



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: March 7, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII: Consideration of resolution authorizing a sole source contract with Fulcrum Adventures, Inc. services related to outdoor education challenge courses for MRCA youth programs.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a sole source contract with Fulcrum Adventures, Inc. services related to outdoor education challenge courses for MRCA youth programs.

Background: The Division of Interpretation of the MRCA recommends adding low and high challenge course components to our curriculum at Temescal Canyon Field Science Program as well as utilizing these programs for our junior ranger programs and special events with youth. Staff finds that such programs enhance student learning, help develop team and leadership skills and are an exciting way to illustrate concepts in the natural world through physical activities. However the MRCA is not currently able to staff such activities with existing camp staff, nor do we currently have the training, proper equipment, or expertise.

As a provider of team building, experiential education, outdoor education and challenge course programs throughout the Santa Monica Mountains, Fulcrum Adventures, Inc. funded, built and maintain the high ropes course in Temescal Canyon. They will provide staffing and insurance coverage for any high ropes initiatives. Fulcrum Adventures, Inc. not only has unique experience serving the targeted audiences of MRCA programs, but they are uniquely suited to train MRCA staff to facilitate these programs in the future.

The sole source contract with Fulcrum Adventures, Inc. will not exceed \$27,500. Funding for this contract will come from both the Los Angeles Unified School District contract for science camp, private donations, and grant funds which fund junior ranger programs. The contemplated budget includes training, three junior ranger events (rock wall) and 16 camp sessions. However these numbers may be altered slightly as we schedule programs for the spring and summer of 2007.

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Budget:

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| 16 Camp sessions, 35 participants each session | \$17,600 |
| Climbing wall - wall and staff for special events 2@ \$1,500 | \$ 3,000 |
| Training for MRCA staff (15 staff) | \$ 6,900 |
| Total | \$27,500 |