

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
“Rivers and Mountains Conservancy” (RMC)
will be held on
Monday, April 6, 2020
at 1:30 pm

TELECONFERENCE MEETING VIA ZOOM
ADDRESS: <https://zoom.us/j/641172482>
Or by phone at 1-669-900-9128; Meeting ID #641 172 482

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Flag Salute
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment

Individuals wishing to comment must fill out a comment card at the meeting for the official record and will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak. Speaker time may be reduced depending on the number of speakers. Public comment will be limited to sixty (60) minutes.

5. Approval of Minutes
6. Chair's Report
7. Deputy Attorney General's Report
8. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Response to COVID-19
9. **Executive Officer's Report**
 - a. Legislative
 - b. Capital Outlay & Support Budget
 - c. Cumulative Grant Project Status Summary
 - d. Project and Liaison Activities

Consent Calendar

10. Consideration of a resolution approving a grant amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Projects (RMC17014)
11. Consideration of a resolution approving a grant amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority for the San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Acquisition Master Plan (RMC17019)
12. Consideration of a resolution approving the Executive Officer to enter into the San Gabriel River Discover Center Authority JPA Dissolution Agreement

Regular Calendar

13. Consideration of a Resolution approving a Proposition 1 grant to Amigos de los Rios for the Monrovia Unified School District Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project (RMC19011)
14. Consideration of a Resolution approving a Proposition 68 grant to Active San Gabriel Valley for the Development of the San Gabriel Valley Sustainability Center Project (RMC19012)
15. Consideration of a Resolution approving a Proposition 68 grant to Watershed Conservation Authority for the Duck Farm River Center Development Project (RMC19013)
16. Consideration of a Resolution approving a Proposition 68 grant to County of Los Angeles

Department of Parks and Recreation for the Salazar Park Water Conservation Project (RMC19014)

17. Consideration of a Resolution to accept local assistance funds from the Natural Resources Agency for Lower Los Angeles River restoration projects
18. Board Member comments
19. Announcement of next meeting date – Monday, May 18, 2020, @ 1:30PM
20. Adjournment

The RMC may hold a closed session on any public hearing item pursuant to Section 11126(c)(7)(A), Section 11126(e) and Section 11126.3(a) of the Government Code. For additional information concerning the meeting, please contact the RMC Executive Officer, Mark Stanley at (626) 815-1019 or visit the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy web page at www.rmc.ca.gov.

Note: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Board Secretary at (626) 815-1019 at least 3 days prior to the meeting.

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC)**

Monday, February 3, 2020

**Held at the
City of Bellflower
City Hall, Green Room
16600 Civic Center Drive
Bellflower, Ca 90706**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Arrighi called the meeting to order at approximately 1:32 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was recited by all who were in attendance.

3. ROLL CALL

Voting Members Present

Vice Chair Dan Arrighi	Mr. Vincent Chang (for Supervisor Solis)
Ms. Gary Boyer	Mr. Stan Chen (for Mr. Johnson)
Ms. Liz Reilly	Ms. Joe Kalmick
Mr. Denis Bertone	Mr. Josh Nelson (for Secretary Crowfoot)
Mr. Ali Saleh	Mr. John Bishop (for Mr. Blumenfeld)
Mr. Roberto Uranga	Mr. Chris Lief (for Ms. Bosler)
Mr. Julian Juarez (for Mark Pestrella)	
Mr. Tylor Bonanno-Curley (for Senator Gonzalez)	

Non-Voting Members Present

Members Absent

Chair Frank Colonna	Mr. John Walsh (for John Donnelly)
Ms. Margaret Clark	Mr. Sean Woods (for Ms. Mangat)
Ms. Sandra Massa-Lavitt	Mr. Jerry Perez (for Mr. Moore)
Mr. Ed DeMesa (for Ms. Colloton)	Ms. Christy Suppes (for Mr. Silsby)
Ms. Marisol Barajas (for Assembly member P. O'Donnell)	

Staff Present

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
David Edsall, Jr., Deputy Attorney General
Salian Garcia, Accounting Analyst
Marybeth Vergara, Project Manager
Joseph Gonzalez, Project Manager

Sally Gee, Project Manager
Jennifer Fierro, Executive Secretary

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

5. Approval of Minutes

Board Member Reilly noted two typos and was assured by Board Secretary Fierro that corrections would be addressed.

Ms. Reilly motioned to approve the November 18, 2019, minutes. Mr. Urnaga seconded the motion. Board voted 12 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abstentions. Minutes were approved.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no report given.

7. DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT

There was no report given.

8. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Legislative

Mark Stanley gave an overview and update on a few State and Federal legislative bills.

Mr. Stanley started by explaining that AB 968, authored by Christina Garcia, went from the Education Committee into Assembly Appropriations Committee. While RMC will be checking in with the Assemblymember for status, he believes the bill might be suspended.

Mr. Stanley briefly explained that AB 1269, authored by Blanca Rubio, is a plan to replace Pioneer Park in the City of El Monte with a new park. Although it is anticipated that the bill will be suspended.

Mr. Stanley reported that AB 1694, authored by Patrick O'Donnell, is anticipated to receive a new bill number and it will be tracked with updates to be reported to the Board as it moves forward.

Mr. Stanley reviewed SB 367, authored by Ben Hueso, and explained this provides opportunities to use funds for many educational programs K-12. This bill can also provide the LCWA with collaborative projects with matching funds.

