



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 1, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(g): Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to Tree People to collaborate on habitat mitigation installation and maintenance.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 to TreePeople, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, to collaborate on habitat mitigation installation and maintenance.

Background: TreePeople, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with extensive experience working on the establishment of native plants in many areas of the Los Angeles' mountain systems. The organization has exceptional capacity to provide volunteer teams to assist the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's (MRCA) habitat restoration projects. Staff recently toured one of the organization's restoration projects in the Santa Monica Mountains. The proposed model is that the MRCA would provide a grant to TreePeople to fund the time of the organization's Wildland Restoration Manager to lead volunteer teams on MRCA restoration projects. The expertise of the manager in generating quality work out of volunteers provides for a unique efficiency with MRCA funds. All of the subject funding is from mitigation fees. The grant could also cover basic supplies and tools if necessary. The proposed action is cost effective to the MRCA and provides a unique public benefit. It is anticipated that the funds will be paid out at approximately \$5,000 a month for one year. The payment would be based on the number of volunteer days provided by TreePeople under the direction of the MRCA restoration crew staff.