



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 4, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles for personnel services.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles for personnel services.

Background: The MRCA is a key partner with the City of Los Angeles for efforts to restore the Los Angeles River and provide publicly accessible parklands along its length. In 2007 the City developed the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan to provide a plan for transforming 32 miles of the river into a network of parks and trails, providing better access to neighboring communities, protecting the river's wildlife, promoting the river's health, and leveraging economic resources. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study is currently in review with the Corps, and lays out a more specific restoration plan for an 11-mile stretch of the river.

To assist the City with implementing key projects contemplated by these plans, MRCA will provide a staff person to liaison with the Mayor of Los Angeles' LARiverWorks office on a day to day basis, for approximately one year subject to funding availability. Activities performed by the liaison will include landscape architectural work; collaborating with river partners and stakeholders focused on urban parks development—including Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, California Department of Parks and Recreation and the State Coastal Conservancy; collecting office and field data; budgeting; and preparing reports and recommendations on a wide variety of landscape matters and projects.

The Memorandum of Understanding will set forth the terms and conditions of the liaison's work with the Mayor's office.