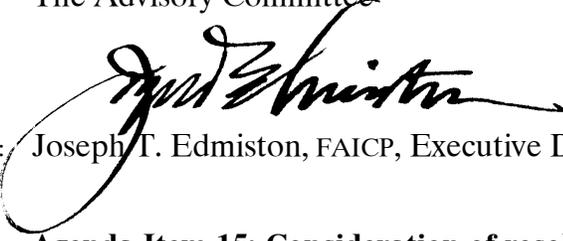


# Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: April 24, 2006

From :   
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 15: Consideration of resolution authorizing amendment and augmentation of SMM-0464 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Project Planning and Design services related to upper Los Angeles River and Ballona Creek projects.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing amendment and augmentation in the amount of \$100,000 of SMM-0464 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Project Planning and Design services related to upper Los Angeles River and Ballona Creek projects.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204(c) of Public Resources Code.

Background: On August 30, 2004 the Board authorized a grant of Proposition 50 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for project planning and design services for projects in the Upper Los Angeles River watershed and Santa Monica Mountains coastal watershed portions of the Santa Monica Mountains Zone. The grant funds are used for activities directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources and associated planning, permitting, and administrative costs for a subset of projects listed on the MRCA Workprogram.

A portion of the subject grant has been utilized by MRCA to develop conceptual storm water infiltration/park site designs for 10-15 sites. The conceptual plans typically consist of a narrative describing the proposed park elements; maps and aerial photographs depicting project location and jurisdictions; parcel research data including ownership; diagrams and rough calculations for stormwater treatment capacities; feasibility analysis; and illustrative plans, sections, elevations, and/or perspective drawings depicting the proposed park design. This level of planning is highly useful in securing support to implement the projects. Having several of these "mini-proposals" ready to go enables staff to best take advantage of limited time with elected officials and potential funders.

The MRCA has requested an augmentation to the grant for additional personnel time and retention of professional consultants for the development of conceptual plans for more sites. The MRCA has also requested that the potential projects list for Task 2, the Coastal Watersheds of Santa Monica Bay and Ventura County, be amended to include Ballona Creek as a sub-area.

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The requested augmentation of \$100,000 would be split 50/50 between the Los Angeles River Watershed and the Coastal Watersheds, with emphasis on developing projects for Ballona Creek.