

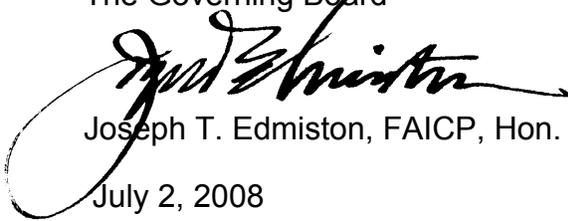


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: July 2, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII: Consideration of resolution authorizing augmentation of the contract with Dudek for land use, environmental and California Coastal Act planning at King Gillette Ranch, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing augmentation of the contract with Dudek for land use, environmental and California Coastal Act planning at King Gillette Ranch, unincorporated Los Angeles County in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00.

Background: One of the most stunning locales in the Santa Monica Mountains, 588-acre King Gillette Ranch is situated in the heart of the Malibu Creek Watershed (Santa Monica Bay watershed), by the confluence of five major tributaries, and adjacent to Malibu Creek State Park. This scenic parkland at the lower end of the Las Virgenes Valley is a haven for larger mammals of the Santa Monica Mountains. At the same time, it offers a rare unspoiled view of California's rich archaeological, cultural, and historic resources, including a Chumash settlement, and nationally significant structures designed for razor magnate King C. Gillette in the 1920's by Wallace Neff, architect of California's Golden Age. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) manages the park in cooperation with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area unit of the National Park Service, and California State Parks.

In June 2007, Dudek assisted the MRCA with the filing of a permit waiver with the California Coastal Commission for the installation of minor improvements to allow for immediate public parkland use of King Gillette Ranch. This permit waiver addressed only the minimal requirements of making the site ready for public visitation. Long range planning for the entire property is still ongoing.

Under the existing contract Dudek has continued to advise MRCA staff on how best to take the long term plans to the Coastal Commission. MRCA staff recommends augmenting the contract with Dudek to assist in assessing land use opportunities

and development constraints for King Gillette Ranch. Additionally, Dudek would facilitate the project's processing requirements consistent with the applicable environmental policies of the California Coastal Act. The proposal from Dudek is attached.

Consideration: The contract amendment will not exceed \$40,000. Funding for this contract would come from Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy grant number SMM-0729.