



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 6, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XII: Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a use agreement with the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District for operations and maintenance of the Zev Yaroslavsky Greenway Project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing entering into a use agreement with the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District for operations and maintenance of the Zev Yaroslavsky Greenway Project.

Background: The Zev Yaroslavsky Greenway Project (Project) will create a half-mile walking trail that bridges the gap between existing segments of Los Angeles River Greenway (between Whitsett Avenue and Coldwater Canyon Avenue). The Project is currently being implemented by Community Conservation Solutions (CCS) and has received grant funding from the California Natural Resources Agency, CalTrans, County of Los Angeles (Proposition A), and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy totaling upwards of \$2 million. The Project includes installation of native plants and trees, a bioswale network that treats and improves water quality, natural seating, and interpretive elements related to the Los Angeles River. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) accepted responsibility for the CCS improvements as part of a Management and Maintenance Agreement between CCS and MRCA executed on April 7, 2014. In order to secure approval to develop the trail and landscape greenway, the fee title holder, the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District (LACFCD), requires a Use Agreement for all construction within their Rights-of-Way and identification of a party responsible to maintain the improvements. In accordance with the CCS agreement, MRCA staff are working with LACFCD to develop a Use Agreement that assigns operations and maintenance responsibility of the improvements to the MRCA and allows CCS to initiate construction activities in the summer of 2015.

The attached use agreement is a draft agreement that is presently being reviewed by the necessary County departments and MRCA staff prior to execution, and is subject to change based on staff negotiation. We are proposing to enter into this use agreement in order to

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meet the requirements for the permitting and construction of the Project. This is not an agreement to take over responsibilities for the entire Los Angeles River, it is only for the subject Project being put into place by CCS.