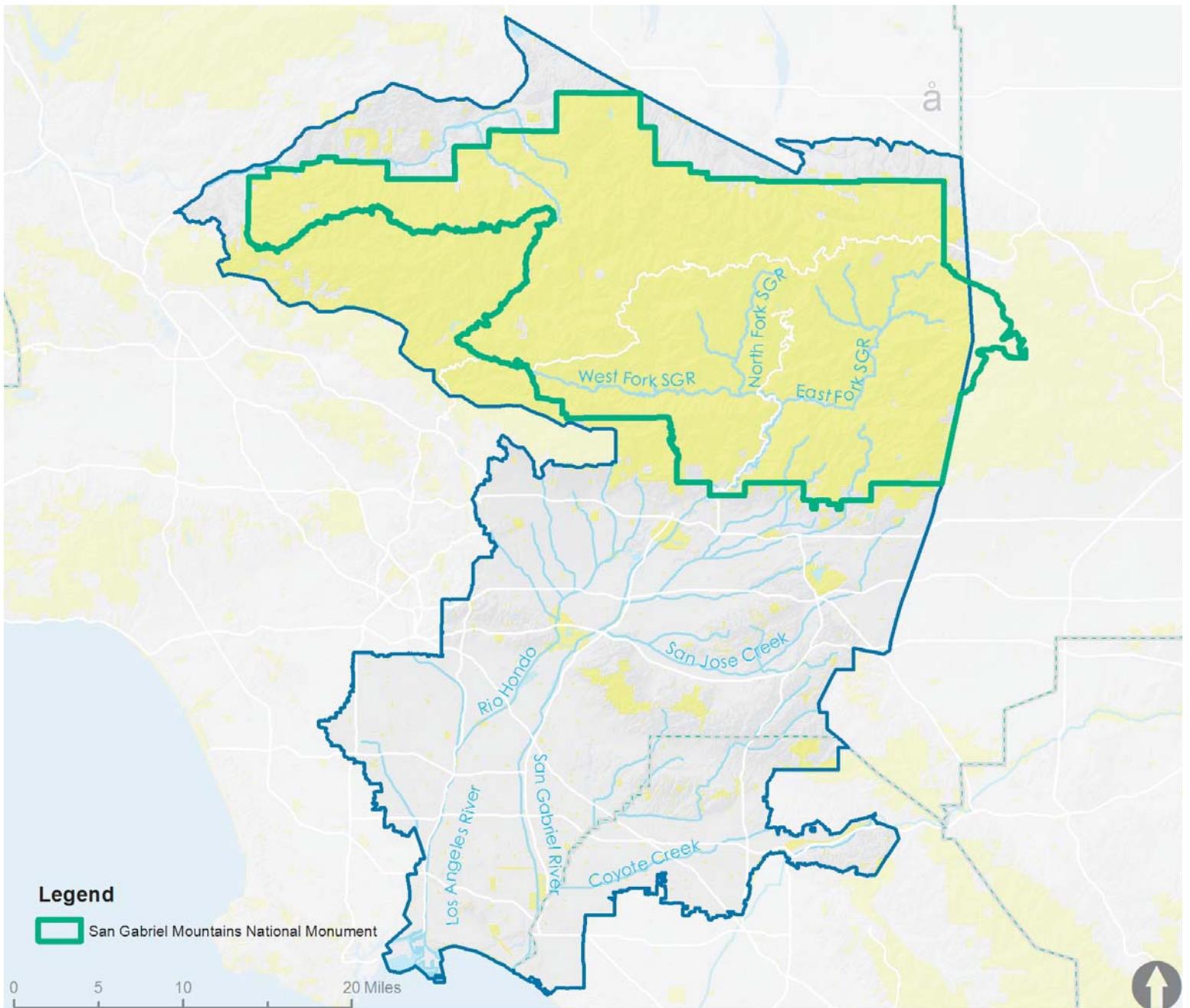
- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

Section 32614.5:

