

**PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
*Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill***

June 17, 2025, Tuesday, 7 p.m.

The regular meeting will take place in-person. Members of the public can observe and participate in the meeting in person.

LOCATION:

Whittier Senior Center: 13225 Walnut St., Whittier, CA 90602.

Catherine Houwen	La Habra Heights
Adam Nazaroff, Chair	La Habra Heights
Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
Shelley Andros	Whittier
Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier
Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier
Matthew Liang, Vice Chair	County of Los Angeles
(Vacant)	County of Los Angeles
Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles

Members of the public may provide electronic comments by Monday, June 16, 2025, by 4:00 p.m. to info@habitatauthority.org. Please label the email in the subject heading as “Public Comments.” Public comments may also be verbally heard during item III of the meeting.

72 hours prior to Citizens Technical Advisory Committee meetings, the entire Citizens Technical Advisory Committee agenda package is available for review, along with any meeting-related writings or documents provided to a majority of the Committee members after distribution of the agenda package, at the Authority’s website, www.habitatauthority.org. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Carlos Zelaya at 562.945.9003, at least 48 hours prior to meeting.

Pursuant to Section 54954 of the Government Code, the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (Authority) will hold a regular meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) at the above time and location for the purpose of:

AGENDA

- I. Call to order.
- II. Roll call.
- III. Public comments.
- IV. Approval of Minutes for the May 13, 2025 Advisory Committee Meeting.
- V. Standing Reports:

- a) Report by the Board Liaison on previous Authority's Board of Directors meeting.
 - b) Committee Member feedback from the public as it relates to the Authority.
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- VI. Verbal update from Deputy Chief Ranger Hughes regarding ranger and maintenance services provided by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).
 - VII. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors authorizing Executive Director to execute the Thirty-fifth Amendment of the Open Space Management Agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for maintenance and operation services extending the term an additional year from 7/1/25 to 6/30/26 in the amount of \$592,800.
 - VIII. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Authority Resolution No. 2025-03, Approving the Application for Grant Funds for the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Wildfire Prevention Program for Puente Hills Fire Resiliency Project.
 - IX. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution No. 2025-__ Declaring June as Pride Month.
 - X. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution No. 2025-__ Declaring July as Parks Month.
 - XI. Closing remarks (Comments/questions from Committee Members and/or Executive Director).
 - XII. Adjournment and announcement of the next meeting.

The Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority is a public entity established pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act by agreement between the City of Whittier, Los Angeles County, and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. Regular meetings of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee are scheduled for the Tuesday before the third Thursday of every month. Questions about any agenda item can be addressed to Andrea Gullo, Executive Director, 562.945.9003.

DRAFT

Minutes

PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 13, 2025

The meeting of the Citizens Technical Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at the Whittier Senior Center, 13225 Walnut Ave, Whittier, CA 90602.

I. CALL TO ORDER.

Chair Nazaroff called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL.

A roll call was taken, and there was a quorum at this time.

Members Present:

Bryan Coreas	County of Los Angeles
Matthew Liang, Vice Chair	County of Los Angeles
Roy Francis	La Habra Heights
Catherine Houwen	La Habra Heights
Adam Nazaroff, Chair	La Habra Heights
Shelley Andros	Whittier
Dr. Janis Cavanaugh	Whittier
Michelle Pekko-Seymoure	Whittier

Members Absent:

(Vacant)	County of Los Angeles
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Authority Representatives Present:

Andrea Gullo, Executive Director
Michelle Mariscal, Ecologist
Carlos Zelaya, Program Analyst

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

Steve Huber from Whittier Area Audubon provided information regarding their monthly Sycamore Canyon beginners bird walk. There were 49 species of birds observed. The next bird watching hike is scheduled for June 14th at 7am.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 18, 2025 ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING.

Member Cavanaugh motioned to approve the March 18, 2025 minutes as drafted. Member Pekko-Seymoure seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motioned passed unanimously.

V. STANDING REPORTS:

a. REPORT BY BOARD LIAISON ON PREVIOUS MONTH'S AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING.

Member Houwen, Board Liaison, provided the report for the March Board meeting.

b. COMMITTEE MEMBER FEEDBACK FROM THE PUBLIC AS IT RELATES TO THE AUTHORITY.

