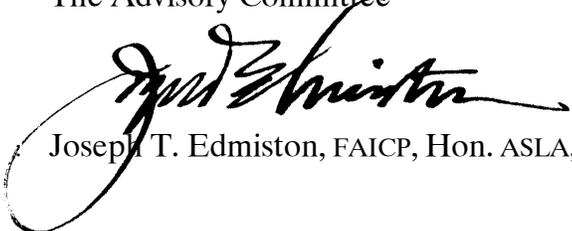


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: October 20, 2008

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 21: Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation to NP-0797 for Los Angeles River Feasibility Study, Studio City.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing an augmentation to NP-0797 from the Upper Los Angeles River portion of the Conservancy's Proposition 84 funds for the Los Angeles River Feasibility Study in Studio City in the amount of \$20,000.

Legislative Authority: Section 6500 *et seq.* of the Government Code and Sections 33204(c), 33204.2(a), 33204.27(a), and 75050(g)(2) of the Public Resources Code.

Background: In September of 2007, the Conservancy awarded a \$20,000 non-grant (NP-0797) to Community Conservancy International (CCI) to develop preliminary design plans for the 17-acre Studio City Golf and Tennis Club site on the north bank of the Los Angeles River. A location map is attached. Also attached are three figures from CCI's latest work that show potential park designs that maximize the capture and cleaning of storm water runoff. Copies of CCI's work will be passed out at the Conservancy meeting. A copy of the 2007 Conservancy staff report is also attached for background.

The subject property is by far the largest river-adjacent open space parcel upstream of Taylor Yards across from Griffith Park. No public agency has land tenure on the site yet, but its great public potential warrants taking steps to optimize opportunities to acquire and improve all or a portion of the property. Most current State bond funding sources require a water quality and/or water supply component. The more significant that component is the greater the odds are for funding. Likewise, funding opportunities increase if the project is part of a River Parkway. This project achieves both of these objectives handily.

To move the project a substantial step closer to fully demonstrating its water quality and supply potential, more hydrological work is required. CCI has submitted the attached grant application to provide the next level of hydrological analysis. The work product would produce a detailed schematic hydrological concept plan diagram for potential runoff capture and treatment. The application provides a detailed budget of how the funds are proposed to be expended.

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This proposed hydrological work would increase funding opportunities and represents the best possible use of \$20,000 to increase the probability that at least a portion of the property will remain as natural public open space with significant water quality and supply benefits.