Mr. Stanley collectively reviewed AB 352, authored by Eduardo Garcia, SB 45, Ben Allen, and SB 1298, authored by Kevin Mullin, are all water bonds that can potentially provide the next round of funding opportunities for RMC and will be monitored closely for updates to the Board.

Mr. Stanley explained that Federal Legislation, S. 3704, authored by Kamala Harris, is an expansion for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and extension along the San Gabriel River possibly down to Whittier Narrows. Due to the high volume of visitors to the park there may be a possible shift of representation from the Forest Service to a National Recreation area. This bill passed over to the Natural Resources Committee but was amended, RMC will provide updates as the bill progresses.

B. Capital Outlay and Support Budget

Salian Garcia explained that the revenue and expenditure report included information on the RMC's capital outlay, and Lower Los Angeles River-specific projects and reflects balances as of December 31, 2019. There is one contract and three grants still encumbrance with the State Controllers Office. After total appropriations, total encumbered, total approved pending encumbered, and total projects pending board approval the total available for encumbrance and expenditure is \$112,655,243.

Ms. Garcia then reviewed the Support & Operations Budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 and stated that the total number of projects excludes any potential projects that are awaiting board approval. She explained that even though we are more than halfway into the fiscal year, RMC has not been over budget with only about a quarter of budget spent. Many of these projects are contracted through the Internal Contracting Unit such as CSF or Human Resources and bills RMC quarterly so many expenditures would be seen at the end of the year.

C. Cumulative Grant Project Status Summary

Ms. Garcia reported these are projects identified by funding source, Proposition 1, 40, 50, and 84 and reflects changes since June 2019. As of this date RMC has authorized 253 total projects, which consist of 201 completed projects, 38 are certified, 3 approved and awaiting encumbrance, and with the remaining balance of 11 withdrawn projects.

D. Project and Liaison Activities

Mr. Stanley gave updates about the various projects and activities for RMC.

Mr. Stanley stated the River Ranger Program is both an RMC and WCA funded project that is anticipated to establish three (3) types of activities: public safety, educational opportunities and interpretive elements as well as maintenance along the 51 miles of river. There are intentions to establish Reach Zones by the end of the summer, one (1) of which has received funding.

Mr. Stanley explained that the Lower Los Angeles Working Group holds a committee, the Implementation Advisory Group (IAG) that meets to review projects initiated by the RMC along the Lower half of the Los Angeles River. The IAG provides commentary prior to RMC evaluation of projects. The next meeting of the IAG will take place February 20, 2020, at the Compton Creek Natural Park.

Mr. Stanley provided the Board with a list of city-wide and street projects that are funded through IRWMP with several that tracked in conjunction with projects that are currently funded by the RMC. This includes the Bassett High Stormwater Capture Project which

mirrors a currently funded project and the Catalina Desalination Storage and Distribution Project that is of great interest given the RMC opportunity for expansion.

Mr. Stanley stated that a final draft of the Los Angeles River Master Plan was submitted to the Steering Committee last month. Los Angeles County Public Works department is seeking comment from the committee members and is anticipating releasing the draft Spring of 2020. This final draft outlines the Master Plan for the entire 51 miles and the activities that RMC has planned for the lower half of the Los Angeles River.

Mr. Stanley mentioned the Willowbrook Walking Path, RMC14003, in Compton Creek has a target completion date in Summer 2020 and ties into two other projects that were funded by RMC near McArthur Park and Washington High School. This provides various opportunities to enhance the area along Compton Creek.

Mr. Stanley explained the Recycled Water Campus, San Gabriel River Parkway, RMC17004, had a successful completion and that RMC provided funding for the educational and interpretive elements.

Mr. Stanley informed the Board that West Coyote Hills Open Space Acquisition, RMC17007, was able to obtain all funds needed to complete acquisitions of two (2) out of the four (4) neighborhoods. It is anticipated that escrow will close in May 2020. He stated he would continue to provide updates and graphics of the open space.

Mr. Stanley stated the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment Project, RMC17009, had experienced a delay in design and construction but is anticipated to move forward and get back on track. The grant was extended at the December 2019 RMC Board Meeting, to ensure that funds would not expire.

Mr. Stanley explained the Sleepy Lagoon Planning Project, RMC 18003, is located along the LA River in the Commerce area. The team has hosted several community meetings and is finally wrapping them up, he will be providing updates and schematics at the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Stanley stated the Acquisition of the LA River Incubator Site, RMC 18008, or Green Incubator will serve as a catalyst for implementation of plans to build capacity, coordination and collaboration within the community and with Stakeholders. Its purpose is to serve like a business incubator comprised of environmental and water enhancement projects. RMC is looking at a site-specific location around the confluence of the LA River and Rio Hondo. Updates will be provided at future Board Meetings.

Mr. Stanley explained that the Duck Farm was visited by State Parks in November 2019 regarding an application submitted to them requesting funding for Duck Farm House enhancements, landscaping and vegetable gardens. He anticipates hearing back from State Parks regarding awarded funds later this year and invited the RMC Board to tour the Duck Farm prior to construction completion.

Ms. Stanley moved onto the Vasquez Habitat and Open Space project, explaining that escrow for acquisition of 40 acres of the Vasquez Property closed last week. This parcel is located near the Azusa Wilderness park and there is still 20 additional acres being considered for acquisition.

