

DATE: June 18, 2026
TO: WCA Governing Board
FROM: Robert Segarra, Senior Director of Project Management
THROUGH: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 12: Consideration of a resolution ratifying the Executive Officer's execution of an agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy accepting a grant of \$1,600,000 for the acquisition of West Coyote Hills

RECOMMENDATION

That the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) Governing Board adopt a resolution ratifying the Executive Officer's execution of a grant agreement with the California State Coastal Conservancy to receive \$1,600,000 for West Coyote Hills acquisition and related activities.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) has awarded the WCA a \$1,600,000 grant to support the acquisition of West Coyote Hills, the last remaining large contiguous natural open space in north Orange County, located in the City of Fullerton. The grant funds the acquisition of the remaining Pacific Coast Homes property to preserve it for the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and cultural resources and compatible public access.

The acquisition is being pursued under the Purchase and Sale Agreement the Board authorized the Executive Officer to execute on May 21, 2026 (Resolution 2026-18). The State Coastal Conservancy grant is one of several funding sources the WCA has assembled for the acquisition.

BACKGROUND

The State Coastal Conservancy authorized the \$1,600,000 grant for West Coyote Hills at its April 2026 meeting. The grant agreement requires evidence of the WCA's authorization to enter into the agreement.

Because of the time-sensitivity of the acquisition and the State Coastal Conservancy's execution timeline, the WCA Executive Officer executed the Grant Agreement on May 29, 2026, under the authority of the Executive Officer. Staff requests that the Governing Board ratify that execution and confirm the Executive Officer's authorization to enter into and finalize the Agreement.

The WCA has assembled a consortium of state and federal funding partners to acquire the property. Identified commitments include: RMC (\$2,000,000, executed Sep 2024); State Coastal Conservancy (\$53,225,000, \$1.6M tranche confirmed 2/23/2026, additional pending 12/1/2026 SCC board meeting); Wildlife Conservation Board (\$10,000,000, revised from original \$20,000,000 request, pending 11/19/2026 WCB board meeting); U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Section 6 (\$10,000,000, pending 11/19/2026 WCB board meeting); and private funding (\$3,000,000, pending donor confirmation). Total identified: \$78,225,000. Securing \$16,775,000 in additional funding is required to meet the \$95,000,000 purchase price.

EXHIBITS

1. [Exhibit A: Executed State Coastal Conservancy Grant Agreement](#)

FISCAL INFORMATION

Approval of this item ratifies a grant agreement that provides \$1,600,000 in State Coastal Conservancy funds to the WCA, restricted to the acquisition of West Coyote Hills. No WCA discretionary funds are committed by this action.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
State Coastal Conservancy
GRANT AGREEMENT
Grant - Rev 11/20

Exhibit A

Item 12

AGREEMENT NUMBER G25-079	AM. NO.
TAXPAYERS FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 13-4278200	

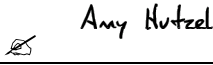
THIS AGREEMENT is entered into this 29th day of May, 2026 in the State of California, by and between:

AGENCY State Coastal Conservancy	and
GRANTEE'S NAME Watershed Conservation Authority	

Pursuant to Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the California Public Resources Code, the State Coastal Conservancy ("the Conservancy") hereby grants to Watershed Conservation Authority ("the grantee") a sum not to exceed \$1,600,000.00 (one million six hundred thousand dollars) subject to this agreement.

Continued on the following pages.

The provisions on the following pages constitute a part of this agreement.
This agreement has been executed by the parties as shown below.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA		GRANTEE		
AGENCY State Coastal Conservancy	GRANTEE (If other than an individual, state whether a corporation, partnership, etc.) Watershed Conservation Authority			
BY (Authorized Signature) 	BY (Authorized Signature) 			
PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING Amy Hutzel, Executive Officer	PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING Mark Stanley, Executive Officer			
ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER 1515 Clay Street, 10 th Floor Oakland, CA 94612 Phone: (510) 286-1015	ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER 100 North Old San Gabriel Canyon Road Azusa, CA 91702 Phone: (626) 815-1019			
AMOUNT ENCUMBERED BY THIS DOCUMENT \$ 1,600,000.00	PROGRAM/CATEGORY Local Assistance	FUND TITLE/PROP NO. General Fund		
PRIOR AMOUNT ENCUMBERED FOR THIS AGREEMENT \$ -0-	FUND ITEM 3760-(1011)10123-0001 Reap. by Ch. 12/23	CHAPTER 14/17	STATUTE 2017	FISCAL YEAR 17/18
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCUMBERED TO DATE \$ 1,600,000.00	PROJECT NAME West Coyote Hills Acquisition			
I hereby certify upon my own personal knowledge that budgeted funds are available for the period and purpose of the expenditure stated above.				
NAME AND SIGNATURE OF <u>ACCOUNTING</u> OFFICER 		DATE 5/29/2026		

I certify that this agreement is exempt from Department of General Services' approval.

Erika Gomez
Procurement and
Contracts Manager



☐

June 18, 2026 – Item 12

RESOLUTION 2026-22

**CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE
EXECUTION OF THE STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
GRANT AGREEMENT PROVIDING \$1,600,000 FOR THE
ACQUISITION OF WEST COYOTE HILLS**

WHEREAS, The Watershed Conservation Authority has been established as a joint powers agency between the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District); and

WHEREAS, The Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has further been established to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) awarded the WCA a \$1,600,000 grant for the acquisition of West Coyote Hills, the last remaining large contiguous natural open space in north Orange County, to preserve the property for the protection, restoration, and enhancement of natural and cultural resources and compatible public access;

WHEREAS, The grant supports the acquisition of the remaining Pacific Coast Homes property being pursued under the Purchase and Sale Agreement the Board authorized the Executive Officer to execute on May 21, 2026 (Resolution 2026-18);

WHEREAS, The State Coastal Conservancy Grant Agreement requires evidence of the WCA's authorization to enter into the Agreement, and the Executive Officer executed the Agreement on May 29, 2026, in light of the acquisition's time-sensitivity;

WHEREAS, The WCA Governing Board desires to ratify the Executive Officer's execution of the Grant Agreement and to authorize the Executive Officer to finalize the Agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, The proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act; NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the WCA hereby:

1. **FINDS** that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the WCA.
2. **FINDS** that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Resolution 2026-22

3. **ADOPTS** the staff report dated June 18, 2026.
4. **RATIFIES** the Executive Officer's execution, on May 29, 2026, of the State Coastal Conservancy Grant Agreement providing \$1,600,000 to the WCA for the acquisition of West Coyote Hills.

~ End of Resolution ~

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Motion: _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
On June 18, 2026

Vincent Chang
Governing Board Chair

ATTEST: _____
John Natalizio
Deputy Attorney General