

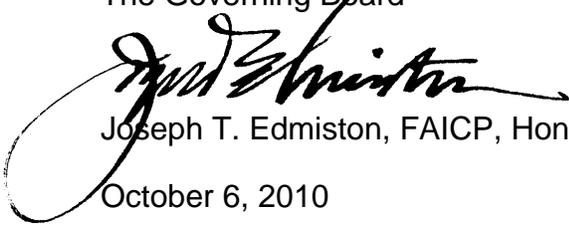


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: October 6, 2010

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(f): Consideration of resolution authorizing requesting a budget augmentation and addition of scope for grant SMM-84-0879 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing requesting a budget augmentation and addition of scope for grant SMM-84-0879 from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in the amount of \$3,000,000.

Background: On October 20, 2008, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy authorized a grant to the MRCA for project planning and design of Phase II of the Marsh Park project. The 5.4-acre Marsh Park property was purchased in 2001 and the first phase of improvements was completed in 2006.

Phase II improvements will include two acres of vacant land and the two smaller buildings. Improvements will include native habitat restoration, protection of water resources through treatment of on-site stormwater with a system of arroyos and detention basins, recreation amenities and picnic facilities. A shaded structure for public nature programs will be built as part of this phase. The focus of this structure will be to interpret the natural resources of the Los Angeles River, and could also be used to host group events and community events. The design consultants are currently completing the Design Development drawings for Phase II.

In 2007, MRCA staff submitted an application to the Natural Resources Agency for construction funds but were recently notified that the project was not selected for funding. The existing grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy included funding and scope only for project planning and design activities. The request to the Conservancy would be for an augmentation in the amount of \$3,000,000 and to add construction of the planned improvements to the authorized scope of work.