Mr. Stanley ended his review of projects with the South Gate Habitat Restoration Project/Parque dos Rios and explained that construction for this project is also almost completed. They are finishing with the metal work on the overlook with a possibility for a second overlook which funding for is being investigated. The landscaping should be completed sometime in Spring 2020 and he offered the Board an opportunity to tour the location prior to completing construction.

Board Member Clark asked if Mr. Stanley knew how much stormwater would be captured at a time? Mr. Stanley responded that he did not know the answer to that but that he could get an answer for her.

REGULAR CALENDAR

9. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE DUCK FARM PHASE IA IMPLEMENTATION (RMC3609).**
10. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE DUCK FARM PHASE 1A – STEP 2 PROJECT (RMC18002).**
11. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY TO RATIFY A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT AND SERVICE ORDER WITH GEOSYNTEC CONSULTING TO PROVIDE CONCEPT DESIGN AND PERMITTING PRE-COORDINATION SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY CULTURAL ARTS CENTER IN SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES (RMC19509).**
12. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROPOSITION 1 GRANT TO THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND FOR THE CENTRAL JEFFERSON HIGH GREEN ALLEY MULTI-BENEFIT STORMWATER PROJECT (RMC19007).**

Mr. Bishop motioned to approve this item. Mr. Bertone seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

13. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSITION 68 GRANT TO THE CITY OF COVINA FOR THE BANNA COMMUNITY PARK PROJECT (RMC19008).**

Sally Gee recommended that the Board approve a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 to the City of Covina for the Banna Community Park Project as this grant received a score of 80.76% and meets the standard for recommendation. The Banna Community Park project will develop a new 2.0-acre neighborhood park in the City of Covina along Banna Avenue at Cypress Street and would be within walking distance from a disadvantaged residential neighborhood. She shared the Cities concept design and explained that local residents and students expressed strong support for native and drought tolerant plants, an abundance of trees, passive recreation trails, open space, and fitness areas; this design would also incorporate bioswale green spaces and underground retention basins for groundwater replenishment and treatment, and pollinator gardens to attract wildlife including outdoor

elements like an outdoor classroom and lab, fitness zones, and a dog play area. Ms. Gee referenced the updated budget and stated it included contingency of RMC funds and that this did not change the requested amount of \$1,000,000, they are committed to providing additional funds of up to \$650,000. The schedule of the park's funds outlined how the City has completed designs and at least 95% of construction drawings for the park and will be awarding their construction bid later this month. Construction of the park is expected to complete by September 2020.

City Manager of Covina, Chris Morelo, addressed the Board and thanked them for their consideration as the park has many beneficial elements for the community.

Board Member Reilly asked where the second school was, they had mentioned it was located near the proposed park. Mr. Morelo replied that it lies to the west of the park and is an elementary school.

Mr. Saleh motioned to approve this item. Ms. Reilly seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

14. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSITION 68 GRANT TO FROM LOT TO SPOT FOR THE LOWER LA RIVER POCKET PARK PROJECT (RMC19009).

Marybeth Vergara recommended the Board approve a grant in the amount of \$332,490 to From Lot to Spot for the Lower LA River Pocket Park Project located in the City of Cudahy. Although this grant received a score of 78.66 out of a total 100 points and does not meet the threshold of 80% but because this project is in the Lower LA River it qualifies for specific funding to be allocated to this project and therefore was brought to the Board for consideration.

Representatives of From Lot to Spot, Maria DeLeon and Jessica Cervantes provided a presentation and stated that this project would convert a 4800 sq. ft. vacant lot into a community designed, nature inspired park featuring reclaimed irrigation, native vegetation and stormwater catchment features. The project design includes sustainable, environmentally conscious features and include utilizing recycled materials such as recycled concrete pavers with permeable pebbles to allow water to percolate into the ground, a low-water use plant palette that will foster a natural habitat for plants and insects which were chosen by the community. The funding requested amount of \$332,490, would be used towards design construction, community engagement monitoring and completion of the park. They explained that this site has been vacant for almost 40 years and is only 600 ft. from the LA River and is adjacent to Park Ave Elementary School. Once the park is completed a joint use (JPA) between the Los Angeles Unified School District and the City of Cudahy will be formed to maintain the park site.

Ms. Reilly motioned to approve this item. Mr. Bertone seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

15. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPOSITION 68 GRANT TO THE CONSERVATION CORPS OF LONG BEACH FOR DEVELOPING THE LAKEWOOD EQUESTRIAN CENTER AND SURROUNDING OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN (RMC19010).

Ms. Gee introduced the project and recommended that the Board approve a grant in the amount of \$312,015, to the Conservation Corps of Long Beach for developing the Lakewood Equestrian Center & Surrounding Open Space Master Plan.

A representative from the Conservation Corps of Long Beach, Kayla Kelly-Slatten, gave the report and explained the plans for the Lakewood Equestrian Center & Surrounding Open Space Master Plan (Master Plan) would help re-envision a 60-acre open space region that would include the Lakewood Equestrian Center, Rynerson Park, the San Gabriel River Trail, and Camp Fire Camp Shiwaka. Completion of this park has the potential to entertain a multitude of recreational and educational activities, connect the local community to the outdoors, and host best management practices through activities such as environmental education, demonstration gardens, therapeutic riding, leisure recreation, and energy conservation. The plan includes use and renovation of the house onsite as a possible historic building and intends to include solar options and EV Charging stations on the grounds. She stated that because of the high amount of animal waste produced at the Equestrian Center, there are also major opportunities for storm water control and water construction using nature-based solutions. Additionally, visitor access to the different sites are very limited. Some site access points are limited by the streets, and others are blocked by fencing. Current public access to the Center is limited to Carson Street with no direct connection to the San Gabriel River Trail System, while Rynerson Park can only be accessed by vehicles from Studebaker Road and does not connect to Carson Street; the goal of the Master Plan would connect all three (3) parcels.

