



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: August 3, 2016

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of funds for trail purposes pursuant to the Pepperdine University Campus Life Project, Conditional Use Permit No. R2007-00203, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of funds for trail purposes pursuant to the Pepperdine University Campus Life Project, Conditional Use Permit No. R2007-00203, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Background: On May 4, 2011, the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission approved the Pepperdine University Campus Life Project, Conditional Use Permit No. R2007-00203. The project consists of approximately 394 ,000 net new square feet of development, onsite grading, and parking within the Pepperdine University campus boundaries.

Pepperdine University voluntarily included conditions to the project as recommended by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) that would, among other things, transfer approximately \$58,400 currently held in escrow in an interest-bearing account by the University, including any potentially accrued interest, to an entity designated by the Conservancy for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, and realigning trails within the Santa Monica Mountains.

The Conservancy has designated the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) to be the accepting agency of these funds. The MRCA is knowledgeable and experienced in constructing, maintaining, and realigning trails over a variety of mountainous terrains. Thus, the MRCA is in the best position to accept these funds and carry out the purposes of the funds.

The funds are slated for use towards constructing and maintaining the proposed section of the Coastal Slope Trail and Mesa Peak Trail that extends from the MRCA-owned Puerco Canyon Open Space to adjacent University property. The MRCA is currently in negotiations with Pepperdine University to realign a key trail easement over University property that would make this trail extension possible.