

DATE: October 15, 2018

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 13: Consideration of a resolution to approve a grant and grant amendment to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek Project (14003)

PROGRAM AREA: Urban Lands

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: Unincorporated County of Los Angeles

PROJECT MANAGER: Marybeth Vergara

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC authorize a grant and grant amendment to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Willowbrook Walking path will provide an aesthetically pleasing and safer alternative for pedestrians and cyclists to navigate between local schools, parks, and shopping or simply offer a place for folks to relax and take a break from urban life by providing an extension of that walking/cycling path which leads to the Compton Bike Trail. This grant will specifically create a ½ mile linear park along Compton Creek within the community of Willowbrook.

Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) has secured commitments and permission from all public entities including the LA County Parks & Recreation Department, LA County Flood Control District, and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works since the project is entirely on public lands.

In May 2018, work begun with grubbing of the site. The LACC will continue the grading and move on to construction of a fence line, retaining wall, and landscaping. Due to the various permits, right-of-entries, and revised 100% construction documents, the project has been delayed repeatedly, including with the other funding organizations that are providing matching funds. While preliminary work has begun, the overall construction timeline has been delayed and the grantee is requesting an extension through June 2021 to complete the project.

In addition, the project has escalated in cost due to a required retaining wall to ensure stability of the trail footing. The addition of the retaining wall was required to obtain the permits from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works in order to proceed with the work. The total amount needed for this retaining wall is \$700,000, including direct cost for wall materials, labor, irrigation, drainage and contingency.

The original project funding request began in 2013, with the LACC submitted a grant proposal to the Natural Resources Agency, "Urban Greening Grant for the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek" project. The funding request was for a total of \$798,815 and included the extension of the Willowbrook Walking Path, creating a ½ mile linear park along the Compton

Creek. As part of this grant application, the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy was listed as one of the three partners that would each provide a matching grant in the amount of \$300,000 including the office of the 2nd Supervisorial District and the State of California Coastal Conservancy. LACC has been notified that the Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) grant was approved.

The LACC has secured additional funding from the following partners:

- \$319,000 - CA Natural Resources Agency (Approved)
- \$45,000 - State Coastal Conservancy (Pending)
- \$36,000 - Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, 2nd District (Approved)

These funds represent a total amount of \$399,000. The projects fourth funding partner, the RMC, has been requested to provide an additional \$300,000 to close the gap in funding for completion of the project. If approved, the new grant would increase the RMC contribution from the current \$300,000 to \$600,000.

See the attached exhibits regarding this project: Exhibit A- Grant Amendment Request and Exhibit B- Project Budget, submitted by the Los Angeles Conservation Corps.

Staff recommends funding for the Los Angeles Conservation Corps as part of the Urban Greening grant since this project exceeds the RMC's guiding principles based on its goals, objectives, timeline, matching funds and ability to complete the project with the additional funding and amended timeline.

BACKGROUND: Located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County, bordering the City of Compton, the site is one of the most impoverished communities in Los Angeles County. Unincorporated Willowbrook is part of the South Los Angeles community and unfortunately has one of the highest violent crime rates in the County. Coupled with a median household income rate well below the poverty level and excessive high school dropout rate, the project will provide youth employment to the local youth that the Corps works with as part of the construction and stewardship of the project.

The RMC has previously provided funding participation in the walking trail portion immediately north of this trail, along the Washington Carver Park (RMC10013), to which this project will provide a connection.

FISCAL INFORMATION: Contingent upon the execution of the grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps of the requested CNRA funding of \$798,815, the recommendation is for the RMC to match funding with a grant in an amount not to exceed \$300,000. This is in addition to the current grant from the RMC in the amount of \$300,000. Other matching funds will be provided by the 2nd Supervisorial District in the amount of \$300,000, and by the State Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$300,000. The new grant amount to the LACC for this project would be increased by \$300,000 for a new grant total of \$600,000.