- (a) The conservancy may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of this division.
- (b) Grants to nonprofit organizations for the acquisition of real property or interests in real property shall be subject to all of the following conditions:
 - (1) The purchase price of any interest in land acquired by the nonprofit organization may not exceed fair market value as established by an appraisal approved by the conservancy.
 - (2) The conservancy approves the terms under which the interest in land is acquired.
 - (3) The interest in land acquired pursuant to a grant from the conservancy may not be used as security for any debt incurred by the nonprofit organization unless the conservancy approves the transaction.
 - (4) The transfer of land acquired pursuant to a grant shall be subject to the approval of the conservancy and the execution of an agreement between the conservancy and the transferee sufficient to protect the interests of the state.
 - (5) The state shall have a right of entry and power of termination in and over all interests in real property acquired with state funds, which may be exercised if any essential term or condition of the grant is violated.
 - (6) If the existence of the nonprofit organization is terminated for any reason, title to all interest in real property acquired with state funds shall immediately vest in the state, except that, prior to that termination, another public agency or nonprofit organization may receive title to all or a portion of that interest in real property, by recording its acceptance of title, together with the conservancy's approval, in writing.
- (c) Any deed or other instrument of conveyance whereby real property is acquired by a nonprofit organization pursuant to this section shall be recorded and shall set forth the executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

Exhibit A

RMC Territory Map with San Gabriel Mountains National Monument boundary





National Forest Foundation San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Facilitation and Support

Summary

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) has facilitated the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) since it was established in early 2015. The NFF serves as a neutral facilitator and has worked with the SGMCC to develop consensus goals, objectives, and comments on items relating to the Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative. The work of the SGMCC has been groundbreaking in gathering diverse perspectives and viewpoints to achieve consensus findings. Specifically, the SGMCC provided a 17-page letter of comments regarding the proposed San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Plan, and also submitted a letter requesting designation of the Angeles National Forest as a National Priority Area for Trails. Currently the SGMCC has a Steering Committee and four topical Committees working to enhance National Monument management and accessibility for local communities, in four areas: Trails and Recreation, Transportation, Volunteer Engagement, and Conservation Education.

To continue the work, the NFF is requesting assistance to fund \$25,931 of the estimated facilitation budget of \$33,852 from April 2018 until June 2019. The NFF has already raised \$7,921 toward the facilitation and travel. Please see the scope of work, budget and schedule for additional information.

Thank you for your time and support. If you have any questions regarding the budget, please feel free to contact Edward Belden (ebelden@nationalforests.org) with the National Forest Foundation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward Belden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward Belden
Southern California Program Manager

Scope of Work

Task 1 – Meeting Facilitation

- a. Facilitate seven bi-monthly meetings
- b. Manage pre and post meeting logistics
- c. Take and compile meeting records
- d. Assist with developing meeting agendas with Steering Committee, topical Committees, and Forest Service
- e. Facilitate twelve monthly steering committee meetings (Note that NFF does not facilitate topical Committee work outside of the bi-monthly SGMCC meetings)

Deliverables:

- Eight (7) SGMCC meetings
- Eight (7) SGMCC approved meeting records
- Twelve (12) Steering committee meetings

Task 2 – SGMCC Project Management

- a. Communicate with Steering Committee and topical committees
- b. Assist Committees with meeting preparation
- c. Assist topical Committees with purpose, vision, and objectives for work plan development. Work plans identify Committee objectives and associated tasks, assignments, and timelines to achieve the objectives. Work plans also identify how Committees will coordinate with partners to achieve joint objectives. Committees will identify and track their action items and report out on them at SGMCC meetings. Draft work plans are in progress and will be completed by May 2018. Final work plans will be completed by September 2018. Currently each draft work plan contains between 3-5 objectives, and each Committee is working to specify the tasks needed to accomplish those objectives.
- d. Assist SGMCC with letters and correspondence with outside agencies or organizations such as the Forest Service, potential member organizations, related non-governmental organizations, and local jurisdictions including cities and counties. For example, the purpose of correspondence may include outreach to potential partners or new members, comments or expression of support for initiatives related to SGMCC work, letters of inquiry regarding funding opportunities, etc.
- e. Assist with SGMCC membership and public engagement
- f. Coordinate with SGMCC on major projects
- g. Coordinate with Forest Service on key issues on a monthly basis
- h. Maintain website and update meeting announcements

