



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: September 5, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X(b): Consideration of resolution approving the application for grant funds for the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program under the Safe Neighborhood, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 12) for (b) Los Angeles River Greenway- Elysian Valley Bikeway.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution approving the application for grant funds for the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program under the Safe Neighborhood, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 12) for (b) Los Angeles River Greenway-Elysian Valley Bikeway.

Background: The Safe Neighborhood, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 (Proposition 12) authorized \$2.1 billion primarily for the development and improvement of state and local parks. The majority of this money (about \$1.3 billion) is directed to the state Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for land acquisitions, park development and restoration, as well as grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations. The State of California Resources Agency is administering the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program. The "Grant Guidelines" require that applicants submit an Authorizing Resolution from the applicant's governing body. Applications for the funding are due August 31, 2007. MRCA staff has submitted the application for the project described below. If the Governing Board approves the subject resolution, staff will submit the resolution as soon as possible.

Los Angeles River Greenway- Elysian Valley Bikeway: This project will create four new pocket-park access points to a new segment of the Los Angeles River Greenway/Bikeway, the 2.5-mile Elysian Valley Bikeway, will improve one existing access point, and will add native plantings to portions of the Bikeway. The new access points will be located at Allesandro Street, Dallas Street, Gatewood Street,

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and Fernleaf Street, the access point to be improved is located at Riverdale Street and other improvements will be along the west side of the Bikeway, between the path and adjacent properties. Stormwater Best Management Practices will be installed as part of the work conducted at the access points. Construction of the Bikeway will be undertaken by the City of Los Angeles and is scheduled to begin in July 2008. If funded, the proposed Project can be an “add-alternate” to the construction bid for the Bikeway, and so would be constructed simultaneously with the Bikeway. The Project is a partnership between the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and the City of Los Angeles.