The new \$300,000 grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek Project is funded through a \$55,000 grant from Proposition 84, Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 and a \$245,000 grant from Proposition 1, Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014.

Funding for this project will be allocated from the following Proposition 84 allocations.

75050. The sum of nine hundred twenty eight million dollars (\$928,000,000) shall be available for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources in accordance with the following schedule:... (g) The sum of seventy two million dollars (\$72,000,000) shall be available for projects within the watersheds of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers according to the following schedule:

(1) \$36,000,000 to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy pursuant to Division 22.8 (commencing with Section 32600).....

75060. The sum of five hundred forty million dollars (\$540,000,000) shall be available for the protection of beaches, bays and coastal waters and watersheds, including projects to prevent contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds, projects to protect and restore the natural habitat values of coastal waters and lands, and projects and expenditures to promote access to and enjoyment of the coastal resources of the state, in accordance with the following schedule:.... (3) To the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.....\$15,000,000.

Funding for this project will be allocated from the following Proposition 1 allocations:

Funding for this project will be allocated from Chapter Six (6) of Proposition 1, under statute 79731 (f): San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the sum of thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: Section 32602: There is in the Resources Agency, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which is created as a state agency for the following purposes:

- (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory.
- (b) To preserve the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River consistent with existing and adopted river and flood control projects for the protection of life and property.
- (c) To acquire open-space lands within the territory of the conservancy.

Section 32604: The conservancy shall do all of the following:

- (a) Establish policies and priorities for the conservancy regarding the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River, and their watersheds, and conduct any necessary planning activities, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (c) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.

Section 32614.5:

- (a) The conservancy may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of this division.
- (b) Grants to nonprofit organizations for the acquisition of real property or interests in real property shall be subject to all of the following conditions:
 - (1) The purchase price of any interest in land acquired by the nonprofit organization may not exceed fair market value as established by an appraisal approved by the conservancy.
 - (2) The conservancy approves the terms under which the interest in land is acquired.

- (3) The interest in land acquired pursuant to a grant from the conservancy may not be used as security for any debt incurred by the nonprofit organization unless the conservancy approves the transaction.
 - (4) The transfer of land acquired pursuant to a grant shall be subject to the approval of the conservancy and the execution of an agreement between the conservancy and the transferee sufficient to protect the interests of the state.
 - (5) The state shall have a right of entry and power of termination in and over all interests in real property acquired with state funds, which may be exercised if any essential term or condition of the grant is violated.
 - (6) If the existence of the nonprofit organization is terminated for any reason, title to all interest in real property acquired with state funds shall immediately vest in the state, except that, prior to that termination, another public agency or nonprofit organization may receive title to all or a portion of that interest in real property, by recording its acceptance of title, together with the conservancy's approval, in writing.
- (c) Any deed or other instrument of conveyance whereby real property is acquired by a nonprofit organization pursuant to this section shall be recorded and shall set forth the executory interest or right of entry on the part of the state.



LA CONSERVATION CORPS

East LA Center

Mailing Address: 1020 S Fickett St., Los Angeles CA 90023

October 3, 2018

Marybeth Vergara, MPP
Project Analyst/Property Manager
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702

Re: Compton Creek Walking Path Phase II – Request to extend performance period and additional funds (RMC 14003)

Marybeth,

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (the Corps) is respectfully requesting an extension for the Compton Creek Walking Path Phase 2 project. Due to various permits, right-of-entries, etc. with overlapping entities, and revised 100% construction documents (CDs) the onset of the project was delayed repeatedly. Preliminary work (grubbing) has begun but the overall construction timeline of about 1.5 years will take us over the term date currently agreed to. We'd request an extension through June 30, 2021. This will align with our other requests to our other funders as well for this project.

