

# Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program Hayashi

## Measure M2 Overview

In 2006, Orange County voters approved the renewal of Measure M, effectively extending the half-cent sales tax in the County from April 2011 to March 2041. Renewed Measure M (or Measure M2) will continue to provide funding for transportation projects and programs in the County, including select freeway and roadway improvements, transit programs, and two environmental programs.

OCTA's M2 Freeway Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) provides comprehensive mitigation to offset the environmental impacts of the 13 Measure M2-funded freeway projects. The EMP is spearheaded by the Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC), which is made up of OCTA Board members and representatives from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), resource agencies, environmental groups, and the public.



## Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP)

Instead of mitigating the natural resource impacts of Measure M2 freeway projects on a project-by-project basis, the EMP presents a comprehensive mitigation approach that not only replaces habitat, but also provides the opportunity to improve the overall functions and value of sensitive biological resources throughout Orange County. Working collaboratively with the resource and regulatory agencies, it was ultimately decided by OCTA that creation of a Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)/Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)/Master Streambed Alteration Agreement (MSAA) would best serve as the main implementation tool for the EMP.

Based on the evaluation of mitigation opportunities in the County, Priority Conservation Areas (PCA) were identified, which included candidate parcels and properties that could be considered for open space purposes. A standardized criteria and prioritization process was also developed to facilitate the property evaluation and assessment. Properties for acquisition and restoration were selected based on:

- Conservation Values
- Policy Considerations
- Mitigation Credits
- Mitigation Plan Review and Adoption and
- Real Estate Value/Economics.



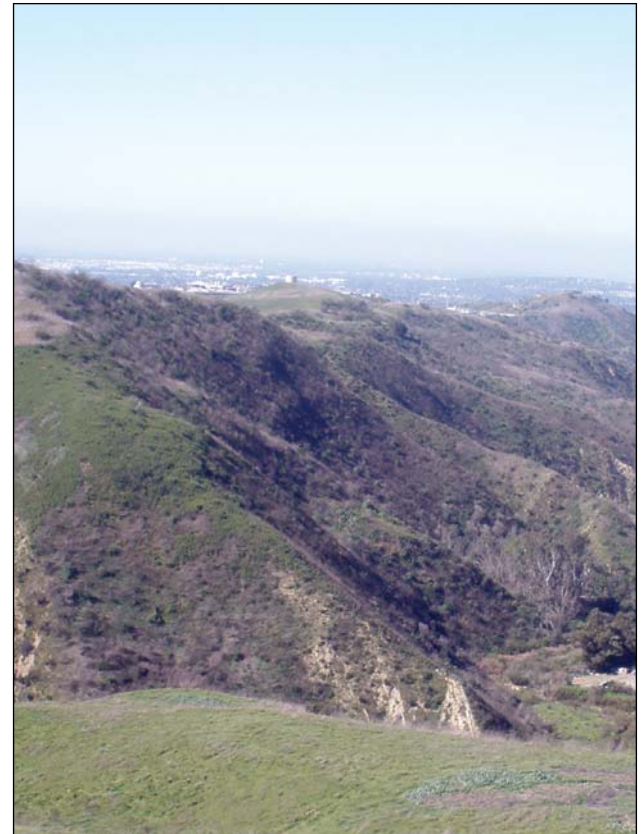
# Hayashi

The Hayashi property is a 296-acre parcel located southeast of Carbon Canyon Road (State Route 142) in the City of Brea, just northwest of the Chino Hills State Park. This property is located within the Chino Hills Core habitat area, which forms the northeastern border of the County. It features a rolling terrain, with elevations ranging from 650 to 1260 feet above mean sea level, and is defined by northeast-southwest trending hills on both sides of Soquel Canyon Creek.

The property supports chaparral, grassland, riparian, coastal sage scrub, and woodland vegetation. It is part of large blocks of undeveloped land in the Chino Hills, which provide habitat for sensitive species, including the coastal California Gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, Braunton's milkvetch, Riverside fairy shrimp, coastal cactus wren, orange throated whiptail, intermediate mariposa lily, southern California black walnut, many-stemmed dudleya, and foraging habitat for raptors, including golden eagles.

The Hayashi property has been identified as a PCA in the Conservation Assessment, and given priority for acquisition due to high/very high landscape integrity and biodiversity. Preservation of the Hayashi property would maintain the integrity of open space areas within the Chino Hills; protect wildlife migration and connectivity between the Puente Hills to the northwest and Santa Ana Mountains to the south; and conserve core populations of filtered species, including coastal cactus wren, coastal California gnatcatcher, mountain lion, and bobcat.

This property is located within the City of Brea's Carbon Canyon Specific Plan area and has a land use designation of Very Low Density Residential. Using the City's Average Slope Range, approximately 15 dwelling units could be developed on the Hayashi property. However, OCTA's acquisition of this property will, instead, provide additional open space areas to the 14,173-acre Chino Hills State Park.



The Chino Hills core habitat area supports a variety of habitats, including California walnut woodland and core populations of filtered species. Key conservation objectives for the Chino Hills core habitat area include:

- Minimize internal fragmentation and maintain connectivity to the Puente Hills and Santa Ana Mountains;
- Maintain the integrity of Chino Hills State Park;
- Conserve regionally under-protected vegetation communities (California walnut woodland, coastal mixed hardwood, riparian mixed hardwood, willow, annual grasses and forbs);
- Conserve core populations of filtered species, including coastal cactus wren, coastal California gnatcatcher, mountain lion, and bobcat.

Acquisition of the Hayashi property supports the preservation efforts of various entities that have long sought the conservation of open space resources in the Chino Hills.



Many-Stemmed Dudleya