Deliverables:

- Four (4) topical Committee work plans
- At least four (4) letters or correspondence with outside agencies or organizations
- Updated website

Task 3 – Development support

- a. Develop and seek additional funding opportunities, focusing on private entities and government grants
- b. Complete proposals to potential funders

Deliverables:

- At least two (2) proposals submitted

Table 1. Schedule

Tasks	2018				2019			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Task 1: Meeting Facilitation								
Task 2: SGMCC Project Management								
Task 3: Development Support								
Final Reporting and Grant Close-Out								

Table 2. Budget

Tasks	RMC Grant	Match	Total
Task 1 Meeting Facilitation	\$ 12,549	\$ 978	\$ 13,528
Task 2 SGMCC Project Management	\$ 10,097	\$ 891	\$ 10,988
Task 3 Development Support	\$ 840	\$ 210	\$ 1,050
Direct Costs			
Meeting Space		\$ 438	\$ 438
Printing	\$ 88		\$ 88
Food for Meetings		\$ 875	\$ 875
Travel		\$ 3,810	\$ 3,810
Indirect Costs			
Administration	\$ 2,357	\$ 720	\$ 3,077
Total	\$ 25,931	\$ 7,921	\$ 33,852
Match Source: Corporate Funding			



Budget Narrative

- Facilitate seven full SGMCC meetings/year
- Proposed SGMCC Meeting Schedule:
 - 2018: May, July, September, November
 - 2019: January, March, May
- Logistics management for SGMCC meetings (meeting locations, food, room setup/breakdown, etc.)
- NFF attend/support Steering Committee meetings as part of process management and agenda development
- Take notes at Steering Committee and SGMCC meetings, and circulate to the group
- Coordinate with the SGMCC on major projects (for example, developing response to final plan and action plans for five topical Committees), support group communications, maintain documents and records
- Maintain the SGMCC webpage and update with meeting announcements and documents
- Coordinate with the Forest Service on key issues of interest re SGMCC and request information presentations/attendance at SGMCC meetings
- Support topical Committees
- Indirect covers NFF administrative and overhead costs
- Travel costs include air, lodging, meals, and car rental

