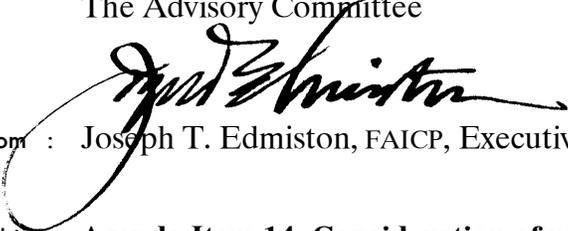


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: September 26, 2005

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 40 funds to the City of Glendale for the Le Mesnager historic restoration project in Deukmejian Wilderness Park, Glendale.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy authorize a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 in Proposition 40 funds to the City of Glendale the Le Mesnager historic restoration project in Deukmejian Wilderness Park, Glendale.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204 of the Public Resources Code provides, in part, as follows:

The conservancy may, in accordance with the priorities of the plan, do the following: (c) Award grants... for the purpose of acquiring sites identified as necessary for park, recreation, or conservation purposes and for development of essential related public facilities.

Background: This grant will augment the City of Glendale's Deukmejian Wilderness Park project to design and construct structural and interior improvements to the historic Le Mesnager Barn, the keystone of this parkland adjacent to Angeles National Forest in the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor. The project is Phase IV of the City's efforts to improve the park and the historic stone barn. In March 2003 the Conservancy granted \$200,000 to the City from Proposition 40 Local Agency and Non-Profit Matching Grant Program for the Le Mesnager Barn Seismic Stabilization, Rehabilitation, and Interpretive Exhibits project. The project is in the top 15 improvement projects (listed as Deukmejian Wilderness Park Environmental Center) in the overall Conservancy's Park Development and Improvements Workprogram, and ranked the highest within the Eastern Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor geographic subset.

The completed projects at Deukmejian Wilderness Park will provide historic preservation and habitat preservation, and will enhance trails, environmental interpretation, and provide compatible public recreational use. The City owns and operates Deukmejian Wilderness Park and will ensure that restoration and improvements to park and the Le Mesnager Barn are maintained long term. The grant of \$1,000,000 in Conservancy Proposition 40 grant funds is contingent upon the review and approval by the Office of the Attorney General. If approved, the grant funds would be disbursed to the City on a reimbursable basis.

SMMC Agenda Item 14
September 26, 2005
Page 2

The original 1989 acquisition of the 702-acre property, then known as InterValley Ranch, was the result of a funding partnership between the Conservancy and the City.