



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, 2012

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution approving the application for competitive tree-planting grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Second Supervisorial District excess funding for Ballona Creek - Milton Street Park project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the application for competitive tree-planting grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Second Supervisorial District excess funding for Ballona Creek - Milton Street Park project.

Background: In September 2012 Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas announced the availability of \$750,000 for a competitive tree-planting grant program in the Second Supervisorial District. The maximum grant amount is \$150,000 per project. Applications for the excess funds are due on December 20, 2012. Staff has identified the Milton Street Park project as an area where the funds could be used.

The Milton Street Park Project (project) area is located in the City of Los Angeles and consists of a 1.2-acre vacant rectangular parcel owned by the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA). In addition to on-site park improvements, the project includes a "Green Street" component within the public right-of-way (ROW) of Milton Street (approx. 1000 linear feet). Milton Street is currently an asphalt-paved, two-lane street, with parallel parking available along both sides. No street trees or other vegetation currently exists.

The project's Green Street design calls for Vegetated Stormwater Curb Extensions (VSCEs) located on both sides of the street with vegetation consisting of native trees and a variety of shrubs. This grant would fund irrigation related costs, and the purchase, planting, and a period of maintenance of the planted trees within the street right-of-way.

Staff is currently working with consultants to obtain permits from the City of Los

Angeles for the project. Provided that we secure all funding, permits, and contractors, it is anticipated the park will be shovel ready and construction could begin by early 2013.

Consideration: The requested funding from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (Prop A) in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 to construct a portion of the green street improvements and accomplish the goals described above.