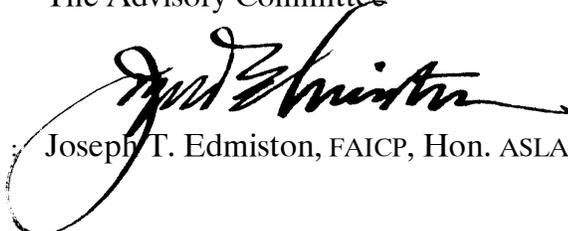


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: September 22, 2008

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 12: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Phase One Design and Construction Services for the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch, pursuant to the National Park Service Centennial Challenge Cost-Share Program; Malibu Creek Watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Phase One Design and Construction Services for the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch, pursuant to the National Park Service Centennial Challenge Cost-Share Program, in the amount of \$2,040,000.

Legislative Authority: Sections 33204.2(a), 33204.27(a), and 75060(d)(1) of the Public Resources Code.

Background: The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), allocated funds to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in Chapter 7, 75060(d)(1) of the Public Resources Code, for the protection of beaches, bays and coastal waters and watersheds, including projects to prevent the contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds, projects to protect and restore the natural habitat values of coastal waters and lands, and projects and expenditures to promote the access to and enjoyment of the coastal resources of the state.

Please see the attached grant application and Conservancy letter requesting Attorney General approval of the grant.

The King Gillette Ranch Visitor Center is consistent with the goals set forth in the project plan for the property adopted at the August 30, 2004 Conservancy meeting, the Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan, and policy 25 of the Plan which provides that "the use of the Santa Monica Mountains as an educational resource should be expanded."

This project will implement the joint goal of the National Park Service, the California Department of State Parks, the MRCA and the Conservancy in creating a wonderful visitor serving amenity in the heart of the Santa Monica Mountains.

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Consideration: The amount of the grant to the MRCA would be in the amount of \$2,040,000.