



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: September 4, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing application to Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a Proposition 68 grant for fire hardening for park infrastructure**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing application to Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) for a Proposition 68 grant for fire hardening for park infrastructure.

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. Proposition 68 found that California's state, local, and regional park system infrastructure and national park system infrastructure are aging, and a significant infusion of capital is required to protect this investment.

As the fire season approaches, the MRCA is evaluating potential opportunities to address fire concerns for both Conservancy and MRCA properties. Projects identified include compressed foam gel structure protection at properties such as Temescal Gateway Park, Mentryville, Towsley, Red Rock and others.

In addition, other prevention and suppression equipment will be needed, as well as additional staff for recommended vegetation management at critical properties. The current estimate for these projects is \$750,000. Staff feel these actions are necessary to address what is already proving to be an active fire year.

Consideration: The grant application will be for up to \$750,000.

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.