



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: September 4, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(j): Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Wildlife Conservation Board for Proposition 68 funds for the Maritime Rocks Beach Access Project, City of Malibu.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Wildlife Conservation Board for Proposition 68 funds for the Maritime Rocks Beach Access Project in the amount of \$500,000.

Background: In late 2015, the California Coastal Commission approved Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Amendment 5-84-791-A2 that included a condition to donate \$400,000 from the applicant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for new public beach access improvements at 20516 Pacific Coast Highway along Big Rock Beach in the City of Malibu.

On April 6, 2016, the MRCA Governing Board authorized an application to the City of Malibu for a CDP for public beach access improvements at this site, now known as the Maritime Rocks Beach Access Project. The proposed public beach access improvements include new fencing and gates, a new beach access stairway, new decomposed granite pathway, and a new view overlook.

Staff has worked diligently since 2015 to prepare and submit a CDP application to the City for the proposed public access improvements. In July 2018, the City approved a CDP for the project. The next steps of the project include obtaining final plan approvals from the City and an encroachment permit from the California Department of Transportation. These last entitlements are anticipated to be completed in the coming months.

After all entitlements are obtained, project construction could begin in spring 2020. However, the \$400,000 donation is not sufficient to cover all construction costs. To date, approximately \$141,000 has been used to obtain the CDP approval and additional final approvals. The total estimated cost of construction is approximately

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\$759,000. The approximately remaining \$259,000 will be used for project construction, which leaves a funding gap of \$500,000. Staff recently submitted a pre-application to the Wildlife Conservation Board's (WCB) Public Access Program. After review of the project's pre-application, the WCB has invited the MRCA to submit a full grant application due on September 20, 2019.

Implementing the Maritime Rocks Beach Access Project ensures that objectives of the WCB's public access program as well as the Coastal Act are met. If the grant is approved, funding would be available in time for construction to begin next spring.