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Honorable California Coastal Commission South Central Coast District Office 89 S. California Street, Suite 200 Ventura, CA 93001

April 4, 2014

Re: SUPPORT - Agenda Item No. Th 17a and 17b –
Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program LCP)

Honorable Commissioners:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, representing 44 homeowner and resident associations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains, voted to support your staff's recommendation to certify the Santa Monica Mountains Land Use Plan on April 10th, and we hope you will do so without delay.

This critical plan preserves our most sensitive coastal resources and our most spectacular view sheds in the heart of the Santa Monica Mountains, while enacting critical protections against the wrong kind of development – including those on ridgelines, in riparian areas, and in native woodlands. It will stop the spread of commercial agriculture which threatens to take over the native chaparral and sage scrub environment with water - and pesticide-intensive commercial operations that degrade the water quality of our streams and beaches. It will limit grading, retaining walls, and access roads that scar the hillsides. In short, the LCP sets a new standard for hillside preservation.

Just as important, the LCP will promote public access by expanding trail uses and providing for a variety of visitor serving uses. This portion of the Santa Monica Mountains is an irreplaceable recreational resource for the millions of Southern Californians who live in urbanized areas and need an opportunity to enjoy and learn about nature. This rural refuge – just minutes from Los Angeles' densest neighborhoods – must be saved and the LCP will do just that.

There are many places where people can go to visit wineries (we have them in downtown Los Angeles) or see commercial centers. But, there is only one Santa Monica Mountains. The Mountains – its ridgelines, habitat, streams, and beaches – are a public resource that should be preserved for all of us and for all time.

Please approve the Santa Monica Mountains Land Use Plan on April 10th.

Sincerely,

Marian Dodge Marian Dodge

cc: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky