



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: July 3, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XVIII: Consideration of resolution accepting a grant of Proposition 68 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for pre-improvement planning for the Coastal Slope Trail Public Works Plan, unincorporated Los Angeles County and City of Malibu.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution accepting a grant of Proposition 68 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for pre-improvement planning for the Coastal Slope Trail Public Works Plan, unincorporated Los Angeles County and City of Malibu in the amount of \$500,000.

Background: The Coastal Slope Trail, under planning for many years, extends from just beyond the Ventura County line to Topanga State Park (Will Rogers). A major objective of the trail is to provide a means to connect the series of existing coastal canyon parks north of Pacific Coast Highway. The proposed conceptual alignment of the Coastal Slope Trail is shown in the attached map exhibit, and it traverses several canyons, slopes, and ridges along the Santa Monica Mountains within the City of Malibu and the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles.

The MRCA is proposing a Public Works Plan (PWP) to authorize implementation of the central segment of the Coastal Slope Trail from Kanan Dume Road through Tuna Canyon Park. The PWP includes development of amenities to complement the trail such as trailheads, public parking, picnic areas, and restroom facilities. The exact alignment of the trail may be subject to change, and the locations of amenities will be determined during the technical analysis.

Section 30605 of the Coastal Act provides that as an alternative to project by project review, plans for public works may be submitted to the Coastal Commission for review in the same manner prescribed for review of local coastal programs. Section 30114 of the Coastal Act defines "public works" as including "all publicly financed recreational facilities, all projects of the State Coastal Conservancy, and any

development by a special district.” Since the Coastal Slope Trail traverses multiple jurisdictions, and must be implemented through a series of acquisitions and improvement projects over time, a Public Works Plan is the appropriate means to evaluate consistency with the Coastal Act and the adopted Local Coastal Programs of Malibu and County of Los Angeles.

On June 24, 2019, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy approved a draft application (attached) to fund the PWP effort, including environmental analysis. The subject action would finalize the grant application and formally accept the awarded funds.

Consideration: The grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is for \$500,000 of Proposition 68 funds.

Fiscal Impact: The grant will be incorporated into the fiscal year 2019/2020 budget. There is no impact on the general fund or maintenance obligations. Without the subject grant, the work would be postponed until sufficient funding was available.