



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: October 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Agenda Item XIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 12 funds for capital improvements at Ramirez Canyon Park.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 12 funds for capital improvements at Ramirez Canyon Park.

Background: Located in a deep canyon off the Malibu coast, 22-acre Ramirez Canyon Park is surrounded on three sides by pristine National Park Service wilderness and includes a critical section of the regionally significant Coastal Slope Trail. Featuring a year-round stream, a sycamore meadow, and accessible trails and facilities, Ramirez Canyon Park is an ideal place for programs specifically designed for people with special needs, seniors, and at-risk youth visiting nature for the first time. The park's structures were built many years ago to residential standards and require significant work to ensure their continued use.

The proposed grant will be used to plan, permit, and implement necessary capital improvements at Ramirez Canyon Park, specifically a complete roof replacement for the Art Deco house. These capital improvements will enhance the utility and safety of the existing facility and will extend its useful life by ensuring the integrity of the structure and preventing water damage. The 2015-16 winter is predicted to bring large amounts of rainfall, threatening the structure and its contents. Work will be accomplished by a combination of MRCA staff and subcontractors.

Staff are currently soliciting bids to determine the cost of the roof replacement. The park's remote location and site constraints affect both cost and the number of interested contractors, making estimating more difficult compared to other park locations.