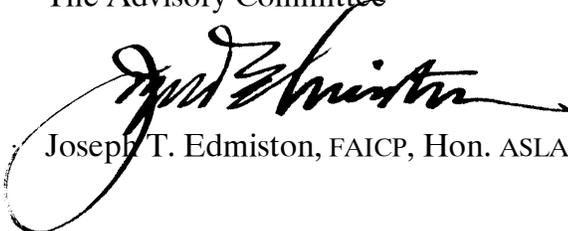


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: May 12, 2008

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 12: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant augmentation of grant SMM-0752 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Vista Hermosa Watershed Restoration project.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant augmentation of grant SMM-0752 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Vista Hermosa Watershed Restoration project, Los Angeles in the amount of \$750,000.

Legislative Authority: Section 6500 *et seq.* of the Government Code and Section 33204 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: On August 30, 2004, the Conservancy authorized a grant of Proposition 50 funds in the amount of \$3,269,700 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for construction and project management for the Vista Hermosa Los Angeles River Watershed Restoration Project. In 2006 when the construction bids were obtained, the project was redesigned to cut costs, and the bid was separated into fifteen parts to isolate specific costs, with the option to incorporate these items as additive alternates at a later date if funding became available.

The requested augmentation will be combined with all of the funding sources to construct the park's sustainable design features and amenities that were removed due to value engineering for the Vista Hermosa Watershed Restoration Park project. The requested funding will allow the addition of the following elements: Perimeter fencing and interpretive entry gates and signs; additional seating and shade covering features in the grotto and throughout select portions of the park; additional loads of boulders for the adventure play area; additional greening of the building roofs; additional security features such as alarm and ParkCam, and upsizing specimen oak and sycamore trees and doubling the quantity of native plants.

Additional funding for the project has already been secured from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, the Los Angeles Unified School District, private donors, an SMMC Proposition 12 grant, the City of Los Angeles (Proposition K and CDBG), Amateur Athletic Foundation, and the Weingart Foundation.

A 10% contingency has been included to accommodate potential staff and design time.