



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 2, 2012

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing MRCA staff participation in the World Ranger Congress.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing MRCA staff participation in the World Ranger Congress.

Background:

The 7th Annual World Ranger Congress will be held in Arusha, Tanzania from November 4 to November 12 of 2012. The theme of the conference, which will host rangers and park professionals from over 25 countries around the world, is "Healthy Parks and Hungry People" and will focus on how rangers meet the needs of both natural resources and local communities. Attending the event will be three MRCA Rangers and the Chief of Interpretation.

The unique programs developed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) are models for innovative community partnerships with urban constituencies. Staff has submitted to present two sessions, one on engaging urban youth and one on the unique challenges of being a traditional ranger working on the urban edge and encountering decidedly urban problems.

Approval of this resolution authorizes international travel and allows MRCA staff to attend the conference without taking vacation time.