



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 2, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIV: Consideration of resolution authorizing assigning the right to apply for First Supervisorial Big Five Excess Funds to the Little Tokyo Service Center for the Budokan Project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing assigning the right to apply for First Supervisorial District Big Five Excess Funds to the Little Tokyo Service Center for the Budokan project.

Background: Staff has been informed that Los Angeles County Supervisorial District One has selected projects to receive Specified Excess Funds. Among the projects is a \$1,000,000 allocation to the Little Tokyo Service Center for the Budokan project. The Budokan of Los Angeles (formerly called the Little Tokyo Recreation Center) is the construction of a new 89,000 square-foot major sports and activity center. The building will include a 2-court gym, rooftop park and flexible community space, and is expected to be heavily used on a daily basis. The Little Tokyo Service Center has been fundraising for the project since 2011 via a \$22 million capital campaign, and has secured public, private and non-profit grants. Information provided to staff about the project is attached.

A portion of Proposition A Excess Funds are designated for the five highest priority regional open space and recreation projects defined in the measure, i.e. the "Big Five". These funds are split between the five supervisorial districts, but each of the priority projects has a designated recipient in the measure. If the designated recipient is not implementing a new project, they must formally assign the right to those funds to another entity. In this case, the designated recipient for expenditure of the subject sub-account of excess funds is the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. The entity to whom MRCA assigns funds would enter into a Project Agreement directly with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District and no further work is required of the MRCA. Assigning the right to these funds reduces the amount of Excess Funds potentially available to the MRCA.