



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: November 3, 2010

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution approving the plans and specifications for the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path Improvement (Phase I) and Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop projects.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the plans and specifications for the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path Improvement (Phase I) and Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop projects.

Background: The Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path (Phase I) project improved the Centinela Ave. entry point to the Ballona Creek bike path. The improvements to this entrance included installation of native plant landscaping, irrigation, new decorative gate and fencing, seating, drinking fountain and bike racks. These improvements were completed in 2005.

The Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop project is a currently on-going project and includes similar improvements such as native plant landscaping, irrigation, signage, and bike racks at various locations throughout and between the Ballona Creek bike path, Culver City Park and the Baldwin Hills. The primary goal of this project is to connect the Baldwin Hills to the Ballona Creek by connecting open spaces through trails and gateways.

Both of these projects were funded by grants from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (Proposition A). MRCA staff are currently working with Proposition A staff to close out the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path (Phase I) grant and to continue the process of getting reimbursed from the Ballona Creek to Parks Connection Loop grant. A Proposition A required document for project cost reimbursement is Board approval of the plans and specifications.

The Proposition A District adopted a new Procedural Guide in June 2009. Previous guides did not specify that plans must be approved by the Governing Board, therefore staff were unable to comply at the time the improvements at the Centinela Ave. Gateway were designed and constructed.