Additionally, the Corps respectfully requests additional funding of \$300,000. Minimum wage, which directly impacts our primary labor force (young adults in our training program), has increased by 47% since the original estimates for this project were created. These wages will continue to increase an additional 13% over the duration of the project. With the revised 100% Construction Documents (CDs) the overall project also saw a substantial increase in the requirements for the retaining wall to ensure safe passage for the intended users of the trail. These requirements were necessary to obtain the permits from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works for us to proceed with work.

Due to requirements of other funding sources I've assigned each task to a single funding source. This means all of the increased wall expense is being covered by one source, creating a need to cover tasks previously associated with various funding sources. The additional funds from RMC would be utilized to cover expenses associated with the increased labor costs (minimum wage) previously mentioned, the wall indirectly (waterproofing), various increased requirements for the drainage system associated with the wall, other tasks previously assigned to other funding sources, and/or new tasks associated with the 100% CDs. These funded improvements would allow for the creation of the continuous trail as originally envisioned with Phase 1 of the project creating a new and safe accessway for students and the general public. Additional funding requests totaling approximately \$400,000 have been sent out to our other three sponsors including California Natural Resources Agency, State Coastal Conservancy, and Regional Parks and Open Space District (SD2). Below is an estimate of how the additional funds from RMC would be allocated.

Trench drain	\$82,107
Drainage swale	\$75,274
Catch basin	\$62,686
Core drill	\$4,287
Irrigation	\$16,409
Rip Rap	\$8,885
Anti-graffiti coating	\$13,870
Wayfinding signage	\$3,755
Contingency	\$32,727
TOTAL	\$300,000

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (323) 526-1460 Ext. 401.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lawrence Melendez', with a stylized, wavy flourish at the end.

Lawrence Melendez
Senior Program Manager
LA Conservation Corps - East LA Site
1020 S. Fickett Street
Los Angeles, CA 90023
lmelendez@lacorps.org
P: (323) 526-1460 ext. 401
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LA CONSERVATION CORPS

Project Budget **Compton Creek Walking Path Phase 2**
Prepared by: **Lawrence Melendez**
Los Angeles Conservation Corps
ELA Site: 323-526-1460 **Date: 10/3/2018**

Task	Work Description	Amount	Unit	ORIGINAL RMC FUNDING	TASK CHANGE	ADDITIONAL RMC FUNDING REQUEST	TOTAL RMC FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING SOURCES	COMMENT
1	Planning/mobilization								
1.1	Erosion control (BMP/SWPPP)	1	LS					\$ 24,901	
1.2	Mobilization	1	LS					\$ 34,214	
2	Grubbing								
2.1	Grubbing	1	LS					\$ 124,289	
2.2	Removal	1	LS					\$ 2,837	
3	Demolition								
3.1	Asphalt removal	1	LS					\$ 16,868	
3.2	Remove metal stand	1	LS					\$ 1,608	
3.3	Remove gates	1	LS					\$ 1,608	
4	Earthwork/grading								
4.1	Backcut/grading	1	LS					\$ 124,834	
4.2	Site/survey layout	1	LS					\$ 14,589	
4.3	Footing soil removal	1	LS					\$ 106,901	
5	Path Construction								
5.1	Wall installation (GMI Masonry)	1	LS					\$ 680,511	
5.2	Waterproofing	1	LS					\$ 50,954	
5.3	Backfill	1	LS					\$ 64,489	
5.4	Soils compact test	1	LS					\$ 3,055	
5.5	Base	1	LS					\$ 83,551	
5.6	Decomposed granite	1	LS					\$ 112,611	
6	Drainage								
6.1	Install trench drain	1	LS			\$ 82,107	\$ 82,107		new task associated with RMC additional fund request
6.2	Drainage swale	1	LS			\$ 75,274	\$ 75,274		new task associated with RMC additional fund request
6.3	Catch basin	1	LS			\$ 62,686	\$ 62,686		new task associated with RMC additional fund request
6.4	Core drill (subcontractor)	1	LS			\$ 4,287	\$ 4,287		new task associated with RMC additional fund request



