



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 11, 2009

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation funds to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for planning and construction activities associated with the Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop Project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation funds to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for planning and construction activities in the amount of \$66,000 for the Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop Project.

Background: In 2008 the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) received an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) grant from the California Department of Transportation for the Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop Project (Project) located in the Santa Monica Bay watershed. The primary goal of this project is to connect the Baldwin Hills to the Ballona Creek by connecting open spaces through trails and gateways. The intent of this project is to create multi-modal linkages and a regional loop trail between three existing park facilities.

The major trail work improvements are within the California Department of Parks and Recreation property. In an effort to expedite the completion of the Project State Parks has agreed to complete the trail connection between Culver City and the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook in-house. MRCA staff is recommending that we grant a portion of the EEMP funds that we received in 2008 for planning and construction activities to State Parks to complete this portion of the project. The work funded by this grant will include the relocation of existing fencing, grading, trail work, survey work, addition of decomposed granite, installation of railing, signage, and creation of crosswalks.

The attached location map showing the project location and conceptual design for the Project.