



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-9944

## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 3, 2013

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the upper Malibu Canyon tributaries project, Santa Monica Mountains, unincorporated Los Angeles County and cities of Calabasas and Agoura Hills.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a project planning and design grant for the upper Malibu Canyon tributaries project in the amount of \$30,000-35,000.

Background: The MRCA develops and implements a wide range of projects for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy including through project planning and design grants. To continue this effort to secure and develop land interests and public recreation resources in the Conservancy's jurisdiction, staff is seeking authorization to submit a project planning and design grant application to the Conservancy. This proposed grant application is for the upper Malibu Canyon tributaries project in the Santa Monica Mountains.

The upper Malibu Canyon watershed with its far ranging tributaries ties together the whole central north-facing slope area of the Santa Monica Mountains. This ecologically unique and parklands rich area requires key acquisitions to complete habitat linkages between major blocks of public open space. Many longstanding Conservancy acquisition priorities are in this proposed upper Malibu Canyon tributaries project. Other agency, county and municipal interests warrants critical cross boundary project planning and design work. Given the opportunities, the projects on the Conservancy's Workprogram, and potential project funding availability over the next two years, staff recommends that the grant application be for \$30,000-35,000.

Agenda Item VI(i)  
April 3, 2013  
Page 2

The proposed project area included under this grant would encompass more than 10 miles of blue line streams and approximately 200 undeveloped private parcels, totaling approximately 3,200 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains. The project area would be contiguous with King Gillette Ranch, Las Virgenes View Park, Ladyface Mountain Open Space, Paramount Ranch, Malibu Creek State Park, and Liberty Canyon Open Space. It would also encompass the north-south Liberty Canyon wildlife corridor across the 101 freeway. The area is accessible from Agoura Road, Kanan Dume Road, Mulholland Highway, Las Virgenes Road and the Las Virgenes View Trail.