

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 7, 2018

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(r): Consideration of resolution assigning operations and funding of the National Park Service Youth Training and Work Experience Restoration program at Peter Strauss Ranch to Community Nature Connection per the reciprocal services agreement.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution assigning operations and funding of the National Park Service Youth Training and Work Experience Restoration program at Peter Strauss Ranch to Community Nature Connection per the reciprocal services agreement.

<u>Background</u>: On May 4th, 2016 the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) approved a reciprocal service agreement with Community Nature Connection (CNC), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. This agreement, among other items, allows for the continuation of valuable education and interpretive services to disadvantaged communities previously provided by the MRCA Division of Interpretation. At the same meeting, the MRCA Governing Board adopt a resolution authorizing assignment of MRCA funding received for education and interpretation programs and services to CNC for continuation of funded programming.

On October 18, 2017 a task agreement between Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and National Park Service was signed. This project provides leadership and training opportunities for urban youth living in the Los Angeles area focused on restoration and volunteer management. Community Nature Connection has extensive experience working on these types of programs and was designated as the Project Manager. The budget for this 2-year program is \$51,710.