



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 1, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a technical assistance grant to assist implementation of the Conservancy's Proposition 68 Multidisciplinary Technical Assistance Program.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a technical assistance grant to assist implementation of the Conservancy's Proposition 68 Multidisciplinary Technical Assistance Program.

Background: In 2018, the voters passed the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, also known as Proposition 68. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) received various allocations of Proposition 68.

Pursuant to Section 8008(b)(1) of the Public Resources Code, up to 10 percent of the Proposition 68 funds may be used for technical assistance to disadvantaged communities. The Conservancy's Technical Assistance Program (TAP) supports local communities with direct application assistance with the goal of facilitating access to the Conservancy's funding programs. TAP creates a more equitable playing field by helping under-resourced applicants access Conservancy funds.

TAP program goals include:

Direct Assistance - Increase the number of successful applications from disadvantaged and low-income communities to Conservancy programs by providing direct assistance in preparing applications and quantifying greenhouse gas reductions.

Integrating Conservancy Programs - Align technical assistance efforts to facilitate an understanding of the full suite of programs available under the

Conservancy umbrella and provide the services necessary to create multi-faceted projects that integrate more than one Conservancy program.

The TAP program will be available annually, and will include outreach and programs to provide application assistance to eligible applicants, enabling them to positively impact their communities.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has extensive expertise with Conservancy grant programs, which makes the MRCA a natural entity to assist in implementing the Conservancy's TAP program.

Consideration: The grant application will be for up to \$250,000 for 1 year. This agreement may be renewed annually at the Conservancy's request.

Fiscal Impact: The subject grant will need to be added to the MRCA's fiscal year 2019-20 budget. There is no impact on the general fund.