



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 6, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the California Natural Resources Agency for Proposition 68 funds for Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon Pavilion and Access improvements, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the California Natural Resources Agency for Proposition 68 funds for Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon Pavilion and Access improvements, unincorporated Los Angeles.

Background: In 2015, MRCA received a grant of Proposition 40 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in the amount of \$300,000 for planning and implementation of capital improvements for Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon. The focus of those improvements has been on expanding available space for special events and upgrading the park's accessibility in order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A new outdoor pavilion is proposed to be constructed behind the lodge and swimming pool. The pavilion is sized to accommodate 200-person dinners but will provide flexible space for a variety of public gatherings. An enclosed, secured room for food service and preparation is integrated into the structure. The grading and site work necessary to make the project accessible exceed the existing budget for the project. It is also desired to make upgrades to the existing restroom, accessible parking, and pathways as part of this project, and these elements would also exceed the existing budget. All improvements are designed with the latest water and energy conservation technology.

The project should be competitive for the California Natural Resources Agency's (CNRA) Proposition 68 Community, Culture, and Education category. The Project's improvements promote a new community venue with the addition of the proposed outdoor event pavilion. The pavilion is intended to be a community gathering space for both private and public programming. Restroom and accessibility improvements are both eligible within this category. The CNRA grant will be used to complete the

implementation of the proposed outdoor meeting pavilion, fencing, site grading and drainage, and additional landscaping and irrigation.

Consideration: Staff have not yet completed the application, but the amount requested is likely to be within a range of \$300,000-\$800,000.

Fiscal Impact: If funding is not secured, the project will be delayed until sufficient funding is secured. There is no feasible way to phase implementation, although some of the ancillary improvements could be eliminated. If awarded, the subject grant would need to be added to the appropriate fiscal year budget. There will be an impact on the general fund because indirect costs on MRCA staff are not eligible for full reimbursement by CNRA. This impact should not be significant, as the majority of the grant is expected to be used for construction contractors.