

RESOLUTION **PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMCC) was created by the California State Legislature through the Conservancy Act (Act) in 1979 to preserve thousands of acres of parkland for wildlife, native plants, and public recreation within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone (Zone) and since that time, it has helped to preserve and open to the public over 75,000 acres of parkland in both urban and wilderness settings; and

WHEREAS, Section 33001 of the Public Resources Code identifies the Zone as “unique and valuable economic, environmental, agricultural, scientific, educational, and recreational resource that should be held in trust for present and future generations;” and

WHEREAS, public agencies reviewing projects under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) must notify trustee agencies and consult with them at various points in the environmental review process; and

WHEREAS, a trustee agency is defined as “a state agency that has jurisdiction by law over natural resources affected by a project, that are held in trust for the people of the State of California;” and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2021, the California Attorney General’s office issued an advice letter to the SMMC confirming that the SMMC must be considered a CEQA trustee agency for projects affecting natural resources in the Zone, as defined in the Act; and


WHEREAS, additionally SMMC’s Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat Linkage Planning Map delineates the majority of habitat blocks and connecting wildlife corridors between the 405 and 101 freeways and should be considered for planning, conservation, and environmental impact analysis purposes; and


WHEREAS, it is a goal of the City to conserve and manage development in environmentally sensitive areas through efforts such as natural community conservation planning;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby recognizes the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy as a trustee agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, which would require the City of Los Angeles to notify and consult with SMMC at various points in the CEQA review process on projects that may affect natural resources within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone, as defined in the Conservancy Act.

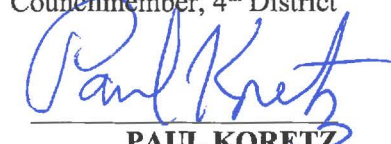
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles hereby recognizes the Big Wild-Topanga State Park, Eastern Santa Monica Mountains, and Griffith Park Area Habitat Linkage Habitat Linkage Planning Maps as well as future spatial habitat protection maps prepared by SMMC to ensure the protection and conservation of sensitive habitat areas.

PRESENTED BY:

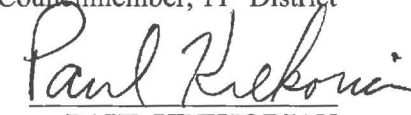

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