Although there is currently no plan set, in collaboration with the City of Lakewood, the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI), Camp Fire Camp Shiwaka, and DakeLuna Consultants they will complete a Master Plan. Together they will facilitate community outreach projects such as Project Steering Committee, made up of neighborhood stakeholders and community leaders, creating a Technical Advisory Committee with Conservation Corps of Long Beach responsible for the oversight and management of developing the Master Plan and facilitating the coordination. The timeline for developing the Master Plan will be from January 2020 – June 2021. Within those 18 months it is predicted to have park initiation with in the first three (3) months, a large portion would include stakeholder engagement, and a developed Master Plan after the second half.

Ms. Clark motioned to approve this item. Mr. Bertone seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

16. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE GREATER LOS ANGELES AREA COUNCIL, BOYS SCOUTS FOR AMERICA FOR THE TRASK SCOUT RESERVATION WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (RMC18006).

Joseph Gonzalez recommended that the Board approve a grant amendment for the Trask Scout Reservation Water System Improvement and Enhancement Project, this would increase the budget in the amount of \$90,200 for a grant total of \$221,200 and extending the performance period to September 30, 2020. The original request (\$112,800) focused on developing a water system compliance plan to determine the camp's water system needs and provide an engineer estimate of costs. However, the current water system is out of compliance with the State of California Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, who determined that the tap water is not safe for drinking, cooking, hand washing or bathing. Therefore, GLAAC BSA is requesting an amendment to their original grant to

support updating their water system at Camp Trask and would include environmental compliance as part of planning for the project.

Mr. Gonzalez explained that the current expectation is to replace a portion of the existing water treatment with a consolidated design that meets water quality standards and install a 100,000-gallon capacity tank that will replace their current 25,000-gallon tank. The environmental documentation would also require permitting and approvals from City of Monrovia and U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Angeles National Forest office as well as US Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit, and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board 401 Certification.

Board Member Bertone asked what proposition would funding come from? And if this is in the City of Monrovia? Mr. Gonzalez responded that funding would come from Proposition 68, Association and Implementation projects and that the site location is in the City of Monrovia at the edges of the forest.

Board Member Clark asked how much the City of Monrovia was charging for the permitting? Representative of the Greater Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, Paulina Naphian stated they had received commitment from the City to provide services in-kind such as technical advice and engineers and would then look at the total fees to see how they could help.

Board Member Bishop asked what kind of treatment is proposed? Site Manager, Anthony Villalobos, stated there is currently a sand filtration system that is currently out of date, but there are ways to update the system.

Mr. Bertone motioned to approve this item. Ms. Clark seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

17. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION FOR THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE FACILITATION AND SUPPORT PROJECT (RMC17024).

Mr. Gonzalez recommended that the Board authorize a grant amendment to the National Forest Foundation (NFF) for the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative increasing the budget by \$40,078.50 to a total of \$66,009.50 and extending the performance period through March 31, 2021. After having met the criteria and received a score of 80% this project has been brought forth for approval. He explained that the first phase of funding was awarded from remaining Proposition 84 funds while the second phase of funding for this amendment would come from Proposition 68 funds. He stated that the additional funding and time request to RMC is needed in order to complete and facilitate implementation of the SGMCC Action Plan and that the Final Action Plan is expected to be finalized by March 2020 and implementation will be a primary objective for the Collaborative throughout 2020.

A representative of the NFF, Dania Gutierrez, commented that the NFF facilitated the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaboration that started with receiving commentary from their stakeholders regarding the San Gabriel National Monument Management Plan. She stated that now those discussions have concluded it is time for action, and NFF intends to provide the structure and guidance necessary for the action plan to be successful.

Board Member Clark commented that she has been a member of the Collaborative for four (4) years now and recalled when the National Monument was on the chopping block. It had received funding from Judy Chu and the monument was spared, but it is time to do something positive with it.

Mr. Bishop motioned to approve this item. Ms. Clark seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

18. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT AMENDMENT AND BUDGET AUGMENTATION TO THE CITY OF POMONA FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHIL AND NELL SOTO PARK PROJECT (RMC18011).

Ms. Vergara was excited to announce that the project being presented was set to be completed that same weekend. She stated RMC had provided funding for acquisition of the land out of Proposition 84, as well as funding for the development and implementation of the park out of Proposition 1. She recommended the Board approve a grant amendment in the amount of \$186,257, for the Phil and Nell Soto Park and an extension of the performance period from January 31, 2020 to June 30, 2020. The requested funds would cover items related to construction due to items identified in the previous Grant Agreement having received increased bids for such items. She informed the Board that a program for the Grand Opening of the park was included in the packet.

Construction Manager, Angel Puentes, commented that the City of Pomona was grateful for the Boards continued support of the project He stated construction started in October 2018 and as of December 2019 it had reached 98% completion. Although, he explained there is still a 90-day maintenance period and they are waiting to receive an order of granite material coming from overseas. He then invited the Board to attend the grand opening of the park February 8th.

Board Member Bertone asked what the original grant amount requested was? Ms. Vergara responded it was \$1.5 million and when the land appraised for less than expected the City of Pomona came back to the Board to allocate the additional funds for the demolition.

