

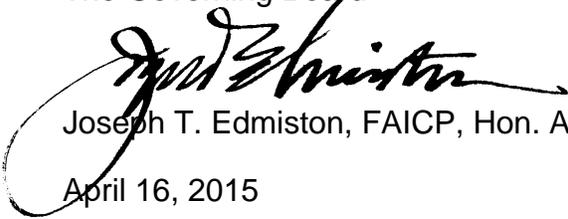


MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 16, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IV (Special Agenda No. 2): Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 84 funds for project planning and design of public improvements at the Los Angeles River Taylor Yard G2 property.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 84 funds in the amount of \$200,000 for project planning and design of public improvements at the Los Angeles River Taylor Yard G2 property.

Background: The Taylor Yard G2 site is a critical site for restoration of the Los Angeles River watershed. The 42-acre site includes nearly one-mile of river frontage along the soft-bottom portion of the River. This large site has the potential to treat regional stormwater flows and therefore can impact the long-term water quality of the River. Its proximity to existing open space, recreational resources, and interpretive resources, including Rio de Los Angeles State Park, Elysian Park, riparian habitat in the river itself, numerous parks along the opposite bank of the River, and Los Angeles River High School, means that G2 is a singularly unique opportunity to create a regional multiple-benefit park, enhance habitat connectivity, provide recreation and interpretation, improve the water quality of the Los Angeles River watershed, and promote access to the Los Angeles River.

The G2 site was used for maintenance and fueling of trains from the 1930s to 2006. Conversion of the property to public parkland and watershed restoration will require a multi-year remediation process to address pollutants on portions of the site. The subject grant will be used for project planning and design for both permanent and interim improvements on the site, including technical research for the remediation process.