Member Cavanaugh shared that she keeps her neighbors updated regarding the Habitat Authority's fire prevention activities and asks neighbors to work towards hardening their homes.

Member Houwen has been providing monthly updates to the La Habra Heights City Council regarding Habitat Authority's activities including fire prevention activities.

Ecologist Mariscal provided reports to the Committee regarding the Authority's outreach activities during the month of April, including involvement in the Sanitation District's annual Earth Day event and a presentation provided to the Hacienda Heights Women's Club in honor of Arbor Day.

VI. PRESENTATION, REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF POST-ELECTION ANALYSIS OF MEASURE PH PRESENTED TO THE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN JANUARY 2025.

Executive Director Gullo provided voter results for Measure PH and reviewed the Authority's outreach efforts.

Member Coreas highlighted the need for continuous outreach to maintain support for the hills in younger generations. Executive Director Gullo confirmed that it is a goal of the Habitat Authority to continue those outreach efforts.

VII. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ADOPT AUTHORITY RESOLUTION 2025-02 CERTIFYING COMPLETION OF THE PUENTE HILLS FUELS REDUCTION AND WILDFIRE PREVENTION

ROUND TWO (RMC) 21027 GRANT.

An update was provided.

Member Andros motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors to adopt Authority Resolution 2025-02 certifying completion of the Puente Hills fuels reduction and wildfire prevention round two (RMC) 21027 Grant. Vice Chair Liang seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING DRAFT AUTHORITY WORKPLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26.

Executive Director Gullo provided an overview.

Member Coreas motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors to approve the Authority workplan for fiscal year 2025-26. Member Houwen seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

IX. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING DRAFT AUTHORITY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26.

Executive Director Gullo provided an overview.

Member Pekko-Seymoure motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors to approve the draft Authority budget for fiscal year 2025-26. Member Coreas second the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

X. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVING A COMMENT LETTER REGARDING THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE'S INTENT TO RESCIND THE DEFINITION OF 'HARM' UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.

Ecologist Mariscal provided background and overview. The Committee requested an update on this item once the ruling has been finalized.

Member Andros motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors to approve the Authority's letter as drafted. Member Pekko-Seymoure seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

XI. UPDATE REGARDING ESTABLISHING A FISCAL OVERSIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2024-01, INCLUDING RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2025-03, AND ASSOCIATED FACT SHEET.

Executive Director Gullo provided the update.

Member Coreas noticed in the post-election analysis presentation that 'Los Nietos' was mentioned but was not included in the associated fact sheet. The concern arose that because they are within the CFD, they should have the opportunity to be represented on the Fiscal Oversight Advisory Committee.

Member Coreas motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution 2025-03 and the associated fact sheet with the caveat that 'Los Nietos' if impacted by the CFD, be represented in the resolution and fact sheet in an appropriate manner. Vice Chair Liang seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

XII. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATING CITIZENS TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FACT SHEET.

Member Cavanaugh motioned to recommend to the Board of Directors approve the updated Citizens Technical Advisory Committee Fact Sheet. Member Francis seconded the motion, and in a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

XIII. CLOSING REMARKS (COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR).

None at this time.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEXT MEETING.

There being no further comments or business to discuss, Chair Nazaroff adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on June 17, 2025.

MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: June 17, 2025

To: Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Agenda Item VII. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors authorizing Executive Director to execute the Thirty-fifth Amendment of the Open Space Management Agreement with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for maintenance and operation services extending the term an additional year from 7/1/25 to 6/30/26 in the amount of \$592,800.

Background:

In accordance with the Open Space Management Agreement (Agreement) between the MRCA and Authority for services since May 1996, the MRCA has adequately adhered to the Agreement standards. They have provided maintenance and staff services and have shown flexibility over the past year, and years prior, providing the Authority with basic services under changing circumstances. The proposed annual contract would maintain patrol and maintenance hours by rangers and park staff of approximately 82 hours per week July through December, then increasing to 120 hours per week January through June 2026. The attached amendment increases the contract amount by \$98,778 (16.5%).

