



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: August 15, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of \$50,000 from Proposition 84 funds to the Wildwoods Foundation for interpretive program delivery at Vista Hermosa Natural Park.**

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Board authorize a grant of \$50,000 from Proposition 84 funds to the Wildwoods Foundation for interpretive program delivery at Vista Hermosa Natural Park ..

Background: The goal of the Wildwoods Foundation, which is a project of the non profit Community partners, is to foster an urban population that is aware of, and concerned about their surrounding environment — both the natural world and their urban community — and mindful of their impact upon that environment.

As a partner organization to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, they have extended traditional outdoor education to on site programming at urban schools, working closely with MRCA staff at Franklin Canyon Park. In order to supplement interpretive staff and serve a wider audience at Vista Hermosa Natural Park, staff recommends this grant to the Wildwoods Foundation for two programmatic purposes.

First, the implementation of their weekend “family day camp” program, called Tribes. Tribes is a series of outdoor education sessions, much like Junior Rangers, but it is designed to be a full family experience. We believe this will complement other MRCA efforts at the park.

The second piece of the grant is for on site field trips from local elementary and middle schools near Vista Hermosa to the park for a naturalist program. These school programs will begin in the Fall..

This grant was originally budgeted in the 2007-08 Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy budget and was part of the MRCA grant application for Proposition 84 funds for that year.