

Attachment  
SMMC Item 16  
September 24, 2007

Materials prepared by: P. Edelman, 9/19/07



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

September 20, 2007

Ms. Elizabeth Cheadle  
Chairperson  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
5750 Ramirez Canyon  
Malibu, California 90265

**Amendment to Grant SMM-0754  
Project Planning and Design**

Dear Ms. Cheadle:

The subject grant was awarded to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for Project Planning and Design activities in the upper Los Angeles River watershed and the coastal watersheds of Santa Monica Bay. The grant was funded from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

The MRCA originally requested \$850,000 for this work. At the Conservancy's July 9, 2007 meeting, the grant was authorized for a reduced amount of \$200,000. The MRCA now requests that the original request be augmented by the amount of \$450,000. Supplemental application materials are attached that provide more detail regarding the original request.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact Paul Edelman, at 310-589-3230, extension 128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Berger".

Michael D. Berger  
Chairperson

Attachments:      Application

<b>SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION</b>			
<b>Project Name:</b> Project Planning and Design		<b>Amount of Request:</b> \$ 450,000 <b>Total Project Cost:</b> \$ 650,000	
<b>Applicant Name:</b> Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority		Augmentation SMM 0754	
<b>Applicant Address:</b> 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 Los Angeles, CA 90065		<b>Project Address:</b> N/A	
		<b>County</b>	<b>Senate District</b>
		Los Angeles	various
<b>Phone:</b> 323-221-9944 <b>Fax:</b> 323-221-9934		<b>Assembly District</b>	various
<b>Email:</b> edelman@smmc.ca.gov			
<b>Grantee's Authorized Representative:</b>			
Cara McLane, Contracts Officer		323-221-9944, x117	
<i>Name and Title</i>		<i>Phone</i>	
<b>Person with day-to-day responsibility for project:</b>			
Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning		310-589-3230, x128	
<i>Name and Title</i>		<i>Phone</i>	
<b>Brief Scope of Work</b> (60 words maximum): Project planning and design activities leading directly to the preservation, protection and restoration of land, water and other natural resources in the upper Los Angeles River watershed and the watersheds of Santa Monica Bay.			
<b>Funding Source Applied for:</b> Proposition 84			
<b>Narrative/Project Description:</b>			
<p>The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's (MRCA) requested Project Planning and Design Services grant augmentation would fund activities directly related to the acquisition, preservation, protection and restoration of land, water and other natural resources and associated planning, permitting, and administrative costs for eligible projects located in the upper Los Angeles River watershed and the coastal watersheds of the Santa Monica Bay. The MRCA will provide direct services related to the expeditious acquisition or improvement of property.</p> <p>The MRCA, in consultation with the Conservancy staff, will develop and implement projects that maximize the protection, enhancement, distribution, and creation of public parks and natural areas throughout the upper Los Angeles River watershed and the coastal canyons of the Santa Monica Bay. The funding will be used for Proposition 84 funding eligible projects in the specific geographic areas listed in the attached figure entitled "Potential Projects List." The scope of these projects shall range from the acquisition and development of urban native habitat parks and trails to the acquisition of habitat linkage lands between the major core habitats of the Santa Monica Mountains zone. MRCA staff efforts will also include the obtainment and processing of land and trail easement dedications and donations. To the extent possible, all planning, design, and implementation efforts shall be multi-objective to integrate increased water supply and quality, wildlife habitat including fisheries, habitat connectivity, and the broad distribution of passive</p>			

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recreational opportunities that may incorporate interpretive displays. All of the subject project planning and design activities would be consistent with the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) and in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Project development will strongly focus on combining multiple funding sources to stretch both local and State dollars.

