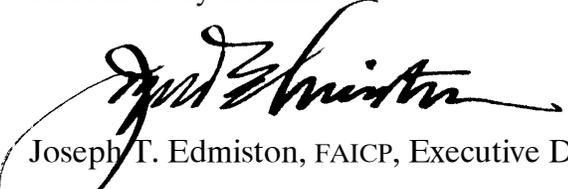


## Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date : June 26, 2006

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 13: Consideration of resolution authorizing a term extension and augmentation of grant agreement SMM-0482 with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve, Temescal Gateway Park, Franklin Canyon Park, Mentryville, Towsley Canyon and Ramirez Canyon.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the following resolution authorizing a term extension and augmentation of grant agreement SMM-0482 with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve, Temescal Gateway Park, Franklin Canyon Park, Mentryville, Towsley Canyon and Ramirez Canyon.

Legislative Authority: Section 6500 *et seq.* of the Government Code, the Joint Exercise of Powers Act; and Section 33204(c) of the Public Resources Codes, which states in part:

The conservancy may, in accordance with the priorities of the plan, do the following: . . . (c) Award grants to state agencies, cities, counties, resource conservation districts, and park and recreation districts for the purpose of acquiring sites identified as necessary for park, recreation, or conservation purposes and for development of essential related public facilities.

Section 5096.650 (b) of the Public Resource Code provides:

The sum of... to the conservancies in accordance with the particular provisions of the statute creating each conservancy for acquisition, development...of land and water resources; for grant..., and in accordance with the following schedule: (3) To the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy... \$40,000,000.

Section 5096.605 (c) of the Public Resources Code provides:

"Development includes, but is not limited to, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, preservation, protection, and interpretation."

Background: This resolution would authorize an augmentation of \$550,000 of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for the interpretation of land, air and water at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve, Temescal Gateway Park, Franklin Canyon Park, Mentryville, Towsley Canyon and Ramirez Canyon and extend the term agreement of grant SMM-0482 to June 30, 2008.

The MRCA has provided interpretive services on parks under the jurisdiction of the Conservancy for over 17 years and has demonstrated an expertise and specific knowledge of that parkland. It therefore has been determined that it increases both efficiency and program continuity to have these programs carried out by the MRCA. This augmentation will enable the MRCA to continue to provide interpretive services through June of 2008. For the purposes of this grant, interpretation includes any exhibits, displays, kiosks, brochures, docent interpretive programs, ranger interpretive programs, and written materials on land, air, and water resources directly relating to a Conservancy project or parkland.

All programs will target regional audiences from our City's most impacted urban areas. The attached grant agreement spells out the specific scope of services that will be provided, including:

1. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Temescal Gateway Park, including written materials, docent interpretive programs, and ranger interpretive programs. These programs will directly relate to the Park's natural history and water resources.
2. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve. This program directly relates to the Park's rich natural resources. Programming will focus on interpretation of the site's endangered species, ecology, importance in the watershed, conservation, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.
3. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Mentryville. This program directly relates to the Park's unique geology and natural resources. Interpretation will focus on endangered species, ecology, watersheds, conservation, geology, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.
4. Interpretation of land, air and water resources at Towsley Canyon. This program directly relates to the Park's rich natural resources. Interpretation will focus on endangered species, ecology, watersheds, conservation, geology, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.
5. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Franklin Canyon Park. This program

directly relates to the Park's water resources, including the Franklin Canyon Reservoir and the Heavenly Pond. Additionally, programs focus on natural resource conservation and the dynamics of urban/wildland interfaces.

6. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Ramirez Canyon Park. This program directly relates to the Park's unique natural resources. Interpretation will focus on endangered species, ecology, watersheds, conservation, geology, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.

Timeline and progress reports:

This scope of work for the augmentation will take place in fiscal years 06-07 and 07-08. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority shall provide the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy with detailed quarterly updates that will include: grant milestones, grant compliance, percentage of work completed as of the date of the quarterly report (the number of programs delivered, materials developed, attendance rates, and survey and evaluation responses), and any current issues that affect project compliance with the grant's work program and funding.

Budget

**Planning:**

Includes planning and development of performance standards and objectives for interpretive materials and programs, evaluation of interpretive materials and programs directly relating to parks under SMMC jurisdiction of specific parks under SMMC jurisdiction as specified in the scope of work

Deputy Executive Officer, Interpretation \$68.91 @1000 hours	68,910
Interpretive Project Specialists \$45 @1000 hours	45,000
	<b>\$113,910</b>

**Direct Project Management:**

Includes all direct management related to and required for the performance of the project.

Deputy Executive Officer, Interpretation \$68.91 @1000 hours	68,691
Interpretive Project Specialist \$45 @1000hours	45,000
	<b>\$113,691</b>

**Program Delivery:**

Includes interpretation of land, air, and water resources of

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specific parks under SMMC jurisdiction, as specified in the scope of work

Senior Naturalists, \$40 @ 3140 hours	\$125,600
Naturalists \$30 @3000 hours	\$ 90,000
Rangers \$45 @ 1500	\$ 54,000
	<b>\$269,600</b>

**Brochures, Exhibits, and Displays:**

Includes expenses for production of brochures, printing, exhibits and other written materials interpreting land, air, and water resources of specific parks under SMMC jurisdiction as specified in the scope of work

Professional specialist \$40 @250	\$10,000
Interpretive Project Specialist \$45 @500hours	\$22,500
Printing	\$24,000

**\$46500**

**Direct Expenditures:**

Including postage, delivery charges, transportation

**\$ 6,299**

**Total:**

**\$550,000**