

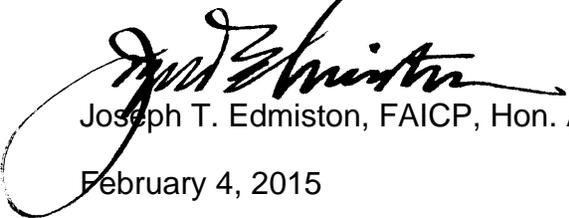


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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: February 4, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(b): Consideration of resolution assigning the right to apply for First Supervisorial Specified Excess Funds to Watershed Conservation Authority for the Rio Hondo Trailhead Acquisition project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution assigning the right to apply for First Supervisorial District Specified Excess Funds in the amount of \$3,000,000.00 to Watershed Conservation Authority for the Rio Hondo Trailhead Acquisition project.

Background: Staff has been informed that Los Angeles County Supervisorial District One has selected projects to receive Specified Excess Funds. Among the projects is a \$3,000,000 allocation to the Watershed Conservation Authority for the Rio Hondo Trailhead Acquisition project. The proposed project involves fee acquisition of 11 acres of open space and/or up to 22 acres of conservation easement in the Montebello Hills. The acquisition will conserve natural open space to support populations of native plant and wildlife habitats, as well as public access to open space and vistas. Information provided to staff about the project is attached.

A portion of Proposition A Excess Funds are designated for the five highest priority regional open space and recreation projects defined in the measure, i.e. the "Big Five". These funds are split between the five supervisorial districts, but each of the priority projects has a designated recipient in the measure. If the designated recipient is not implementing a new project, they must formally assign the right to those funds to another entity. In this case, the designated recipient for expenditure of the subject sub-account of excess funds is the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. The entity to whom MRCA assigns funds would enter into a Project Agreement directly with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District and no further work is required of the MRCA. Assigning the right to these funds reduces the amount of Excess Funds potentially available to the MRCA.