

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: June 18, 2018

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 12: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Confluence Park Phase II Pre-Improvement Planning, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 1 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Confluence Park Phase II Pre-Improvement Planning, in the amount of \$500,000, City of Los Angeles.

Legislative Authority: Sections 33204.2 and 33204.27 of the Public Resources Code; and Section 79735(a) of the Water Code.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has submitted the attached application for Proposition 1 funding for pre-improvements planning and design at the Confluence Park Phase II project. The project site is an approximately 1 acre parcel owned by the City of Los Angeles located adjacent to the confluence of the Los Angeles River and the Arroyo Seco. Notable aspects of the subject project with respect to the Urban Creeks program are its location adjacent to the River, its potential to one day create multiple benefits including recreation, water quality enhancements, native habitat, the location being in a disadvantaged neighborhood as defined by the CalEnviroScreen mapping tool, and potential connections to the River bike path.

Potential improvements to be evaluated during project pre-improvement planning and design include elements related to watershed protection such as stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) for water quality improvement, native drought-tolerant landscaping for shade and habitat creation, efficient irrigation, interpretation of natural resources, and other park amenities. The project will be planned in such a way that future stormwater management components could maximize public benefit and take advantage of the location.

Scoring under the Conservancy's Proposition 1 Guidelines for Project Planning and Design resulted in the Confluence Park Phase II project receiving 83 points out of 86 (minimum of 61 required); plus 4 out of 4 climate change value points, plus 15 out of 25 Additional Criteria points. Total points: 102 out of 115.

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Staff recommends award of this grant.