



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: December 5, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of an augmentation to Grant No. SMM-0605 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Franklin Canyon Improvements using Proposition 50 funds.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of an augmentation to Grant No. SMM-0605 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Franklin Canyon Improvements using Proposition 50 funds.

Background: On January 23, 2006, the Conservancy authorized a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for improvements to Franklin Canyon Park in the amount of \$200,000. The scope of the grant included comprehensive capital improvements to the Eugene and Michael Rosenfeld Auditorium and more minor renovations to the Sooky Goldman Nature Center Courtyard, the Sam Goldman Amphitheater, the Doheny Ranch Picnic Area, the Upper Picnic Area, Heavenly Pond Picnic Area, and restrooms and fencing throughout the park.

The scope of the original grant has not changed. The budget, however, does need to be augmented to account for both unforeseen structural repairs and the general increase in the cost of construction in the region.

The initial budget estimated that auditorium improvements would cost about \$115,000. As the MRCA staff delved into the work, the actual costs turned out to be more than twice that amount. As work began, it became apparent that more elements of the auditorium needed significant renovation. The roof had to be completely replaced to correct structural deficiencies that had been causing leaks. It also had to support new energy-efficient HVAC units. These units required new ducting. The old T-bar ceiling was removed and replaced with framing and drywall. This better served the new lighting plan. An upgraded electrical system became necessary to support the new HVAC units and the upgraded interior lighting. Staff

has plans to ameliorate the interior finishes to the room as well. Additional funding is necessary to complete these improvements.

MRCA staff has also reevaluated the other park improvements based on more current construction costs. Based upon these numbers and the remaining work necessary to finish the auditorium, the grant needs to be augmented by \$250,000.

On November 26, 2007, the Conservancy authorized the augmentation of Grant No. SMM-0605 with Proposition 50 funds.

Consideration: The augmentation of the grant from the Conservancy would be in the amount of \$250,000.