



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: August 6, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(b): Consideration of resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Fifth Supervisorial District competitive grant program for Towsley Canyon Park infrastructure improvements.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Fifth Supervisorial District competitive grant program Towsley Canyon Park infrastructure improvements.

Background: In May 2014 Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich announced the availability of \$5,000,000 for a competitive grant program in the Fifth Supervisorial District. The maximum grant amount is \$300,000 per project and the Towsley Canyon Park application will not exceed that amount. Applications for the funds are due on September 3, 2014. Staff has identified the Towsley Canyon Park infrastructure improvements project as a project for which the funds could be used.

The Towsley Canyon Park infrastructure improvements project (project) is a new project identified by planning staff. Eligible projects under the grant program includes improvements to and rehabilitation of existing public parks. Staff are developing an application for the rehabilitation of infrastructure at Towsley Canyon Park. Improvements may include road paving, roof repair, irrigation upgrades, and improvements to the pool infrastructure. This project will improve the functionality of the park and enhance the visitor experience.

The Youth Employment Plan is being developed in conjunction with the application for funding. This plan will identify a minimum of \$1,000 cost of at-risk youth employment. This represents approximately 30-80 hours of youth employment (depending on benefits). When/if the grant is awarded, staff will determine how to fulfill the requirement depending on whether any current staff qualify as at-risk youth. If not, youth could be hired on a temporary basis, or a contract may be awarded to an organization such as Los Angeles Conservation Corps.