



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 16, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 40 funds for capital improvements at Towsley Canyon Park.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 40 funds in the amount of \$300,000 for planning and implementation of capital improvements for Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon.

Background: Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon is a popular destination for visitors of the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park. The facility is currently used to host special events as well as informal picnicking and as a starting point for hikers. To expand the available space for community gathering and providing public programs, an area behind the pool has been identified as underutilized. Improvements to this area will increase its functionality and enjoyment of visitors to the site. This area of the park offers the best opportunity to provide accessible amenities for a wide range of visitor abilities.

The grant will be used for project planning, design and implementation of improvements. These improvements will include the creation of a ranch-style gathering area that can be used by the community for events and for hosting public programs. A shade structure, improved paths of travel, security fencing, and screening between the area and visitor parking will be implemented. The work will be completed with a combination of in-house labor and contractual services. All amenities will be designed to incorporate the latest technologies for water and energy conservation.