



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: May 20, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IV: Consideration of resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to enter into a lease with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the purpose of establishing the Sepulveda Basin Los Angeles River Recreation Zone located in the City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) to enter into a lease with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the purpose of establishing the Sepulveda Basin Los Angeles River Recreation Zone located in the City of Los Angeles. The MRCA Park Ordinance will be used to regulate park and Public Trust Doctrine activities.

Background: The USACE has requested that the MRCA lease the natural bottom portion of the Los Angeles River and adjacent property located in the Sepulveda Dam Recreation Area. The area will be operated as a park year round, with in water recreation limited to operational periods established by the USACE. The initial in water recreation period will be from Memorial Day to Labor Day. MRCA staff has participated in the planning process for the recreation zone, and will provide ranger and park staff staffing to manage and support the program.

Wayfinding and regulatory signs will be provided by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

The recreation zone will be managed as MRCA parkland, utilizing exiting policies and procedures. A key feature of the recreation zone will be boating access free of charge or permits for individual park visitors. Groups will be required to obtain a permit and provide proof of liability insurance.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers lease documents are attached.