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For Immediate Release

City of Rancho Palos Verdes, in collaboration with Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy Acquires Additional Open Space in City

On February 28, 2014, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes purchased approximately 58 acres in the Malaga Canyon from two private property owners. The purchase is part of efforts over the past two decades by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC) in partnership with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes to target funding as well as community support for local open space acquisition. The recent land purchase was made with funds from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Habitat Conservation Planning Acquisition grant and a Wildlife Conservation Board grant in the amount of \$1,114,000.

Malaga Canyon consists of undeveloped open space in the northern part of Rancho Palos Verdes within the Grandview neighborhood. The Canyon crosses under Montemalga Drive and flows into the City of Palos Verdes Estates. The seven parcels purchased include approximately 38.50 acres of Open Space Hazard and approximately 19.25 acres of residential zoning.

On April 1, 2014 the City Council of Rancho Palos Verdes approved enrolling these 58 acres into Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. The lands will become a part of the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve when a conservation easement is recorded on the lands and granted to the Conservancy. Conservation easements are voluntary, permanent conservation agreements placed on a property by the landowner. The easement must be held by a non-profit land trust or public agency.

“After many years of the City and the Conservancy working together looking for ways to acquire this increasingly rare coastal open space, a Federal Grant has provided the opportunity for that acquisition so that residents and visitors can enjoy the solitude of the preserves and which will be kept open for the public to enjoy forever” said Mayor Pro Tem Jim Knight, City of Rancho Palos Verdes. The Forrestal, Three Sisters, Portuguese Bend and Filiorum properties all have been acquired over the past two decades and placed in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve.

“It is rewarding to achieve these land acquisition agreements and to provide the community with additional lands dedicated to the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve” said Andrea Vona, Executive Director, Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy.

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to preserving land and restoring habitat for the enjoyment and education of all. The Conservancy owns or manages the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, the Linden H. Chandler and George F Canyon Preserves in Rolling Hills Estates the White Point Nature Preserve, a facility of the LA City Department of Recreation and Parks, and habitat restoration on the Defense Fuel Supply Point in San Pedro.

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