



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: October 3, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing the application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the Santa Clara River Watershed Proposition 68 Project Planning and Development Grants.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for two Santa Clara River Watershed Proposition 68 Project Planning and Development grants.

Background: 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 portions of the Santa Clara River watershed and its function to connect mountain ranges in the Conservancy's jurisdiction. The 2000 South Coast Wildlands *Missing Linkages* report identifies two such critical inter-mountain range habitat linkages.

Staff is seeking authorization to submit two grant applications to the Conservancy for project planning and design work to protect land in these two regional habitat linkages. The first application would be for the Santa Clara River - Calleguas Creek - Missing Linkages - Santa Monica-Sierra Madre Connector. This linkage includes areas in the central Santa Clara River watershed that were added to the Conservancy Zone in 2017. The second would be for the Santa Clara River Watershed - Missing Linkages - San Gabriel-Castaic Connector. A map showing the approximately grant geographic scopes is attached.