

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 15, 2017

SUBJECT: Agenda Item IV: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 1 Project Planning and Design grant to facilitate the protection of water resources in the

eastern Santa Monica Mountains.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a Proposition 1 Project Planning and Design grant to facilitate the protection of water resources in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains.

Background: The function of the wildlife corridor system that connects Topanga State Park to Griffith Park across two freeways has shown great promise in the past several years with mountain lion P-22 in Griffith Park, other lions between the 405 and 101 freeways, and a general increase in bobcat visibility in all areas from the 405 eastward. Permanent water sources are critical to the system for all mammal species. In general, habitat locations with permanent water sources contain high value and have an enhanced degree of remoteness. The proposed work would identify the permanent water sources that remain unprotected in this zone. The fragility of this system warrants immediate work to target acquistions and deed restrictions from future entitlements. The work product would provide APN specific and sub-APN specific information and identify key watershed that provides infiltration to the water sources. The proposed grant application would be in the range of \$150,000 to \$250,000.