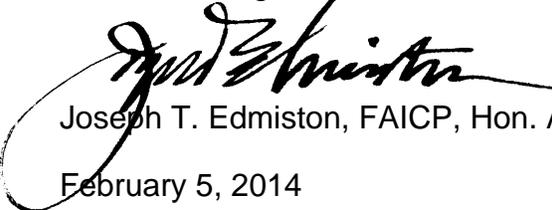


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 5, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(e): Consideration of resolution authorizing adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Lopez Canyon Park Improvements funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution adopting a Youth Employment Plan for the Lopez Canyon Park Improvements funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.

Background: Lopez Canyon Park is a 125-acre property acquired in 2008 adjacent to the Angeles National Forest. The property includes numerous existing trails and offers the best alignments for the Rim of the Valley Trail between Pacoima and Kagel canyons, as well as direct access to the national forest via the Kagel Canyon Truck Trail to the northeast, Indian Canyon Lateral to the south, and Pacoima Motorway to the southwest. Funding for the acquisition and recreational improvements was provided by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (Prop A).

MRCA plans to develop a regional multi-use trailhead at Lopez Canyon Park using remaining Prop A funds. The trailhead will include a parking lot for both equestrian trailers and passenger vehicles, a connection to Kagel Canyon Truck Trail, a widened driveway, restroom, potable water, gates, fencing and signage. Disturbed areas will be planted with native species. Two existing Prop A grants will be used to fund the improvements.

Proposition A requires that, as a condition of receipt of funds, grantees must spend a minimum amount on the employment of at-risk youth and adopt a Youth Employment Plan for each individual project. The proposed Youth Employment Plan for the Lopez Canyon Park improvements is attached. The tasks to be completed by youth include erosion management and the planting of trees and shrubs at the Lopez Canyon Park Trailhead.