



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 4, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(d): Consideration of resolution adopting an Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) policy.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution adopting an Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) policy.

Background: Unmanned Aircraft Systems are an emerging technology that could support agency needs in many areas. While the potential uses for an UAS are virtually unlimited, some of the possibilities are: mapping and photography of remote and inaccessible areas, search & rescue operations, visual spotting in a disaster response to add to responder safety, reconnaissance for Fire and Law Enforcement needs, and availability as a resource for joint operations and assistance to other agencies during disasters and incidents.

The proposed policy would not change the limitations on the use of UAS by park visitors. Per the Park Ordinance as amended June 1, 2016, UAS use is prohibited without a permit:

§ 3.17 (c) Drones. No person shall cause any unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), drones, or unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) (collectively "Drones") to enter or fly in, on or above any park without a permit issued by the Executive Officer or Executive Officer's designee.

A copy of the proposed policy is attached.

Fiscal Impact: The acceptance of the attached policy currently has no cost implications, but provides the agency with a viable use policy when the need for the use of UAS presents itself.