

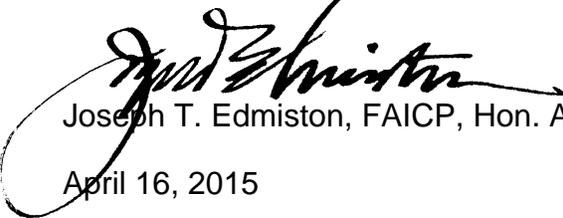


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 16, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Malibu Canyon Tributaries and adjacent Watersheds project planning and design funding.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Malibu Canyon Tributaries and adjacent Watersheds project planning and design in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Background: The MRCA develops and implements a wide range of projects for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) including through project planning and design grants. To continue this effort to secure and develop land interests and public recreation resources in the Conservancy's jurisdiction, staff is seeking authorization to submit a project planning and design grant application to the Conservancy. This proposed grant application is for the Malibu Canyon Tributaries and adjacent Watersheds project planning and design project.

Malibu Canyon, its tributaries, and their immediately adjoining watersheds form the central ecological core habitat and trail hub of the Santa Monica Mountains. Although many large public holdings are secured in this domain, there are a myriad of small and medium parcels that buffer, augment, and connect these larger core habitat areas even across the 101 freeway. Although large dollar amounts for capital projects may be on the decline for this area, there is a huge need to secure land donations and dedications, including trail dedications. This has remained one of the highest priority acquisition areas for most public agencies for decades. It is imperative to have funding available to seize on lost cost acquisition opportunities.

A map of the proposed grant scope area is attached. It includes key areas north of the 101 freeway and as far west as upper Triunfo Canyon. To the east it includes all of the Cold Creek and Stokes Canyon watersheds.