MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Agenda Item XI: Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for project planning and design work on upper Santa Clara River watershed projects in the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor, City of Santa Clarita and unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing submission of an application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 40 grant funds, in an amount not to exceed $100,000.

Background: The MRCA develops and implements a wide range of projects through project planning and design grants. To continue this effort to secure and develop park lands, public access, and public recreation resources, staff is seeking authorization to submit a Project Planning and Design grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. This proposed grant application is for planning related to projects in the upper Santa Clara River watershed and in the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor.

There is large potential for acquisition and public access projects within the Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor in the upper Santa Clara River watershed. The MRCA has not had a Project Planning and Design grant for the subject area in several years because the area was not covered by Proposition 84. However, tremendous opportunities should be capitalized upon for land acquisition and trail development, often working with partners.

The grant application will be for an amount not to exceed $100,000.