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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2017

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COYOTE MANAGEMENT – A REGIONAL APPROACH

TORRANCE – In early January the South Bay Cities Council of governments (SBCCOG) hosted a Coyote Management Task Force to discuss a regional approach to the coyote issues that almost all South Bay cities are experiencing.

Representatives from 10 cities and about 50 people attended the meeting for the full agenda of speakers who gave presentations on the need to educate residents that they should not be leaving ‘attractors’ out for the coyotes such as food or water for cats and dogs. Also, there was an emphasis on respecting the coyotes and managing the problems that occur.

Speakers included Kent Smirl, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and one of his volunteers for the Wildlife Watch Program, Dave Dodge; Bob Wieder, Pest Management Division, Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures, Hoang Dinh, Wildlife Specialist officer with LA City Animal Services; and Dan Fox, Owner, Animal Pest Management Services Urban Wildlife Biologist.

City representatives will be attending some important workshops in February put on by State and County agencies and after those take place, the SBCCOG will hold another meeting which will focus on how we can extend the Torrance Management Plan to other cities since they seem to be the farthest along. All agreed that the regional approach was extremely important. The speaker from the State Fish and Wildlife Department said that this was the first meeting to develop a regional approach that he had heard of.

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