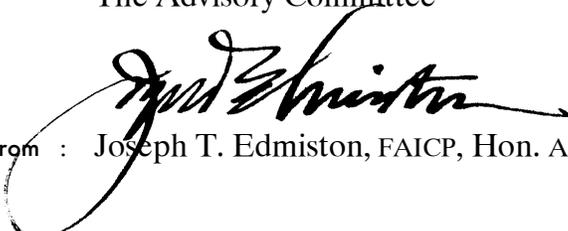


Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: November 23, 2009

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing a budget amendment and scope change for grant SMM-0776.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy authorize a budget amendment to increase the total budget to not to exceed \$2,200,000 and scope change to include making fire safety improvements to Ramirez Canyon Park access over Ramirez Canyon Road and Delaplane Road, City of Malibu.

Legislative Authority: The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is authorized to award grants to government agencies pursuant to Sections 33204(c), 33204.2, and 33204.27 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: The Conservancy awarded a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in 2007 for project planning and design for the Malibu Parks Public Access Enhancement Plan. The face amount of the grant is \$1,500,000. The budget stated in the staff report underestimated the project expenses which increased due to a number of factors including the City of Malibu's effective denial of the Conservancy's local coastal plan amendment. The budget/grant amount discrepancy was discovered in an internal audit. At the August 31, 2009 the Conservancy amended the grant to add an additional \$700,000. The grant application for the amendment stated a total project cost of \$2,200,000.

The funding source for this grant is Proposition 84 which provides funds for the physical improvement of real property. The Los Angeles County Fire Department in the LCPA approval process and hearing advised the Conservancy that the road access to Ramirez Canyon Park must be twenty feet wide. There are a number of encroachments along Ramirez Canyon Road and Delaplane Drive within the twenty feet and some sections of the roads are not paved to twenty feet. The MRCA had a detailed survey completed. The Conservancy intends to obtain a permit to make the required safety improvements to Ramirez Canyon Road and Delaplane Drive. The MRCA has requested that a portion of the grant funds be made available for the required safety improvements. The costs for the safety improvements have not yet been determined.