San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Membership List 2018

Last Name	First Name	Role	Stakeholder Category	Organizational Affiliation
Ayer	Jacqueline	Member	Local Government	Association of Rural Town Councils (Antelope Valley) and Acton Town Council
Benson	Dale	Member	Transportation	California Department of Transportation, District 7
Brick	Tim	Member	Environment	Arroyo Seco Foundation
Candelaria	Josh	Member	Local Government	San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors (Rutherford)
Carle	Irma "Kelly"	Member	Recreation (Equestrian)	Antelope Valley Unit, Backcountry Horseman of California
Croissant	Ann	Member	Conservation	San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy
Ellingson	Ron	Member	Special Use Permits/Land Lease Holders	Mt. Baldy Lodge
Erskine-Hellrigel	Dianne	Member	Recreation (Hiking)	Community Hiking Club
Estrada	William	Member	Academia	Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
Faustinos	Belinda	Member	Environment	Nature for All
Garcia	Robert	Member	Environmental Justice and Ethnic Diversity	City Project
Gardner	Kelly	Member	Water	San Gabriel Valley Water Association
Ghazarian	Armond	Member	Public Utility (water)	Los Angeles Department of Public Works
Gomez	Omar	Member	Environmental Justice and Ethnic Diversity	Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas en Norteamérica (COFEM)
Guttenberg	Richard	Member	Academia	John Minch & Associates
Hamlow	Cliff	Member	Business	San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers
Hernandez	Javier	Member	Local Government	LA County Board of Supervisors – 1st District (Solis)
Herrera	Henry	Member	Public Safety/Emergency Response	CalFire
Kast	Grace J.	Member	Water	Gateway Water Management Authority
Maravilla	Sandra	Member	Local Government	LA County Board of Supervisors – 5th District (Barger)
Messer	Steve	Member	Recreation (Bicycling)	Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)
Monsen	John	Member	Environment	The Sierra Club
Myers	Chuck	Member	Special Use Permits/Land Lease Holders	National Forest Homeowners
Nelson	Judy	Member	Other/Community	Glendora
Nuttall	Michelle	Member	Utilities (power)	Southern California Edison
Oaxaca	Daniel	Member	Conservation	San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
Reeves	William (Bill)	Member	Recreation (Fishing)	Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps (FRVC)
Reilly	Liz	Member	Local Government	San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Robinson	Claire	Member	Other/Community	Amigos de los Rios
Rosenfeld	Dan	Member	Public Health	Community Partners, Trust for Public Land
Rossmann	Daniel	Member	Environment	The Wilderness Society
Sahl	Jack	Member	Other/Community	Friends of the Angeles National Forest
Salas	Andrew	Member	Native American Tribes	Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
Seymour	Jeff	Member	Education	El Monte City School District, El Monte Promise Foundation
Smith	Ben	Member	Recreation (Winter)	Mountain High
Tercero	Brent	Member	Local Government	Gateway Council of Governments
Travis	Rick	Member	Recreation (Hunting)	California Rifle and Pistol Association
Clark	Margaret	Co-Chair	Conservation	Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
Lyons	Joseph	Chair	Local Government	San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Bauer	Paul	Alternate	Recreation (Winter)	Mountain High & Stevens Pass
Baul	Eric	Alternate	Public Utility (water)	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
Boyer	Gary	Alternate	Other/Community	Glendora
Doornick	Jackie	Alternate	Conservation	San Gabriel Mountain Regional Conservancy
Ellingson	Robby	Alternate	Special Use Permits/Land Lease Holders	Mt Baldy Ski Lifts
Galindo	Greg	Alternate	Water	San Gabriel Valley Water Association
Glauthier	Roy	Alternate	Special Use Permits/Land Lease Holders	National Forest Homeowners
Johnson	Jenny	Alternate	Recreation (Bicycling)	Mount Wilson Bicycling Association
La	Wendy	Alternate	Conservation	San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy
Mandich	Becky	Alternate	Utilities (power)	Southern California Edison
McBride	Ian	Alternate	Public Safety/Emergency Response	CalFire
Morales	Roberto	Alternate	Environment	The Sierra Club
Morales	Roberto	Alternate	Recreation (Hiking)	Community Hiking Club
Ortega	JJ	Alternate	Conservation	San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
Penn	Toni	Alternate	Water	Gateway Water Management Authority
Pineda	Andrew	Alternate	Other/Community	Amigos de los Rios
Silva	Andrew	Alternate	Local Government	San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors (Rutherford)
Smith	W. Lee	Alternate	Recreation (Hunting)	Michel & Associates
Stanley	Mark	Alternate	Conservation	Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
Stickel	Gary	Alternate	Native American Tribes	Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
Taira	Linda	Alternate	Transportation	California Department of Transportation, District 7
Tobin	John	Alternate	Recreation (Fishing)	Pasadena Casting Club
Wong	Amy	Alternate	Environment	Nature for All

March 26, 2018 – Item 13

RESOLUTION 2018-09

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) AUTHORIZING A GRANT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS AND FOOTHILLS ACQUISITION MASTER PLAN PROJECT (RMC 17024)

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Facilitation and Support Project submitted by the National Forest Foundation is located within the San Gabriel Mountains watershed, a tributary of the San Gabriel River; and

WHEREAS, the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Facilitation and Support Project submitted by the National Forest Foundation is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Sections 32600 *et seq* of the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Therefore be it resolved, that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Sections 32600 *et seq* of the Public Resources Code.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. FINDS that the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Facilitation and Support Project submitted by National Forest Foundation is consistent with Proposition 84.
4. ADOPTS the staff report dated March 26, 2018.

Resolution No. 2018-09

5. AUTHORIZES a grant to the National Forest Foundation for the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Facilitation and Support Project in the amount of \$25,931 (RMC 17024).

6. RESOLVED THAT, The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board recommends that the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative Facilitation and Support Project submitted by the National Forest Foundation be approved (RMC 17019).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on March 26, 2018.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General