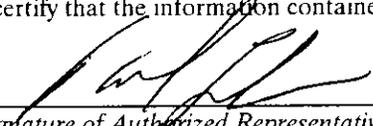
A major component of this grant scope is to bring forth to the Conservancy a primary set of upper Los Angeles River watershed projects to be partially funded by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's allocation of Proposition 84 funding. The development of that project set, and their resulting scopes, will involve extensive public input to greatly address the paucity of the Conservancy's Workprogram projects in the portions of the watershed that were added to the Conservancy's jurisdiction with the passage of Proposition 50 and carried forth in Proposition 84. That project set will include both acquisition and improvement projects in the array of upper watershed geographic quadrants.

The MRCA requests that the term of agreement end no earlier than December 30, 2008.

<b>Tasks / Milestones:</b>	<b>Budget:</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1 Project Planning – upper LA River	\$300,000 (see attachment)	December 30, 2008
2 Project Planning – Santa Monica Bay	\$150,000	December 30, 2008

<b>Acquisition Projects:</b>	<b>APN(s):</b> n/a
	<b>Acreage:</b> n/a

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.

 Signature of Authorized Representative	9-20-07 Date
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Interim Form SMM-001



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## **PROPOSITION 84 - PROJECT PLANNING AND DESIGN**

### **POTENTIAL PROJECT AREA LIST**

#### **TASK 1 – UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED**

##### **A. Los Angeles River Watershed, upstream of the Tujunga Wash/Los Angeles River confluence**

Incorporation of LACO Flood Control and Army Corps of Engineers right-of-way (as incrementally approved by LACO and ACOE) into greenbelt and acquisition and restoration of creek adjacent, or near adjacent, parcels from Bell and Calabasas Creek confluence to Tujunga Wash confluence

Pacoima Wash: Acquisition and restoration of wash adjacent properties in the City of San Fernando and the City of Los Angeles to the Angeles National Forest.

Hansen Dam Basin: Restoration of habitat in the basin

Incorporation of LACO Flood Control right-of-way (as incrementally approved by LACO) into greenbelt and acquisition and restoration of creek adjacent parcels, or near-adjacent, for the following tributaries of the Los Angeles River:

Bell Creek between Valley Circle Boulevard and Shoup Avenue

South Bell Creek between Royer and Fallbrook Avenues

Aliso Creek, Chatsworth Creek, Santa Susana Creek, Limekiln Creek, Calabasas Creek, and Browns Canyon Wash-south of the 118 Freeway and north of Roscoe Boulevard

Bull Creek and Woolsey Creek: Acquisition and restoration of creek adjacent properties along the creeks.

Acquire and restore open space in the following tributary watershed of the Los Angeles River between the Sepulveda Basin and the Simi Hills:

El Escorpion Canyon – between Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve and Valley Circle Boulevard

Open space and watershed acquisitions in the Limekiln and Aliso Creek drainages.

Tujunga Wash: extension of wash-adjacent restoration project and stormwater management enhancements north of Vanowen and south of Oxnard

Natoma, Ventura and Fryman Canyons - Acquire donations and dedications.

**B. Land acquisition and restoration in the following canyons and sub-areas of the Simi Hills:**

Dayton Canyon -

Woolsey Canyon - Accept dedications and acquire donations between Chatsworth Reservoir and Sage Ranch

Box Canyon - Pursuing interests in all parcels between Box Canyon and Lilac/Thompson Lanes for connection to State Historic Park

Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park - Accept donations around, and coordinate acquisitions with other entities to add to State Park holdings

Chatsworth Peak (south slope) Accept donations and coordinate acquisitions with other entities such as Rancho Simi Park and Recreation District

Devil - accept dedications and donations throughout watershed  
Analyzing numerous potential in lieu fee acquisition parcels.