Previously, in response to Authority budget restrictions since fiscal year (FY) 19-20 the Authority has repeatedly decreased patrol and maintenance services for the Authority's Preserve. For reference, 90 hours a week were budgeted in FY 19-20, 84 hours a week were budgeted in FY 20-21, 77 hours were budgeted in FY 21-22, 64 hours were budgeted in FY 22-23, and 82 hours were budgeted in FY 23-24 and FY 24-25. Due to the passage by voters of Measure PH in November 2024, coverage by the MRCA can increase once the revenues from this measure are collected which is expected to occur by January 2026. This 35th Amendment with the MRCA proposes to increase the weekly hours for ranger, public officer and/or maintenance services to 120 hours per week at that time.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost of this is in the proposed budget for fiscal year 2025-26. Funding of the contract as proposed is provided through mitigation habitat restoration sources, mitigation long-term habitat management sources, Los Angeles County Measure A maintenance and servicing (M&S) funding, and Measure PH.

Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend to the Board of Directors to approve the contract with the MRCA.

Attachments:

Proposed MRCA Amendment and associated budget.

**THIRTY-FIFTH AMENDMENT TO
PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY
OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

Formerly Known As Puente Hills Landfill Native Habitat Preservation Authority Open Space
Management Agreement

This thirty-fifth amendment to that certain agreement entitled the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Open Space Management Agreement (AGREEMENT) is entered into on July 1, 2025 between the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, a joint powers authority established under the laws of the State of California, acting by and through its Executive Director, (hereinafter known as the PHHPA) and the Executive Officer of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, a joint powers authority (hereinafter known as the CONTRACTOR). PHHPA and CONTRACTOR agree to the following amendments:

1. That the term of the AGREEMENT is extended for one year from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.
2. The amount of Ranger/Park Staff weekly hours is approximately 82 hours a week from July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, and 120 hours a week from January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026. Hours shall include Rangers, Public Officers and Maintenance staff. Hours shall include approximately 70 hours of ranger time per week.
3. That the contract amount for services for the term shall not exceed \$592,800 (five hundred ninety-two thousand eight hundred dollars) in accordance with the attached budget (Exhibit A).
4. This AGREEMENT amends #4 of the thirty second (34th) amendment in ***italics, bold and strikethrough*** as follows: Invoices submitted will be in a format that meets known requirements of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) for reimbursable Measure A Maintenance and Servicing costs, provided that those requirements are known at the time services are rendered. CONTRACTOR cannot retroactively change record-keeping practices and is not responsible for ensuring that RPOSD approve any expenses. If RPOSD issues new requirements, CONTRACTOR reserves the right to reevaluate the ability to meet those requirements. CONTRACTOR will make best efforts to accommodate PHHPA in submitting documentation to satisfying RPOSD. Costs shall be separated out by Maintenance and Servicing (M&S) and non-M&S qualifying expenses on City of Whittier Proposition A properties, PHHPA Proposition A properties (Sycamore Canyon, and Turnbull Canyon), and Non-Proposition A properties. Turnbull Canyon and Sycamore Canyon costs must be separated. Invoices will indicate CONTRACTOR staff time dedicated to various grants. Additionally, CONTRACTOR shall note that ~~\$12,250~~ ***\$12,496*** of ranger time is allocated for ranger patrol of habitat restoration sites on City of Whittier's Unocal property and not for Proposition A M&S time, and should be not be invoiced as M&S. ***MRCA costs dedicated towards all habitat restoration sites and long term management of habitat restoration sites in the amount of \$65,346 (which includes the above \$12,496) will be charged towards the "Non-Proposition A properties" budget category.***
5. Contractor will make best efforts to provide a final invoice within 1 month of the end of the term, July 31, 2026. This shall include using receipts from CalCard expenses in May and June to calculate the final invoice, before the final CalCard statement is processed by Contractor.
6. That all other terms and provisions of the AGREEMENT shall remain in full force and effect.

PUENTE HILLS
HABITAT PRESERVATION AUTHORITY

MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

By _____
Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

By _____
Lillian Ikuta, Contracts Officer

Date _____

Date _____

PHHPA Open Space Management Agreement

35th Amendment, FY 25/26

Exhibit A

Description	Whittier owned - Prop A (Arroyo Pescadero/Chevron, Unocal, Hellman, etc.)				Habitat Authority - Prop A (Turnbull/Rose Hills)				Habitat Authority - Prop A (Sycamore)				Non Prop A - (Hacienda Heights, Powder, Mitigation, LTMP etc.)			
	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance	This Period	YTD Expenses	Total Budgeted	Budget Balance
Payroll, Benefits, Vehicle Usage, Overhead			\$ 71,000	\$ 71,000		\$ -	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000		\$ -	\$ 45,500	\$ 45,500		\$ -	\$ 157,000	\$ 157,000
M&S Payroll, Benefits, Vehicle Usage, Overhead (*)			\$ 110,000.00	\$ 110,000			\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000			\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000				\$ -
				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Office Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Telephone-Land			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Answering Service			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Interpretive Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Misc Operating Expenses (Gate opening/(*))			\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Food/Kitchen			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Volunteer Expenses			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Clothing/Personal Supplies			\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Warning/ Protective Suppl			\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
First Aid/ Rescue Suppl			\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Hand Tools/ Instruments (*)			\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00			\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00			\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Minor Equipment (*)			\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ -	\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Peace Officer Supplies			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Signs & Info Fixtures (*)			\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Maintenance-Other (*)			\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Maintenance-Other Equipment (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Maintenance-Buildings (*)			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00				\$ -			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Maintenance-Grounds (*)			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00		\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Maintenance-Roads (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00			\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Weed Control (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Vandalism Restoration (*)			\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00		\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Major Repairs-Structures (*)			\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Major-Repairs-Other (*)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Sanitation/Waste Removal-Portable Toilets (*)				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Sanitation/Waste Removal-Garbage & Landfill (*)				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Water (*)				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Gas & Propane (*)				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Electric				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Pest Control (*)				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -
Totals:	\$ -		\$ 189,800.00	\$ 189,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 115,875.00	\$ 115,875.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 117,925.00	\$ 117,925.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 169,200.00	\$ 169,200.00

TOTAL CONTRACT

\$

592,800.00

Non Prop A category includes \$65,346 for ranger time at habitat restoration sites throughout the Preserve as indicated by PHHPA staff.

MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: June 17, 2025

To: Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Agenda Item VIII. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Authority Resolution No. 2025-03, Approving the Application for Grant Funds for the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Wildfire Prevention Program for Puente Hills Fire Resiliency Project.

Background:

The Authority has applied to receive grant funds from the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) in the amount of \$4.9 million for wildfire resiliency related actions. This funding is sourced from California Proposition 4 funds, the initiative known as "The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024." Letters of support have been received from the City of Whittier, Sierra Club San Gabriel Valley Task Force, Friends of the Whittier Hills and Hills For Everyone. If received, the grant would fund the following activities:

Task A) Wildfire Prevention and Protection:

- Facility Improvements:
 - Access restrictions: Wrought iron protective fence and gates along urban edge interface, Elmquist Ave (approx. 500 feet) and Ocean View Avenue (approx. 155 feet), in Whittier to prevent illegal access from trespassers further protecting the area from accidental fires. Projected grant funding is expected to allow for a decorative gate element at Elmquist to inspire community stewardship. This includes hiring a project inspector or manager consultant.
 - Home hardening for agency facility (ranger residence). This work could include but is not limited to closing eaves and exposed areas, replacing rain gutters, establishing zone zero defensible space, possibly replacing windows/or window coverings, possible deck replacement, and exterior stucco. This includes hiring a project inspector or manager consultant.
- Landscape Modifications
 - Vegetation and hazardous tree clearance performed within the urban wildland interface throughout the year including a second clearance effort for regrowth in November/December/January, weather permitting

- (up to approximately 135 acres if needed) as well as along emergency access routes (approx. 10 miles).
- Habitat enhancement (approx. 4.5 ac) to include non-native weed removal (hazardous fuel reduction), cactus planting, hand seeding with native plant species. Cactus and seeds for the habitat enhancement work (after weed clearance) would be collected by a qualified native seed collection company from the Preserve to ensure local adaptation.
- Equipment/Vehicles
 - Purchase of a flail mower attachment for the existing agency mower. This allows for more frequent and cost-effective clearance along emergency access routes throughout the year.
 - Purchase of two 1,000 gallon mobile water trailers to be housed at the ranger residences.
 - Purchase of a 2,000 gallon water tender to be used by contracted law enforcement for firefighting efforts.

