



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: December 7, 2016

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(b): Consideration of resolution confirming entering into a funding agreement with the California Coastal Commission for the development of lower cost visitor serving amenities at Cameron Nature Preserve, Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) confirm entering into a funding agreement with the California Coastal Commission for the development of lower cost visitor serving amenities at Cameron Nature Preserve, Puerco Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County..

Background: MRCA acquired the Cameron Nature Preserve at Puerco Canyon in 2014. This 702 acre property is contains largely undisturbed natural habitat areas that are prime for preservation and passive recreation. It also contains several disturbed, graded areas that have either been developed or slated for development. MRCA staff has identified the disturbed portions of the Preserve as appropriate for visitor serving amenities.

Subsequently, in February 2015, the California Coastal Commission considered and approved a request by the City of Malibu to amend its land use plan to allow for construction of 5 residential houses on a parcel of land near Malibu Bluffs Park. One of the conditions of this approval was payment by the developer of the residential project of a total of \$4 million dollars to the MRCA for the purpose of developing a lower cost visitor serving coastal amenity in the Coastal Zone.

MRCA and Commission staff identified the recently-acquired Cameron Nature Preserve as the most appropriate and desirable location for such a facility. The funds have been deposited into an escrow account and are ready to be transferred to the MRCA upon complete execution of a Memorandum of Understanding which will outline the terms of the use of the funds. In order to expedite the transfer of these funds, MRCA staff has reviewed and approved the MOU and executed its counterpart, which will be confirmed by approval by the Governing Board of this resolution.