Board Member Reilly asked if the materials listed on page one (1), were the items the city requested funding for? Ms. Vergara responded that it was for the items listed 1-4. There is an additional report that goes into further detail about the costs and reason for extension.

Vice Chair Arrighi commented that Phil and Nell Soto' grandson, Patrick Soto, is an employee of the SGV Water Company and worked under him; and that he moved on to serve as the Conservation Board Coordinator. So, Mr. Arrighi has a fond connection with the Soto family. He described Phil and Nell as strong people that worked hard for their community. They were both Council Members and Assembly Members, and Nell moved on to becoming a Senator while Phil formed his own Public Relations Firm.

Mr. Bertone motioned to approve this item. Mr. Saleh seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

19. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE GREEN REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT NETWORK (GREEN) PROJECT (RMC15112).

Mr. Gonzalez recommended that the Board approve a grant amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) to complete a budget realignment and timeline extension for the Green Regional Environmental Enhancement Network (GREEN) Project with the expectation for WCA to complete the attached realignment of tasks and budget by April 30, 2021. He stated that when this grant was initially approved by the Board, staff recognized that this project would be responding to the needs of the region and would directly support implementation projects and therefore the specifics of the proposed deliverables and budget details may require adjustment during the grant term and may change. WCA's participation in a variety of regionally important planning and project implementation efforts helped to further the goals and objectives of the GREEN program and the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. Their contributions to the GREEN program include 'Stakeholder Participation and Stewardship Building' will realize budget items that support and further the GREEN Program; 'Develop GREEN Portal Design Parameters and Specifications' being a major deliverable set of web tools and web maps that will support regions in identifying regional and local watershed infrastructure projects; and include a special focus on 'Sustainable Equestrian Center Specifications and Design' including the Duck Farm with an existing equestrian center.

Mr. Uranga motioned to approve this item. Ms. Clark seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

20. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Board member comments.

21. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE

Mr. Stanley announced that the next meeting would be held March 16, 2020, at the Garvey Center in the City of Rosemead.

22. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Colonna at approximately 2:55 p.m.

X

Frank Colonna
Governing Board Chair

X

Jennifer Fierro
Board Secretary

DATE: April 6, 2020
TO: RMC Governing Board
FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 9B: Capital Outlay & Support Budget

BACKGROUND: This report includes information on the RMC's revenue and expenditures from local assistance, capital outlay, and Lower Los Angeles River-specific projects.

The Capital Outlay report contains information on the total capital outlay funds appropriated, encumbered and remaining from Propositions 1, 40, 50, 68, and 84. For a detailed report on each approved grant and associated fund level, please refer to agenda Item 8C Cumulative Grant Project Status Summary.

This report reflects balances as of March 15, 2020.

	Bond	Appropriation	Encumbered / Expended	Approved Pending Encumbrance	Projects Pending Board Approval	Balance
Local Assistance & Capital Outlay (Urban/Lower LA River- specific)	Prop 1 [§79735(a)]	\$ 13,550,000	\$ 9,602,531		\$ -	\$ 3,947,469
	Prop 68 - Prj [§80100(a)(1)(B)]	\$ 24,562,500	\$ 1,683,500			\$ 22,879,000
	Prop 68 - SDAC [§80100(a)(1)(B)]	\$ 7,500,000	\$ -	\$ 332,490		\$ 7,167,510
	Prop 68 - TA/CA [§80100(a)(1)(B)]	\$ 2,625,000	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 2,625,000
	Lower LA River Sub- Grant Program (Prop 1)	\$ 33,000,000	\$ 6,510,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,490,000
	Sub Total	\$ 81,237,500	\$ 17,796,031	\$ 332,490	\$ -	\$ 63,108,979
Local Assistance & Capital Outlay (Territory-wide/Other)	Prop 40	\$ 37,097,363	\$ 37,097,363	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Prop 50	\$ 17,604,909	\$ 17,604,909	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Prop 84	\$ 36,000,000	\$ 36,000,000		\$ -	\$ -
	Prop 1 [§79731(f)]	\$ 27,930,000	\$ 21,900,551	\$ 46,295	\$ 609,693	\$ 5,373,461
	Prop 68 - Prj [§80110(b)(6)]	\$ 19,365,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,024,020	\$ 17,340,980
	Prop 68 - SDAC [§80110(b)(6)]	\$ 6,300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,996,380	\$ 4,303,620
	Prop 68 - TA/CA [§80110(b)(6)]	\$ 2,085,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,085,000
	Sub Total	\$ 146,382,272	\$ 112,602,823	\$ 46,295	\$ 4,630,093	\$ 29,103,061
Budget Act/Direct Funding	Lower LA Restoration & Revitalization Funds (BA 2018)	\$ 19,000,000	\$ 4,756,607	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,243,393
	Compton Creek Funds (BA 2019)	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 220,248	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,779,752
	Sub Total	\$ 22,000,000	\$ 4,976,855	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,023,145

Total Appropriations	\$ 249,619,772
Total Encumbered	\$ 135,375,709
Total Approved Pending Enc.	\$ 378,785
Total Projects Pending Board Approval	\$ 4,630,093
Total Available for Enc/Exp.	\$ 109,235,185

Projects Approved Pending Encumbrance

RMC19004 Shiwaka Urban Forest Planning (\$46,259) – The overall proposed project will encompass the development of an urban forest, including an extensive landscaping master plan with trails, interpretive signage, vernal pools as well as a new trail, called the Discovery Trail. These improvements will allow for the use of Camp Fire’s facility and provide for significant enhancements to its fully accredited camp.

