



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: December 6, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 84 and Proposition 1 funds for Upper Los Angeles River project planning and design, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 84 and Proposition 1 funds for Upper Los Angeles River project planning and design, City of Los Angeles in the amount of \$500,000.

Background: The unique obstacles that state and local government encounter when managing the river and its surrounding areas require consideration when developing a revitalization plan for the Los Angeles River. Assembly Bill 466 (AB 466), authored by Assemblymember Bocanegra and signed by the Governor on September 28, 2017 establishes, within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group.

AB 466 requires that by March 1, 2019, the working group develop, through watershed-based planning methods and community engagement, a revitalization plan for the Upper Los Angeles River, the tributaries of the Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, and Verdugo Wash, and any additional tributary waterway that the working group determines to be necessary. The revitalization plan will address the unique and diverse needs of the Upper Los Angeles River, Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, and Verdugo Wash, and the communities through which they pass, and to include watershed education programs.

Earlier this year, the State of California finally appropriated Proposition 1's Urban Creeks funding to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Staff is asking for authorization to apply for these funds as well as the Conservancy's Proposition 84 funds for project planning and design of the AB 466 Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group Revitalization Plan. The Proposition 1 appropriation

contained language prohibiting its use for tributary projects, making it necessary to use another funding source.

Consideration: The grant application will be up to \$500,000 split between the two funding sources.

Fiscal Impact: The subject grant will need to be added to the MRCA's fiscal year 2017-18 budget. There is no impact on the general fund. The AB 466 legislation did not contain a budget appropriation to fund the required work.