MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board
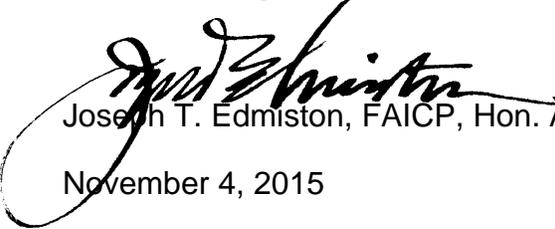
FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: November 4, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing grant application to the Urban Waters Small Grants Program under the United States Environmental Protection Agency for Pacoima Wash–El Dorado Park.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Urban Waters Small Grants Program under the United States Environmental Protection Agency for Pacoima Wash–El Dorado Park in the amount of $60,000.

Background: The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Urban Waters Small Grants Program will award a total of $1.6 million in grants for projects that fund research, investigations, experiments, training, surveys, studies, and demonstrations to advance the restoration of urban waters. The selected projects shall improve water quality in urban areas through activities that also support community revitalization. Applications for the grant funds are due on November 20, 2015, and the maximum grant amount is $60,000.

The Pacoima Wash - El Dorado Park project will convert a vacant 1-acre site owned by the City of Los Angeles into a multiple benefit natural park adjacent to the Pacoima Wash. When complete, El Dorado Park will be the second project in place to implement the Pacoima Wash Greenway vision. The completed park will provide public parkland, interpretive features, water quality improvements, flood protection, and habitat restoration. The project has secured grant funding from California State Parks, the Natural Resources Agency's Urban Greening program, and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Additional funds are needed for park construction, specifically storm water treatment. The Urban Waters grant application will be for $60,000.