TO: The Governing Board

FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: July 2, 2014

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(k): Consideration of resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Proposition 40 funds for interpretation of land, air, and water resources, including visitor serving amenities and naturalist led interpretive programs for the public as well as programs specifically designed for disadvantaged youth.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt a resolution authorizing an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a grant of Proposition 40 funds for interpretation of the land, air, and water resources, including visitor serving amenities and naturalist led interpretive programs for the public as well as programs specifically designed for disadvantaged youth.

Background:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has a long history of providing relevant and meaningful interpretation programs that not only enhance the visitor experience but promote stewardship and protection of land, air and water resources.

This application requests Proposition 40 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to continue interpretive programs including public hikes, campfire programs, Youth Leadership Series, community partners, and the Symbiosis newsletter. These programs have proven to be very popular and serve thousands of constituents every year.

This application is for the same scope of service previously approved by both the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Board and the Attorney General.