RMC19009 Lower LA River Pocket Park (\$332,490) – From Lot to Spot will be converting a 4800-sq.ft. vacant log adjacent to the LA River and owned by the LA Unified School District in the City of Cudahy into a community-designed passive park. FLTS will continue to engage community, construct the park, and turn over the finished park to Cudahy. Simple improvements include the walking surface and trees to shade.

Support Budget and Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2019/20 Support Expenditures Report:

The attached Exhibit A “Support & Operations Budget for Fiscal Year 2019/2020” displays and tracks the administrative and operation expenses for the RMC. The revenue section of the report delineates the six fund sources for operations: Environmental License Plate Fund, Propositions 1, 40, 50, 68, and 84. The reports include expenditures that have been processed and sent to Contracted Fiscal Services for payment through March 15, 2020.

The attached Exhibit B outlines projects that have received advanced funds. Each project that receives advance funds must reconcile upon expenditure.

The cumulative contract report for the support budget is attached as Exhibit C. This report includes contracts executed under the Executive Officer’s Discretionary Approval for under \$10,000.00 and those over \$10,000.00 that have been approved by the RMC Board.

Exhibit A – FY 2019/20 Support & Operations

Exhibit B – Advanced Funds Report

Exhibit C – Contracts

RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
FY 2019 - 2020

Date of Report February 29, 2020

REVENUE				
ITEM	BUDGET	FUND #	% Exp.	Balance
ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSE PLATES	430,000	0140	21.9%	276,085
PROPOSITION 40	175,000	6029	8.9%	112,360
PROPOSITION 50	102,000	6031	5.2%	65,490
PROPOSITION 84	104,000	6051	5.3%	66,774
PROPOSITION 1	429,000	6083	21.9%	275,443
PROPOSITION 68	723,000	6088	36.8%	723,000
TOTAL REVENUE	1,963,000		100%	

EXPENSES						Month	FY Completed			
						Feb	66.8%			
ITEM	FY 2019/20 BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO DATE	AVAILABLE BUDGET BALANCE (\$)	AVAILABLE BUDGET BALANCE (%)	BUDGET SPENT (%)	FY 2018/19 BUDGET	As of 06/30/19	% FY19 over FY18		
5100000 Civil Service Employees	964,440	451,176	513,265	53%	47%	597,663	580,483	61.4%		
Operating Expenses and Equipment										
General Expense										
5301200 Dues and Memberships	1,000	28	972	97%	3%	0	0	0.0%		
5301700 Miscellaneous Office Supplies	5,000	387	4,613	92%	8%	4,000	3,795	25.0%		
5301050 Advertising	5,000	4,070	930	19%	81%	500	352	900.0%		
5301150 Conferences	5,000	908	4,092	82%	18%	5,475	0	-8.7%		
5301500 Meeting	2,000	115	1,885	94%	6%	1,600	1,576	25.0%		
5301450 Library purchases	1,000	0	1,000	100%	0%	0	0	0.0%		
5368115 Office Equipment (non capital)	10,000	0	10,000	100%	0%	5,000	3,717	100.0%		
5301620 Office equipment rental, maint., & repair	1,000	0	1,000	100%	0%	500	0	100.0%		
5368045 Furniture	60,000	0	60,000	100%	0%	10,000	0	500.0%		
5301350 Freight	10,000	0	10,000	100%	0%	600	600	1566.7%		
5105100 Board Members	2,800	1,555	1,245	44%	56%	0	0	0.0%		
5150900 Staff Benefits (ie. Employee Wellness Program)	6,500	2,911	3,589	55%	45%	0	0	0.0%		
Printing										
5302800 Photocopy (ie. Konica)	8,000	2,278	5,722	72%	28%	15,000	5,516	-46.7%		
5302300 Office copier expense (ie. maint.)	0	0	0			0	0	0.0%		
5346700 IT Supplies (ie. Paper, toner)	4,500	304	4,197	93%	7%	3,500	3,299	28.6%		
5302600 Office Copier Supplies (ie. staples, cords)	500	0	500	100%	0%	0	0	0.0%		
5302900 Printing - Not Otherwise Classified	2,500	1,263	1,237	49%	51%	2,500	2,092	0.0%		
Communications										
5304100 Cell phones, PDAs, pagers	3,000	804	2,196	73%	27%	2,125	2,125	41.2%		
5304700 Telephone	3,000	1,964	1,036	35%	65%	3,000	2,874	0.0%		
5304800 Communications -Not Otherwise Classified	1,000	410	590	59%	41%	300	275	233.3%		
5304260 Maintenance	0	0	0			0	0	0.0%		
Postage										
5306200 Postage, stamps, stamped envelopes, etc.	500	0	500	100%	0%	500	0	0.0%		
5306600 Postage Meter (rent, repair, refills, supplies)	5,000	916	4,084	82%	18%	5,300	4,832	-5.7%		
Travel: In State & OST										
5320220 Travel - In State Lodging	1,000	319	681	68%	32%	1,000	708	0.0%		
5320480 State Vehicle - related travel	1,000	169	831	83%	17%	1,000	835	0.0%		
5390850 State Vehicle - General Maintenance/Repair	2,000	61	1,939	97%	3%	5,000	1,148	-60.0%		
5390800 State Vehicle - Gasoline	2,000	919	1,081	54%	46%	2,000	1,636	0.0%		
5308700 Insurance - Vehicle	1,000	657	343	34%	66%	816	816	22.5%		
5320400 Commercial Air Transportation	12,000	4,064	7,936	66%	34%	10,500	10,264	14.3%		
5320240 Travel - Per Diem Allowances	2,000	314	1,686	84%	16%	2,000	268	0.0%		
5320440 Private Car (ie. Mileage)	4,500	1,626	2,874	64%	36%	4,100	4,033	9.8%		
5320470 Rental Car	1,500	334	1,166	78%	22%	1,500	1,246	0.0%		
5320610 Travel - OST Lodging	800	773	27	3%	97%	500	500	0.0%		
5320630 Travel - OST Per Diem Allowances	400	101	299	75%	25%	500	184	0.0%		
5320260 Travel Agency Mgmt & Transaction Fees	200	70	130	65%	35%	200	129	0.0%		
5390870 Other Vehicle Operations Services	1,000	0	1,000	100%	0%	2,600	2,600	0.0%		

