



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: May 4, 2011

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XI: Consideration of resolution authorizing requesting budget augmentation and scope revisions for grant SMM-0853 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing requesting budget augmentation and scope revisions for grant SMM-0853 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in the amount of \$500,000.

Background: On June 23, 2008 the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy authorized a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a program of minor capital outlay to ensure the preservation, protection, and restoration of developed and natural resources within the Los Angeles River and Santa Monica Bay watersheds. The original grant amount was \$400,000.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) actively cares for parkland by providing safety, resource protection, access and programs for public use. To continue to provide safe and enjoyable public access and a high quality experience in all the parks that it manages, the MRCA must ensure the facilities in them are not only maintained in good condition, but are actively improved as public use dictates. The funding in place for the ongoing long-term maintenance of MRCA parks is not sufficient to include the activities necessary to provide for the enhancement, restoration and improvement of these parks. An augmentation to grant SMM-0853 for minor capital outlay would enable staff to address needs in many of the parks.

The purpose of the grant will still be to undertake site improvements to in multiple parks within both watersheds to continue providing a high quality park experience for our visitors. These improvements will focus on site amenities including trails, benches, picnic tables, fencing, gates, signage, interpretive elements, drinking fountains, parking areas, irrigation and planting. These projects would increase the

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useful life of existing amenities, provide resource protection, and improve the visitor experience. Scope revisions in the grant augmentation will consist primarily of adding park locations to the approved list from the original grant.

Consideration: The application to the Conservancy would be in the amount of \$500,000.