Task B) Wildfire Prevention and Protection

- Wildfire Prevention Planning
 - Preserve wide vegetation mapping for habitat restoration planning and fuels reduction planning
 - Fire fuel modeling for hazards mitigation, risk planning, and fuels reduction efforts.

Task C) Bioconsulting and contractor oversight

- A biological consultant would be needed to assist with any element of the grant project.

Task D) Acquisition and Development

- Acquisition of 5.5 acres in La Habra Heights within a very high fire hazard severity zone as determined by CalFire. Legal costs and a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment are included on the project.
- Trailhead development on the parcel to act as a long-term fire break and emergency staging area. The project would include engineering designs and studies, trailhead designs, CEQA review, improvements to allow for safe pedestrian and vehicle access to and from the parcel to access nearby trails, and other trailhead elements as the budget allows.

The work would commence in August 2025. Should the Board approve this application, and the RMC awards the grant, then staff will return to the Board for consideration of executing various contracts to implement the project.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact with the grant project.

Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend to the Board of Directors to approve the attached grant-required Resolution 2025-03, read in title only, which authorizes the Executive Director to submit and execute associated grant documents as needed.

Attachments:

Attached is the grant budget, task list and timeline, and resolution.

BUDGET**Grantee: Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority****Project Name: Puente Hills Fire Resiliency**

Tasks	
A	Wildfire Prevention and Protection <u>Facility Improvements</u> <u>Access restrictions</u> : Wrought iron fence and gate upgrade along Elmquist/OceanView in Whittier - received email ok from City \$ 180,000 project manager \$ 27,000 <u>Home hardening for agency facility</u> (ranger residence) (could include decks, eaves, rain gutters, zone zero, possibly replace windows) \$ 250,000 project manager \$ 37,500 <u>Landscape Modifications:</u> <u>Veg/Tree Clearance</u> : Extra or Second clearance, multiple years (including contractor flail mowing)- dead tree removal (2-3 years) \$ 400,500 Restoration /enhancement activities (2-3) years \$ 80,000 <u>Equipment/Vehicles</u> Flail mower attachment to existing tractor \$ 17,000 Tactical 2,000 gal water tender, Two 1,000 water trailers \$ 279,500 subtotal \$ 1,271,500
B	Wildfire Prevention Planning Preserve Wide Veg Mapping \$ 170,000 Fuel Modelling (wildfire planning) \$ 50,000 subtotal \$ 220,000
C	Bioconsulting and contractor oversight \$ 20,000
D	Acquisition - 5 acre \$ 1,650,000 Legal, Phase 1 \$ 40,000 Trailhead Development/FuelBreak - includes safe vehicle/pedestrian access across Fullerton Rd \$ 1,500,000 subtotal \$ 3,190,000
	10% Overhead * \$ 275,500
	TOTAL \$ 4,977,000

*excludes Equipment and Acquisition

Grantee:	Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority
Project Name:	Puente Hills Fire Resiliency
Contact and Address:	Executive Director, 7333 Greenleaf Ave., Whittier, CA 90602

RMC Tasklist and Timeline

Performance Begin and End Date: August 2025 - August 2028

[illegible]

June 23, 2025

RESOLUTION 2025-03

RESOLUTION OF THE PUENTE HILLS HABITAT PRESERVATION
AUTHORITY APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FUNDS FOR THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
WILDFIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM, FOR
Puente Hills Fire Resiliency
PROJECT

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of General Funds by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) for California Proposition 4, also known as the Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure; and

WHEREAS, The RMC has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the grant program in its jurisdiction, setting up necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the RMC require the Applicant's Governing Body to certify by resolution the approval of the Application before submission of said Application to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant will enter into a contract with the State of California for the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority hereby;

Approves the filing of an Application for Grant Funds from the RMC; and

Certifies that the Puente Hills Fire Resiliency Project is consistent with local or regional land use plans or Programs (or if it is not, that the project is still approved); and

