

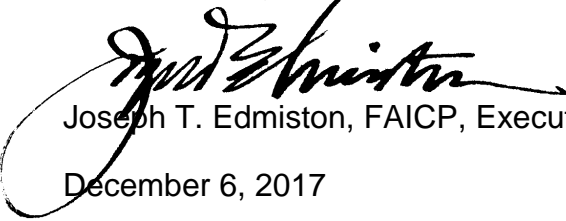


# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:   
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: December 6, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(e): Consideration of resolution authorizing a professional services contract with Bionic for engineering and design services for public beach access improvements at 20802 Pacific Coast Highway, City of Malibu.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a professional services contract with Bionic for engineering and design services for public access improvements at 20802 Pacific Coast Highway, City of Malibu in an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000).

Background: The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) currently holds a vertical access easement and a lateral access easement over the property located at 20802 Pacific Coast Highway in the City of Malibu. The Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) took an action at its meeting on November 1, 2017 to accept the transfer from the SCC of both the vertical and the lateral access easements on the subject property.

The subject vertical access easement is five feet wide and is bounded on both sides by single-family residences. The subject easement also contains unpermitted encroachments such as a gate, a deck, and a stairway connecting the second floor of the single-family residence on the property to the deck below. The property owner is required to remove the encroachments pursuant to a Cease and Desist Order issued by the California Coastal Commission. Furthermore, a storm drain is situated beneath the unpermitted deck, adding to the complexity of developing public access within the narrow confines of the subject site. Detailed engineering analyses are needed in order to comprehensively evaluate the site for public access improvements.

The site is currently included in the proposed Malibu Coastal Access Public Works Plan (PWP), a collaborative project between the SCC and the MRCA that aims to improve and operate several public beach accessways in the City of Malibu. Concurrent with this effort, the SCC has recently granted additional funding to the MRCA to apply for a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) with the City of Malibu for

public beach access improvements at the site. Project implementation would occur following certification of the PWP or approval of the CDP, whichever occurs first.

In 2010, prior to the PWP planning efforts, the SCC selected Bionic, a landscape architecture firm, to design preliminary public access improvements for several unopened accessways in Malibu, including the subject site. The MRCA subsequently selected Bionic to provide professional design services for public access improvements as part of the PWP effort, which includes all the sites that Bionic worked on in 2010.

Having worked with the SCC since 2010 on public access improvements in Malibu, Bionic has a comprehensive understanding of the subject site's history, physical constraints, and contentious nature. Additionally, Bionic's proposed design for the subject site would be used for both the PWP and the CDP application to maximize efficient use of planning resources. Bionic's familiarity with the site and Bionic's on-going design effort for the site would streamline the process to apply for a CDP with the City of Malibu. Selecting a new consultant to provide engineering and design services at this stage would be inefficient as it would complicate the concurrent design effort for the site as included in the PWP. Thus, Bionic is the most suitable firm to provide engineering and design services for the CDP application.

Bionic will provide engineering and design services that include detailed site evaluation and engineering analyses to meet local as well as statewide and federal development standards, and three phases of design ranging from concept level through construction level plans consistent with provisions of the Coastal Act and the City's Local Coastal Program. Preparing detailed plans from the concept level through construction level will allow for a more expeditious process for on-the-ground project implementation once all entitlements are obtained for the proposed public access improvements.