



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 2, 2012

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII(b): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and authorizing an application to the Conservancy for additional funding to produce a short documentary about the early history of efforts to preserve the Santa Monica Mountains for use at the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch and for other public service purposes.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and authorizing an application to the Conservancy for additional funding to produce a short documentary about the early history of efforts to preserve the Santa Monica Mountains for use at the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch and for other public service purposes.

Background: The Anthony C. Belenson Interagency Visitor Center will open to the public in June 2012. The visitor center is a joint project of the National Park Service, California State Parks, the MRCA, and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. In addition to state-of-the-art exhibits and interactive features educating the public about the Santa Monica Mountains and their natural, historical, educational, and recreational resources, the visitor center includes a small screening room where visitors will be able to view short video presentations. The purpose of this grant and any augmentation to it is to develop and produce a short documentary about the early history of the efforts to preserve the Santa Monica Mountains with themes including community involvement, the unique and successful partnerships at all levels of government that were formed to achieve a common goal, and the future. This will include many interviews with the individuals who have been instrumental to the preservation of the Santa Monica Mountains. The film will be available in English and Spanish and can be used for other public information purposes.

Staff responded to an inquiry from the Conservancy to prepare this video. At its April 24, 2012 meeting the Conservancy adopted the attached resolution that authorized a \$30,000 grant to the MRCA. The proposed action would authorize acceptance of that grant and authorize an application for additional funding.