Certifies that the Project is consistent with the goals of Proposition 4 including protecting communities from wildfire risks, including creating defensible space and improving firebreaks; and

Certifies that the Application has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project that is being submitted for funding consideration; and

Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed and understands the General Requirements and General Policies of the RMC Grant Program Guidelines; and

Finds that this action and Puente Hills Fire Resiliency project are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (or if it is not, that the project is still approved); and

Appoints and authorizes the Executive Director (or her designee) as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute, and submit all documents including, but not limited to Applications,

agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the Project.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board of Directors, and the Board Secretary shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority at this special meeting of June 23, 2025 by the following vote.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Abstentions: _____

Signature

Chair of Board of Directors

----- CERTIFICATION OF RESOLUTION -----

ATTEST:

I Carlos Zelaya, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, witness my hand on the 23rd of June, 2025.

Signature

MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: June 17, 2025

To: Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Agenda Item IX. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution No. 2025-__ Declaring June as Pride Month.

Background:

According to the United States Library of Congress, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan which included a series of riots for gay liberation. The Stonewall Uprising was stated as a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. Nationally, the last Sunday in June was initially celebrated as "Gay Pride Day," but the day varied. In cities across the nation the "day" soon grew to include many days and month-long series of events. Memorials are held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS. Just as Pride Month has evolved over time, so too has the acronym to include Intersex and Asexual members of the community (LGBTQIA+). The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that LGBTQIA+ individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Authority's policies support safe trails for all. The Authority's messaging has promoted building an inclusive outdoor space and the right for all people to feel welcome and to enjoy the trails.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact.

Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution 2025-__.

Attachments:

Attached is Authority Resolution 2025-__ recognizing June as Pride Month.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-__

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Declaring June as Pride Month

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the “Authority”) finds that the Authority’s management of the Puente Hills Preserve plays an important role in our communities to welcome and include all people regardless of race, income, ability, age, nationality, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, or any other identity.

WHEREAS, the Board acknowledges the importance of building inclusive outdoor space, making outdoors safe and welcoming for the positive development of all persons, including members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA+) community.

WHEREAS, the Board finds the trails of the beautiful Puente Hills Preserve are for all to safely enjoy as a respite from the urban life, in reverence of nature, recreation, creating memories and strengthening social bonds.

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the Authority is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging, as well as a strong belief in the civil and constitutional rights of all individuals across our great nation.

WHEREAS, the Authority acknowledges and supports that no matter your age, race, creed, gender, or sexual orientation, individuals should be treated with respect and dignity and be able to live without fear no matter who they love.

WHEREAS, the long battle for inclusion has led to much positive progress toward changing the hearts and minds of people in many parts of the world, which in turn, has helped pave the way for a more inclusive society where LGBTQIA+ individuals can live freely, safely, and free from discrimination.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Director of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority recognizes the month of June as Pride Month to celebrate and honor the LGBTQIA+ community, and invites everyone to reflect on ways we can live together with mutual respect and understanding.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting held on the 23rd day of June 2025.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINS:

ABSENT:

Chair, Board of Directors
Ivan Sulic

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board of Directors
Carlos Zelaya

MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: June 17, 2025

To: Citizens Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared by: Andrea Gullo, Executive Director

Agenda Item X. Discussion and recommendation to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution No. 2025-__ Declaring July as Parks Month.

Background:

Throughout the state and nation, cities and counties have celebrated July as Parks and Recreation Month for decades. This recognition promotes building a strong, vibrant, and resilient community through the power of open space, parks and recreation.

Professional organizations such as the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) and the California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) recognize July as Parks and Recreation Month. The NRPA recognizes Parks and Recreation Month with the theme “Build Together, Play Together,” which reminds us of the contributions of more than 160,000 full-time park and recreation professionals — along with hundreds of thousands of part-time and seasonal workers and volunteers — who maintain our country’s close-to-home parks. The CPRS has released a statewide public awareness campaign, “Parks Make Life Better!®” to inform citizens of the many benefits of utilizing parks, facilities, programs, and services.

Open space, parks and recreation is essential and holds a fundamental role in the community, including preserving native habitats and wildlife that live there, promoting health and wellness, supporting economic vitality, and uniting people and strengthening communities. The Authority is a part of the broader Parks community and supports these overall messages in its policies and practices.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact.

Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend to the Board of Directors to adopt Resolution 2025-__.

Attachments:

Attached is Authority Resolution 2025-__ recognizing July as Parks Month.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-__

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority Declaring the Month of July as Parks Month

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority (the “Authority”) finds that the Authority’s management of the Puente Hills Preserve contributes to the wellness of the local community.

WHEREAS, this resolution recognizes the importance of equitable access to local park and open space, recreation, trails, open space, and facilities for the positive development of all and their communities.

WHEREAS, parks and open space sustain and steward our natural resources by protecting habitats and wildlife, connecting people to nature, and promoting the ecological function of parkland.

WHEREAS, parks and open space promote physical, emotional, and mental health and wellness through organized and self-directed fitness and activity.

WHEREAS, parks and open space increase a community’s economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction.

WHEREAS, parks and open space foster social cohesiveness in communities by celebrating diversity, providing spaces to come together peacefully, modeling compassion, promoting social equity, connecting social networks, and ensuring all people have access to its benefits.

WHEREAS, parks and open space facilitate community problem and issue resolution by providing safe spaces to come together peacefully and serving as key points of service, helping our communities heal both physically and emotionally.

WHEREAS, parks and open space support safe, vibrant, attractive, progressive communities that make life better through positive alternatives offered in their recreational opportunities.

WHEREAS, parks and open space remain versatile and innovative in providing vital services to communities through local, national, or global emergencies, all while adhering to guidelines set forth by governing agencies.

WHEREAS, the California Park & Recreation Society has released a statewide public awareness campaign, “Parks Make Life Better!” to inform citizens of the many benefits of utilizing parks, facilities, programs, and services.

WHEREAS, the National Parks and Recreation Association has celebrated Park and Recreation Month in July for nearly 40 years to promote building strong, vibrant and resilient communities through the power of parks and recreation.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority resolves to recognize the importance of access to local parks, trails, open space, and facilities for the health, wellness, development, inspiration, and safety of all Californians; and be it further resolved, that we declare the month of June 2025 as Parks Month.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED at a meeting held on the 23rd day of June 2025.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINS:

ABSENT:

Chair, Board of Directors
Ivan Sulic

ATTEST:

Secretary to the Board of Directors
Carlos Zelaya

Additional Materials

FW: Opposition to changes to the Endangered Species Act

From Andrea Gullo <agullo@habitatauthority.org>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 12:55 PM

To Michelle Mariscal <mmariscal@habitatauthority.org>; Carlos Zelaya <czelaya@habitatauthority.org>

fyi

From: Senator Alex Padilla <Senator_Padilla@padilla.senate.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 12:53 PM

To: Andrea Gullo <agullo@habitatauthority.org>

Subject: Re: Opposition to changes to the Endangered Species Act

ALEX PADILLA
CALIFORNIA

(202) 224-3553
PADILLA.SENATE.GOV

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
BUDGET
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
JUDICIARY
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Dear Ms. Gullo,

Thank you for writing to share your support for protecting wildlife. I appreciate hearing from you.

For decades, the *Endangered Species Act* (Public Law 95-632) has protected threatened and endangered fish, wildlife, and plants from extinction, saving hundreds of species and advancing the recovery of many more. I share your strong support for the *Endangered Species Act* and for the conservation of vulnerable wildlife habitats. You may be interested to know that I was a proud supporter of the bipartisan “Recovering America’s Wildlife Act” (S.1149), introduced by Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM), which would have invested in conservation efforts to support the long-term health of fish and wildlife habitats across the nation. This bill would have helped at-risk wildlife before they require listing under the *Endangered Species Act* while also helping recover those species already listed as threatened or endangered.

In addition, you may be pleased to know that I introduced the “Wildlife Movement Through Partnerships Act” (S. 4953). This bipartisan legislation would have improved and supported collaboration across jurisdictions to improve habitat connectivity and migration corridors. Protecting and creating wildlife corridors is crucial to better conserving, restoring, and enhancing migration routes, preventing biodiversity loss, and reducing habitat fragmentation. Specifically, the bill would have established several programs at the Department of the Interior to conserve, restore, or enhance habitat, migration routes, and connectivity. S. 1149 and S. 4953 did not pass the Senate in the 118th Congress and they have yet to be reintroduced this Congress.