Exhibit A

Item 9B

ITEM	FY 2019/20 BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO DATE	AVAILABLE BUDGET BALANCE (\$)	AVAILABLE BUDGET BALANCE (%)	BUDGET SPENT (%)	FY 2018/19 BUDGET	As of 06/30/19	% FY19 over FY18
Training								
5322400 Tuition and Registration Fees	8,500	6,460	2,040	24%	76%	500	155	1600.0%
Facilities Operation								
5324250 Facilities Planning - General Svs, etc	10,000	5,492	4,508	45%	55%	6,000	4,560	66.7%
5362050 Improvements other than Buildings	40,000	0	40,000	100%	0%	0	0	0.0%
5324100 Recurring Maintenance Services	0	0	0			0	0	0.0%
5324450 Rent, Buildings and Grounds	49,560	24,180	25,380	51%	49%	48,121	48,120	3.0%
Professional Services								
Planning and Monitoring								
5340330 Interdepartmental Professional Services	3,000	635	2,365	79%	21%	2,000	1,197	50.0%
5340210 Accounting Interdepartment (PRO RATA PROCES	232,100	0	232,100	100%	0%	208,000	64,268	11.6%
5340220 Administrative Interdepartment	25,000	7,635	17,365	69%	31%	25,000	21,366	0.0%
5340310 Attorney General	70,000	47,723	22,278	32%	68%	60,000	54,358	16.7%
5150800 Workers Compensation	25,000	3,650	21,350	85%	15%	25,000	19,200	0.0%
5340420 External Administrative Services	10,000	0	10,000	100%	0%	10,000	7,500	0.0%
5340490 External Prof Svs-IT	120,000	29,065	90,935	76%	24%	80,000	56,305	50.0%
5340580 External Prof Svs-Other Consulting & Prof Svs	45,000	11,162	33,838	75%	25%	40,000	39,923	12.5%
Information Technology								
5368025 Computer & Computer Equip (Non Capital)	13,500	5,931	7,569	56%	44%	16,500	13,382	-18.2%
5362240 Computer & Computer Equip (Capital)	10,000	0	10,000	100%	0%	9,000	8,202	11.1%
5362290 Office Equipment (Capital)	10,000	0	10,000	100%	0%	5,000	0	100.0%
5346390 IT Services - Other (Security, Archival, etc)	12,000	2,438	9,562	80%	20%	3,000	2,460	300.0%
5346340 Software	10,000	0	10,000	100%	0%	10,000	9,739	0.0%
5346320 Hardware Maintenance	0	0	0			0	0	0.0%
5346500 Internet Service Provider	20,000	6,164	13,836	69%	31%	14,400	12,126	38.9%
5346800 Electronic Waste and Disposal Fees	200	0	200	100%	0%	120	68	0.0%
5346900 IT - Hardware/Construction	14,000	13,000	1,000	7%	93%	0	0	0.0%
Central Administration Services								
5432000 Grants & Subventions - Governmental	25,000	0	25,000	100%	0%	68,980	55,000	-63.8%
5432500 Grants & Subventions - NonGovernmental	80,000	65,100	14,900	19%	81%	16,100	16,010	396.9%
OPERATIONS SUBTOTAL	998,560	255,928	742,632	74%	26%	739,337	489,361	35.1%
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,963,000	707,104	1,255,896	64%	36%	1,337,000	1,069,844	46.8%

Exhibit B: Report on Advance Funds

**Fiscal Year 2019-2020
Balances as of 02/29/20**

RMC Project Number	Project Name	Grantee	Total Funds Granted from RMC	Advance Amt. Requested	Date on Advance Check from SCO	Remaining balance from advance request	Deadline for Expenditure of Advance	Status

EXHIBIT C: FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 CONTRACT REPORT

