

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK  
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD  
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265  
PHONE (310) 589-3200  
FAX (310) 589-3207  
WWW.SMMC.CA.GOV

For Immediate Release

January 22, 2013

Contact: Dash Stolarz  
(323) 221-9944 x198**Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Announces New Officers**

Malibu, CA--The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy announced today the election of its new officers for 2013. Irma R. Muñoz, Member appointed by the City of Los Angeles was elected Chairperson by a unanimous vote of the Members. The Honorable Linda Parks, Ventura County Supervisor, was elected as Vice Chairperson. The Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson are selected by the voting members of the Conservancy for a one-year term.

Irma R. Muñoz of Los Angeles is the founder and president of Mujeres de la Tierra--a non-traditional environmental non-profit that inspires and teaches women and their children to take ownership and leadership of neighborhood issues and challenges. Previously, Ms. Muñoz has served as chief of staff to a senior ranking state legislator, public relations and community affairs executive with Centre City Development Corporation, a presidential appointee with the Clinton Administration for seven years at the U. S. Small Business Administration, senior manager with TreePeople, and as a member of the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Commission. In 2010, Ms. Muñoz was named a "community champion" by the Annenberg Foundation for excellence in leadership in Los Angeles County and honored by Senator Curren Price as a "SheHero" for her role in improving the health of families in Senatorial District 26.

The Honorable Linda Parks is the Ventura County Supervisor from the Second District. She previously served as a Planning Commissioner, City Council member, and Mayor for the City of Thousand Oaks. Some of her accomplishments include founding the Ventura County Discovery Center, creating laws protecting parks and farmland, and writing the City of Thousand Oaks' first campaign reform law. As an open space advocate, Supervisor Parks was a champion in the sixteen-year grassroots effort to preserve what is now Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve which was purchased by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in 2003.

(-More-)

## Conservancy Elects New Officers

January 22, 2013

Page 2

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, established by the Legislature in 1980, is composed of nine voting members and three ex officio members. The nine voting members represent local, state, and federal government including the Superintendent of the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area, a member appointed by the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, a public member appointed by the Governor, a public member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, one public member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, a member appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, a member appointed by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, the designee of the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency of California, and the Superintendent of the Angeles District of California State Parks. Ex Officio Members include the Supervisor of the Angeles National Forest and appointees of the California Coastal Conservancy and the California Coastal Commission.

A 26-member Advisory Committee consisting of representatives of local jurisdictions, and members appointed by the Governor, the Senate Rules Committee, and the Speaker of the Assembly advise the Conservancy.

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy was established by the State Legislature in 1980. Since that time, it has helped to preserve over 69,000 acres of parkland in both wilderness and urban settings. Its mission is to strategically buy back, preserve, protect, restore and enhance treasured pieces of Southern California to form an interlinking system of urban, rural and river parks, open space, trails, and wildlife habitats that are easily accessible to the general public.

# # #