Finally, I am proud to lead efforts in Congress to secure more funding and resources to protect vulnerable species from extinction. For example, I am fighting for increased funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Endangered Species Recovery Challenge Grant program, which has helped restore species like the California condor, which now number over 500 – rebounding from a recent low of just 22 birds. Increased funding for these proven public-private partnerships can lead to similar success for other species.

Please know that I appreciate hearing your perspective on this issue. As a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works, which has jurisdiction over implementation of the *Endangered Species Act* and wildlife protection, I will continue to support legislation to protect our treasured species and their habitats.

Once again, thank you for writing. Should you have any other questions or comments, please call my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 224-3553 or visit my website at padilla.senate.gov. You can also follow me on [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#), and you can sign up for my email newsletter at padilla.senate.gov/newsletter.

Sincerely,



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Andrea Gullo
Executive Director



Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

Endowment Provided by the Puente Hills Landfill

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Los Angeles County

Cassandra Garcia
Director
Hacienda Heights

June 6, 2025

Rafferty Wooldridge
City Manager
City of La Habra Heights, California
1245 N. Hacienda Road
La Habra Heights, CA 90631
rwooldridge@lhcity.org

Dear Mr. Wooldridge:

As of February 2026, the term Catherine Houwen is serving on our Citizens Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) will be complete. Please provide written notification via email of the City Council's recommendation as soon as possible or no later than January 2, 2026, to have uninterrupted representation on the Committee by reappointing Ms. Houwen or providing a replacement for the new term running to February 2030.

Per Habitat Authority Board Resolution 97-01 Section 2a, the City's written recommendation regarding its prospective CTAC member will be subject to the appointment by the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

Thank you for your continued support of the CTAC. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or Program Analyst Carlos Zelaya at (562) 945-9003 or czelaya@HabitatAuthority.org.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gullo
Executive Director

Encl.
CTAC Members' Term Schedule
CTAC Fact Sheet
Application with Resolution 97-01



Andrea Gullo
Executive Director



Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

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Los Angeles County

Cassandra Garcia
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Hacienda Heights

June 6, 2025

Conal McNamara
City Manager
City of Whittier, California
13230 Penn Street
Whittier, CA 90602
cmcnamara@cityofwhittier.org

Dear Mr. McNamara:

As of February 2026, the term Shelley Andros is serving on our Citizens Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) will be complete. Please provide written notification via email as soon as possible or no later than January 2, 2026, to have uninterrupted representation on the Committee by reappointing Ms. Andros or providing a replacement for the new term running to February 2030.

Per Habitat Authority Board Resolution 97-01 Section 2a, the City's written recommendation regarding its prospective CTAC member will be subject to the appointment by the Board of Directors of the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority.

Thank you for your continued support of the CTAC. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or Program Analyst Carlos Zelaya at (562) 945-9003 or czelaya@HabitatAuthority.org.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gullo
Executive Director

Encl.
CTAC Members' Term Schedule
CTAC Fact Sheet
Application with Resolution 97-01



Andrea Gullo
Executive Director



Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority

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Hacienda Heights

June 6, 2025

The Honorable Hilda Solis
Office of The Supervisors, First District
822 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 856
Los Angeles, CA 90012
firstdistrict@bos.lacounty.gov

Dear Supervisor Solis:

As of February 2026, Matthew Liang's term on our Citizens Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC) will be complete. Please provide written notification via email as soon as possible or no later than January 2, 2026, to have uninterrupted representation on the Committee by reappointing Mr. Liang or providing a replacement for the new term running to February 2030. Additionally, one vacancy remains on the CTAC with a term ending in 2029. Per the attached Habitat Authority Board Resolution 97-01 Section 2a, your written recommendation regarding your prospective CTAC members will be subject to appointment by the Board of Directors of the Habitat Authority. Please indicate with your recommendations which term you would like your nominees to be assigned.

Thank you for your continued support of the CTAC. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or Program Analyst Carlos Zelaya at (562) 945-9003 or czelaya@HabitatAuthority.org.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gullo
Executive Director

Encl.
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