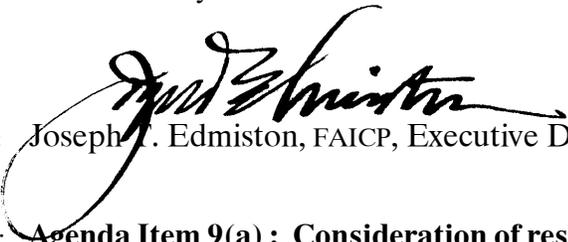


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: August 30, 2004

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(a) : Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment to the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to include provision for adoption of an annual workprogram.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy approve the resolution authorizing amendment to the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement to include provision for adoption of an annual workprogram, and forward same to the City of Santa Clarita with a request that it also consider the amendment.

Legislative Authority: The Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Chapter 5, commencing with § 6500 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code) provides:

§ 6502. If authorized by their legislative or other governing bodies, two or more public agencies by agreement may jointly exercise any power common to the contracting parties

§ 6503. The agreements shall state the purpose of the agreement or the power to be exercised. They shall provide for the method by which the purpose will be accomplished or the manner in which the power will be exercised.

Background: The Conservancy and the City of Santa Clarita formed the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority (SCWRCA) in 1993 for the purpose of working for the common goals of open space preservation and watershed protection in the Santa Clarita area. As also described in the Background for Agenda Item 18 for this meeting, SCWRCA has provided an important focus on cooperative planning and resource issues in the Santa Clarita Woodlands, wildlife corridors, upper Santa Clara River watershed, trails, and

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Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor (including Angeles National Forest interface).

At its March 16 meeting, the SCWRCA Governing Board discussed formalizing the longstanding collaborative planning work of the agency with development of an annual workprogram for acquisition, improvements, planning, public access and interpretation of resources, and land management activities. SCWRCA's funding sources to implement such a workprogram are at present limited, but potentially new grants or contribution, such as an *in lieu* mitigation fee SCWRCA accepted in March, could provide funding for additional projects and land management. Amendment of the joint powers agreement to explicitly provide for adoption of an annual workprogram will also require the approval of the City of Santa Clarita. SCWRCA will develop a workprogram with the staffs of the Conservancy and the City.