




MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: April 5, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a Proposition 1 Project Planning and Design grant to produce wildland-development interface watershed protection plans for portions of Decker, Lachusa, Encinal, Ramirez, Escondido, Latigo, Solstice, Corral, and Puerco Canyons, incorporated and unincorporated Malibu.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a Proposition 1 Project Planning and Design grant to produce wildland-development interface watershed protection plans for portions of Decker, Lechuza, Encinal, Ramirez, Escondido, Latigo, Solstice, Corral, and Puerco Canyons, incorporated and unincorporated Malibu, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) develops and implements a wide range of projects for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) including through project planning and design grants. The MRCA intends to continue this effort by securing and developing land interests in a manner that is protective of key watersheds in the coastal Santa Monica Mountains.

The watershed interface area between wildlands and development within the coastal zone of the Santa Monica Mountains contain both important natural resources and recreational resources unique to the Santa Monica Mountains. A watershed protection plan in this wildland-development interface would maximize recreational resources while protecting natural resources. Thus, staff is seeking authorization to submit a grant application to the Conservancy for project planning and design of Decker, Lachusa, Encinal, Ramireze, Escondido, Latigo, Solstice, Corral, and Puerco Canyons in unincorporated and incorporated Malibu. These canyons are all bisected by the Coastal Slope Trail.

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The fiscal impact will be a net positive for the agency in the near term should the grant be awarded to the MRCA, as it will provide funding to develop and implement projects in the Santa Monica Mountains watersheds.