LA CONSERVATION CORPS

Project Budget **Compton Creek Walking Path Phase 2**
Prepared by: **Lawrence Melendez**
Los Angeles Conservation Corps
ELA Site: 323-526-1460 **Date: 10/3/2018**

Task	Work Description	Amount	Unit	ORIGINAL RMC FUNDING	TASK CHANGE	ADDITIONAL RMC FUNDING REQUEST	TOTAL RMC FUNDING	OTHER FUNDING SOURCES	COMMENT
7	Concrete								
7.1	Concrete slab	1	LS					\$ 13,432	
7.2	Concrete curb (6x6)	1	LS					\$ 63,384	
7.3	Extended curb (6x18)	1	LS					\$ 29,170	
8	Landscaping								
8.1	Irrigation	1	LS	\$ 127,350	\$ 179	\$ 16,409	\$ 143,938		price increase due to wall configuration/labor, part of additional fund request
8.2	Rip rap	1	LS		\$ 145,198	\$ 8,885	\$ 154,083		reassigned chainlink funds and additional fund request
8.3	Trees (15-g)	1	LS					\$ 19,942	
8.4	5g shrubs	1	LS					\$ 19,784	
8.5	1g grasses	1	LS					\$ 18,634	
9	Installs								
9.1	Anti-graffiti coating	1	LS			\$ 13,870	\$ 13,870		new task associated with RMC additional fund request
9.2	Gates/fence	1	LS					\$ 15,394	
9.3	Guard rails	1	LS					\$ 2,628	
9.4	Mile markers	1	LS					\$ 5,965	
9.5	Benches	1	LS					\$ 6,156	
9.6	Bike rack	1	LS					\$ 6,408	
9.7	Trash cans	1	LS					\$ 6,695	
9.8	Wayfinding signs	1	LS			\$ 3,755	\$ 3,755		new task associated with RMC additional fund request
	REMOVED/MOVED TASKS								
n/a	Chainlink fencing	1	LS	\$ 145,198					task done by County DPR, funds reassigned to task 8.2
n/a	Mortared swale	1	LS	\$ 179					task rolled into 8.2, funds reassigned to task 8.1
	Totals								PROJECT TOTALS
	Subtotal			\$ 272,727	n/a	\$ 267,273	\$ 540,000	\$ 1,655,412	\$2,195,412
	Contingency (10%)			\$ 27,273	n/a	\$ 32,727	\$ 60,000	\$ 183,934	\$243,934
	Total			\$ 300,000	n/a	\$ 300,000	\$ 600,000	\$ 1,839,346	\$2,439,346

October 15, 2018 – Item 13

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-24

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING A GRANT AND GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS FOR THE WILLOWBROOK WALKING PARK COMPTON CREEK PROJECT (RMC 14003)

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of funds from Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for capital outlay and local assistance multi-benefit grants for ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, The Applicant has submitted a project which is consistent with the purposes of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code and the Bond Act; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project meets an objective of the California Water Action Plan for more reliable water supplies, restoration of important species and habitat, more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project meets the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with AB 32; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project is consistent with the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, The proposed project protects land and water resources; and

WHEREAS, The grantee has requested a grant from Proposition 1, Section 79731 (f) and Section 79735 (a) of the Water Code; and

WHEREAS, this action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
2. FINDS that the grant is consistent with the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
3. FINDS that the Proposition 1 RMC Grant Program is consistent with the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 ("Proposition 1"), which provides funds for the RMC grant program
4. FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Proposition 1.
5. FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan.
6. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan as adopted by the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy;
7. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
8. ADOPTS the staff report dated October 15, 2018 for this item.
9. AUTHORIZES a grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek Project for \$300,000, funded through a \$55,000 grant from Proposition 84 and \$245,000 grant from Proposition 1.
10. AUTHORIZES a grant amendment to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek Project (RMC 14003) extending the grant period to June 30, 2021.

~ End of Resolution ~

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on October 15, 2018

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST:

David Edsall
Deputy Attorney General