



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 6, 2011

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII: Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a Reimbursement Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Culver City for the purposes of developing, designing, and constructing the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path Enhancement project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing entering into a Reimbursement Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Culver City for the purposes of developing, designing, and constructing the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path Enhancement project.

Background: In 2008 the MRCA was awarded funds from the California State Resources Agency through a River Parkways grant to complete the Ballona Creek Trail and Bike Path Enhancement project (Project). The primary goal of the Project is to create and install a system of improved, consistent, and uniform signage along the Ballona Creek bike path and to develop and reinforce an identity for the Ballona Creek park system through signage. The existing signs along the bike path are currently either defaced or missing and this lack of this signage has led to underutilization, confusion, and lack of connectivity. Once installed at select locations along the length of the bike path, the new wayfinding and interpretive signage will help to identify the Creek and form clear connections between all the various parks, amenities, and trails adjacent to and around the bike path. Another part of the Project is to stripe all of the un-striped or faded portions of the bike path.

To help implement parts of the Project MRCA staff has partnered with the City of Culver City (City). The majority of portions that required the striping were 2.5 miles of the path within the City. The City agreed to submit a service request for the striping work under their existing agreement with the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (County). It was agreed that the City would pay the County the up-front costs of the striping and would in return be reimbursed by the MRCA with funds from the River Parkways grant once the striping work was completed. Also, MRCA partnered with the City to design the three interpretive signs

and the trail sign to be installed at the City's Overland Avenue gateway improvement project along the Ballona Creek.

The terms of the Reimbursement Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding will allow for the MRCA to reimburse the City for the striping using the River Parkways grant funds. The terms also state that MRCA is responsible for planning and constructing the signs and that the City is responsible for on-going maintenance of the trail and interpretive signs that MRCA's construction staff will install at this location.

The proposed action would allow MRCA staff to continue planning and fulfill the requirements of this grant, authorize reimbursement to the City for the striping and authorize construction of the signs at the City's Overland Avenue location.

The final draft Reimbursement Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding was reviewed by MRCA planning staff, legal staff and finance staff and staff from the City and is attached.