



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 4, 2016

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing a contract with Mia Lehrer + Associates for design services for the Puerco Canyon project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a contract with Mia Lehrer + Associates for design services for the Puerco Canyon project in an amount not to exceed \$66,440.

Background: The Puerco Canyon property, also known as the Cameron Nature Preserve, was acquired in 2014, and spans 703 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains. Portions of the property were cleared and graded for residential development long prior to the adoption of the California Coastal Act. The Puerco Canyon project will convert the previously disturbed areas into a public park that includes a trailhead with day-use parking, overnight camping sites for groups and individuals, and an extended stay camp facility designed to accommodate foster youth from the Los Angeles County Foster Care system. Mia Lehrer + Associates previously prepared preliminary design options for the desired project elements and an analysis of what the site is capable of accommodating. The options were refined into a preferred preliminary concept plan for the site. To proceed with the project, a schematic-level design is needed at this time to further refine the site program and various project elements in conjunction with an engineering feasibility study.

Section 3.3 of the MRCA's Purchasing and Contracting Procedures state that for professional services contracts:

The Purchasing Agent shall determine demonstrated competence and qualifications of the services at fair and reasonable prices by reviewing the following documents to be submitted by the professional: 1) a list of the names and contact information for clients for which services were performed in the last five years; 2) samples of the services performed including the scope and cost; 3) a disclosure of any actions taken against the professional; and, 4) a statement of change order(s) to plans or specifications or projects for which services were provided and the reason for the change order(s).

Based on a review of this information and MRCA's past experience with the firm, staff recommends using Mia Lehrer + Associates for continuing design services for the Puerco Canyon project.

Mia Lehrer + Associates submitted a proposal in the amount of \$60,400 for the subject work. Staff recommends that the Board approve 10% more than the proposal amount to allow for contingencies and additional required services that are not known at this time.

Consideration: The proposed action would authorize a contract to Mia Lehrer + Associates for design services in an amount not to exceed \$66,440. The initial schematic design will be funded through an existing Proposition 40 grant, and final schematics will be funded through funds from the California Coastal Commission, after those funds become available.