

MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens 570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

To: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 3, 2016

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(b): Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Proposition A funding for the Bosque del Rio Hondo Rehabilitation project and adopting a youth employment plan.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Proposition A funding for the Bosque del Rio Hondo Rehabilitation project in the amount of \$900,000 and adopting a youth employment plan.

<u>Background</u>: The Bosque del Rio Hondo park was created in 1997 as one of MRCA's first river projects. The park offers year-round trail access to a natural streambed of the Rio Hondo, as well as picnic areas, access to bike paths and equestrian trails, and a restroom. The park is located on land leased from Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, who in turn holds a long term lease on the property from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

MRCA plans to transfer maintenance of the park to the County upon the lease expiration at year-end 2016. Last year MRCA began discussions with the County regarding turnover and identified a few items in need of rehabilitation. Shortly thereafter, the Lincoln fire, which burned approximately 200 acres in the Montebello Hills area, overtook the site and caused extensive damage. The park is currently closed off to the public as a safety precaution due to unsafe conditions.

The proposed Proposition A grant would fund the rehabilitation of damaged amenities including a pedestrian bridge, shade structure, electrical panel, signage, benches, picnic tables, and native landscaping, as well as requested improvements to irrigation, drinking fountain, restroom, parking area, and interpretive signage.

The Proposition A District requires that, as a condition of receipt of funds under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996, grantees must spend a portion of each grant on the employment of at-risk youth. Youth are expected to be

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employed on the proposed project for clean up and landscaping work, for a total cost of approximately \$2,000.

Consideration: The grant application will be for approximately \$900,000.