

ANTELOPE VALLEY CONSERVANCY PO Box 8, Lake Hughes, CA 93532--0008 Tele (661) 943-9000

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"Biological integrity, fiscal accountability, and community transparency"

September 26, 2024

Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District c/o Department of Parks and Recreation 1000 S. Fremont Ave, Unit #40 Building A-9 East, Ground Floor Alhambra, CA 91803

RE: City of Palmdale: Measure A Acquisition Grant Support Letter

To Whom It May Concern,

The Antelope Valley Conservancy would like to express strong support for the City of Palmdale's application to the Measure A Acquisition-Only grant program, for acquisition of 10 parcels in the Una Lake/Barrel Springs area of Palmdale for open space recreation and watershed conservation. AVC strongly encourages your approval for the acquisition of these lands that provide critical open space for members of the community to exercise and appreciate nature.

Residents of all ages and walks of life use this area for recreation and nature education. Local track teams and scouting troops utilize these lands for outdoor recreational activities. Los Angeles County Sheriffs train here for their annual Ironman competitions. Birdwatchers can observe species ranging from Phainopepla to Red-tailed hawks, which live and breed in the area. Bobcats and mountain lions have been seen accessing water from the streams and Una Lake. And the area is home to the Barrel Springs Trail and Barrel Springs Equestrian Arena, gems of our historically rural area.

Antelope Valley Conservancy has preserved local habitats here for 19 years, and invested many volunteer hours and grant funds trying to acquire and steward the lands that are included in this acquisition, from hosting cleanups to developing and garnering California Department of Fish & Wildlife approval for the Rift Zone Conceptual Area Preservation Plan (CAPP) that includes this area.

For this multitude of reasons, Antelope Valley Conservancy is proud to support the City of Palmdale's application to the Measure A Acquisition-only Competitive Grant Program.

By Resolution of the Board of Directors of ANTELOPE VALLEY CONSERVANCY

Attested by Wendy Schiff, Corporate Secretary

M. J. Schip