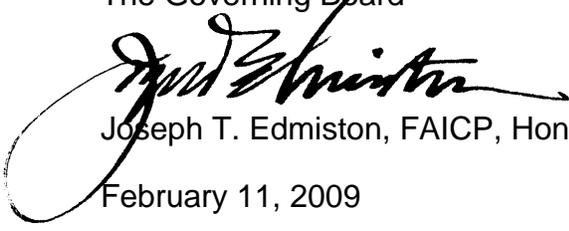


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 11, 2009

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(c): Consideration of resolution approving the application for Land and Water Conservation Fund Franklin Canyon Park project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the application for Land and Water Conservation Fund Franklin Canyon Park project.

Background: The California Department of Parks and Recreation is accepting applications for a competitive program funded by the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The Land and Water Conservation Fund program provides funds for statewide planning, and for acquiring and developing outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The program is administered nationally by the National Park Service and was initially established in September 1964. Funds for the program are derived from federal recreation fees, sales of federal surplus real property, the federal motorboat fuels tax and the Outer Continental Shelf mineral receipts.

Eligible projects include acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Priority development projects include trails, campgrounds, picnic areas, natural areas and cultural areas for recreational use. Property acquired or developed under the program must be retained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreation use. Unlike many other competitive programs, rehabilitation and refurbishment of existing park facilities are eligible.

Staff are developing an LWCF application for improvements to the amphitheater and picnic areas of Franklin Canyon Park. Improvements may include replacement of seating, repairs to fencing, native plant restoration, and upgrades to restrooms. The 50% matching fund requirement will be met by an existing grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Although those funds are currently frozen, State Parks staff have confirmed that they are still considered a committed match. Additionally, it is likely that the funds will be un-frozen by the time the LWCF agreement will need to be executed.