Browns - accept dedications and donations throughout watershed

**C. Los Angeles River Watershed, between the Tujunga Wash/Los Angeles River confluence and the Verdugo Wash/Los Angeles River confluence**

Incorporation of LACO Flood Control and Army Corps of Engineers right-of-way (as incrementally approved by LACO and ACOE) into greenbelt and acquisition and restoration of creek adjacent, or near adjacent, parcels from Tujunga Wash confluence to Verdugo Wash confluence

Acquire and restore open space in the following tributary watersheds of the Los Angeles River interests:

- Newhall Pass - accept donations and dedications west of Interstate 5
- Newhall Pass - accept donations and dedications between Interstate 5 State Route 14
- Grapevine Canyon – secure dedications, donations, and acquire easements
- Bee Canyon- accept dedication, donations in progress, and secure additional easements

- Lopez Canyon, Kagel Canyon, Little Tujunga Canyon – process and negotiate open space acquisitions, dedications, and donations in the area between the built environment and the Angeles National Forest
- Big Tujunga Canyon – acquire private, City of Los Angeles and Department of Water and Power surplus property and City of Los Angeles entitlement dedications between the 210 Freeway and the Angeles National Forest
- Millard Canyon – acquire parcels between the Angeles National Forest and Canyon Crest Road
- Accept donation, dedications, and acquire in the eastern Verdugo Mountains both north and south of the Verdugo Mountain Open Space in the City of Glendale
- Woodland Hills- Secure interest in Girard Reservoir property, open space along SR 27, Mulholland High, dirt and paved Mulholland Drive, Caltrans Property, and Valley Circle.
- Accept donations and dedications in the eastern Verdugo Mountains both south and north of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's Verdugo Mountain Open Space in the City of Glendale

La Tuna Canyon: Acquire and restore open space up stream of Sunland Boulevard including the Canyon Hills-Whitebird, Bagdesarian, and Hillview properties abutting the 210 Freeway, and the Majors property at the eastern end of the Verdugo Mountains

**D. Los Angeles River Watershed, between the Verdugo Wash/Los Angeles River confluence and the Arroyo Seco/Los Angeles River Confluence, Excluding the Arroyo Seco Watershed**

Incorporation of LACO Flood Control and Army Corps of Engineers right-of-way (as incrementally approved by LACO and ACOE) into greenbelt and acquisition and restoration of creek adjacent, or near adjacent, parcels along the main stem of the Los Angeles River

Elysian Valley: Stormwater management enhancements on existing MRCA property at Marsh Street Park.

Acquisition and development for open space for park use at the Semi Tropic Spiritualists' Tract at 2400 Alessandro Street, Los Angeles.

Hazard Park: Acquisition and restoration of open space on City of Los Angeles property and creation of habitat connection northward to the Monterey Hills and Lincoln Park

Taylor Yard River Park- (Parcel-G2): Acquire and restore open space on the G-2 parcel adjacent to the Los Angeles River to establish riparian and associated habitats, enhance wildlife connectivity and movement along the river corridor, and improve the quality of stormwater runoff.

### **E. Los Angeles River Watershed, between the Arroyo Seco/Los Angeles River Confluence and Vernon Avenue, Excluding the Arroyo Seco Watershed**

#### *Acquisition and restoration of open spaces for an Urban Natural Habitat parks with stormwater quality improvements:*

- Downtown Area (located within 1/3 of a mile of the Los Angeles River between the 101 Freeway Bridge and the 10 Freeway Bridge)
- El Pueblo Area (located within 1/3 of a mile of the Los Angeles River between the Arroyo Seco Confluence and the 101 Freeway Bridge)
  - Albion Dairy park acquisition and development on river adjacent parcel
- South Los Angeles Area (located within 1/3 of a mile of the Los Angeles River between the 10 Freeway Bridge and Vernon Avenue)
  - Stormwater management enhancements on City of Los Angeles right-of-way, the former Sears property, and the Santa Fe Ave property between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>
- Boyle Heights/City Heights Area (located within an area 2 miles south of the 10 Freeway and 2 miles west of the 710 Freeway)
- Lincoln Park Area (located within an area 2 miles north of the 10 Freeway and 2 miles east of the 5 Freeway)
- Vista Hermosa Area (located within an area within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed, south of Elysian Park, and within 2 miles west of the 110 Freeway)
  - Development of the Vista Hermosa Park (currently under construction)

### **F. Arroyo Seco watershed**

San Rafael Hills: Acquire and restore open space in the cities of Pasadena, Glendale and La Cañada-Flintridge at the east end of the San Rafael Hills north of the 134 Freeway

Acquire and restore open space adjacent, or near adjacent to, the Angeles National Forest, Hahamongna Watershed Park, or downstream stretches of the Arroyo Seco to the Los Angeles River confluence

Stream restoration of the North Branch and stormwater management enhancements

South Pasadena: development of the Arroyo Seco Greenway project incorporating the Arroyo Seco Golf Course and the South Pasadena woodlands preservation project.

