



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: July 19, 2012

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the operation and management of Franklin/Ivar Park.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the operation and management of Franklin/Ivar Park.

Background: The Franklin/Ivar Park project is the conversion of a 0.83-acre vacant parcel at the intersection of Franklin and Ivar Avenues into a publicly-accessible natural park with an amphitheater, view areas, paths, seating, public art and gathering areas. Located in a densely built-out area of Hollywood, the site is bordered by an elevated off-ramp of interstate highway 101, the heavily-traveled Franklin and Ivar Avenues, and it is surrounded by multi-family residential buildings. The land is owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

The project was spearheaded by the Hollywood Dell Civic Association (HDCA) and is a rarely found opportunity to add recreation, open space and natural habitat in an area with a critical lack of park space. In partnership with HDCA, MRCA applied for and received \$2,000,000 of Proposition 84 funding from California State Parks through the competitive Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization program. As a condition of that grant agreement, MRCA must provide a land tenure agreement that authorizes the agency to undertake the project.

The proposed action would authorize a Memorandum of Understanding that meets the grant program's requirements, including a thirty-year term.