### **G. Northeast Los Angeles Hill Systems**

Monterey Hills/Mt Olympus: Acquire and restore fee simple and conservation easement open space in the City of Los Angeles south of the 110 Freeway, and near-adjacent to Debs Park and other publicly-owned parcels including Montecito Heights.

Mount Washington: Acquire and restore open space lots and conservation easements that preserve prominent viewsheds and maintain wildlife movement between Elyria Canyon Park and Heidelberg Park

Paradise Hill: Acquire and restore open space lots and conservation easements that preserve prominent viewsheds, trail locations, watershed area and wildlife habitat.

Elephant Hill: Acquire and restore open space lots and conservation easements that preserve prominent viewsheds, trail locations, watershed area and wildlife habitat within cities of Los Angeles and South Pasadena

Ascot Hills: Acquisition, development, and restoration of open space on City of Los Angeles property and creation of habitat connection westward to the Monterey Hills

Walnut Canyon (Cazador Ridge): Acquire and restore open space lots including tax defaulted parcels to maximize habitat and views

### **H. San Rafael Hills**

Acquire and restore open space in the Cities of Pasadena, Glendale and La Canada-Flintridge at east end San Rafael Hills north of the 134 Freeway

### **I. Foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains proximate to the Angeles National Forest.**

- Acquire land and easements in Pickens Ridge Area- including Pickens and Goss Canyon.
- Verdugo Hills Golf Course: Acquire and restore open space
- Acquire interest in Alzada Canyon in Altadena

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San Gabriel Mountain Foothills: Acquisitions of easements and fee simple ownership along the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains north of the 118 and 210 Freeways in Sombrero, Schoolhouse, Limekiln, Lopez, Loop Kagel, Little Tujunga, Big Tujunga, Haines Canyon Watersheds.

#### **J. Big Tujunga and and Millard Canyon**

Big Tujunga Canyon- acquire City of Los Angeles and Department of Water and Power surplus property and City of Los Angeles entitlement dedications between the 210 Freeway and the Angeles National Forest

Millard Canyon - acquire parcels between the Angeles National Forest and Canyon Crest Road

#### **K. Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan**

Acquisition, development, and implementation of Proposition 84 eligible projects from the Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Project List.

#### **L. Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan**

Acquisition, development, and implementation of Proposition 84 eligible projects from the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan

**Proposed MRCA Budget  
Augmentation of SMM-0754  
Upper Los Angeles River Watershed**

<b>Expense Type</b>	<b>Proposed Grant Allocation</b>
<b>1. Direct Acquisition Expenses</b>	<b>\$80,000.00</b>
a. Appraisals (Average \$5,000)	
b. Appraisal Reviews (Average \$1,500)	
c. Preliminary Title Reports (\$750 each)	
d. Environmental Assessment (\$18,000 each)	
<b>2. MRCA Staff Time</b>	<b>\$120,000.00</b>
a. 16 Employees (average cost per hour with benefits & overhead, \$51.hour, 2353 hours approximately).	
<b>3. Planning Engineering, Environmental &amp; Legal Consultants</b>	<b>\$85,000.00</b>
<b>4. Remaining Costs</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
a. Transportation	
b. Acquisition of Digital Aerial Photography	
c. Specialized GIS Software	
d. Fees to reserve Chapter 8 Agreements	
e. Miscellaneous Expenses	
f. 5000 Contingency amount	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$300,000.00</b>

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