Contract Number	Contractor Name	Amount of contract	Start Date	End Date	Scope of Work
RMC16505-02	Cyber Specialists, Inc	\$90,000.00	10/01/16	09/30/19	Consultant will provide information technology (IT) services for the Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.
RMC18510	Urbanism Advisors	\$ 90,000.00	03/01/19	06/30/22	Specialized consulting services related to the RMC's expansion (AB 1694/AB 2103), including outreach to local governments and agencies, attendance in meetings with team and elected officials, and other tasks necessary to support the expansion. Other services are related to the Green Incubator.
RMC18512	North Star Alliances, LLC	\$ 12,000.00	04/01/19	07/31/19	Contractor agrees to provide SGLL Rivers and Mountains Conservancy with comprehensive event management and production services for their Urban River Revitalization Summit and 20th Anniversary events to be held in July 2019.
RMC18513	Geosyntec Consultants	\$ 937,710.00	4/22/2019	12/31/2019	Lower Los Angeles River – Southeast Los Angeles Cultural Center. The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy with the County of Los Angeles is developing a project for a Community Cultural Center in Southeast Los Angeles. The project will begin with an evaluation of three potential sites along the Los Angeles River and the Rio Hondo in the cities of South Gate, Cudahy, and Bell Gardens.
RMC18514	US Bank CAL-Card	\$ 10,000.00	4/24/2019	12/31/2020	The CAL-Card is a "no cost" program unless an unpaid invoice has accrued late penalties; late penalties are assessed on day 46 from the invoice date. Card will be used for vendors that do not accept purchase orders (i.e. DropBox)
RMC19501	Department of General Services	\$24,472.50	07/01/19	06/30/20	DGS - HR will provide RMC with ongoing as-needed HR services, including personnel policy interpretation and development, labor relations, classification and pay, testing, and liaison services between State Compensation Insurance Fund and RMC.
RMC19502	State Controller's Office	\$2,000.00	07/01/19	06/30/20	SCO expedite service fees for warrants
RMC19503	Watershed Conservation Authority	\$50,000.00	07/01/19	06/30/20	This agreement will provide WCA services, consisting of coordination and oversight of property management scope provided by Property Management Consultants/Contractors.
RMC19504	Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority	\$ 9,999.00	10/01/19	09/30/20	Support Services for the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that will cover operational expense items on the JPA Annual Budget.
RMC19505	Suely Saro	\$ 55,000.00	07/01/19	04/30/20	Provide project management and oversight in the formation of the Lower Los Angeles River Recreation and Park District, per requirements in SB 1374. Additional project management and support as needed.
RMC19506	Watershed Conservation Authority	\$ 1,500,000.00	07/01/19	06/30/20	Benefits accruing as a result of the transactions completed by this Agreement, including, without limitation, (i) fulfillment of the Authority's mission (ii) direct benefits such as revenues from the projects and increased revenues from property, parking, business, utility, (iii) the enhanced economic opportunities for business surrounding the projects and in the Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel River watersheds, and (iv) the benefits such as revitalization of the Lower Los Angeles River together with the Authority's obligations under this Agreement, its communities, partners, and grantors, represent fair consideration for all of the obligations to be understood by the Conservancy as contemplated by this Agreement.
RMC19507	Cyber Specialists, Inc	\$ 255,000.00	12/01/19	06/30/23	Professional services included, but not limited to, assisting in the design, configuration and on-going maintenance/service of existing onsite network and GIS servers, and support.

DATE: April 6, 2020
TO: RMC Governing Board
FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 9C: Cumulative Grant Project Status Summary

The Cumulative Grant Project Status Summary report reflects changes since the June 2019 update. Each project is identified by funding source, Proposition 1, 40, 50, and 84; project name; applicant name; allocated amount; and the project status. The report is sorted by grant number. The status section for each grant has been updated to provide additional detail on the grantees' current activities and progress toward project completion.

The RMC has authorized 259 total projects, which consist of 201 completed projects, 44 are certified, 3 approved and awaiting encumbrance, and with the remaining balance of 11 withdrawn projects. The total number of projects excludes any potential projects that are awaiting board approval.

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Status Report as of 12/31/19

Project ID	Project Manager	Project Name	Applicant	Workprogram Status	Project Description	Project Status	Prop 1	Prop 68	Prop 40	Prop 50	Prop 84	Total Funding
RMC3609-1	Joe	Duck Farm Phase IA Implementation	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	The Phase 1A Duck Farm project involves the development of a 23 acre river adjacent park project.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,979,818.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 3,320,182.00	\$ 5,800,000.00
RMC09105	Joe	San Gabriel River confluence w/Cattle Cyn Improvement Project	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Project seek to provide improvements on the portion of the confluence of the East Fork of the San Gabriel River with Cattle Canyon and its creek.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 869,584.00	\$ 869,584.00
RMC12002	Salian	San Gabriel River Trail Signage Improvements	California Resource Connection	Certified	This grant will improve interpretive signage along the SGR bike trail through the City of Azusa so that it can be consistent with the San Gabriel River Trail Signage Guidelines.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
RMC14001	Joe	Azusa River Wilderness Park Entry	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	The design development for front entry improvements at the River Wilderness Park are underway.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 439,935.00	\$ -	\$ 91,019.00	\$ 530,954.00
RMC14003	Marybeth	Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek Project	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	Certified	The Willowbrook walking path project will create a 1/2 linear park along Compton Creek within the unincorporated community of Willowbrook.	Related to RMC18001	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
RMC15102	Joe	Roberts Canyon Foothill Area Acquisition	Watershed Conservation Authority	Withdrawn	The properties are contiguous to the WCA's River Wilderness Park and include high value natural resources.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 52,500.00	\$ 52,500.00
RMC15110	Marybeth	Lower L.A. River Integrated Design Project	L.A. River Revitalization Corporation	Completed	The goal is to develop an integrated design and technical analysis along the entire 51-mile length of the LA River and create a range of river interventions and multi-benefit capital improvement projects.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
RMC15111	Joe	Pre-acquisition and due diligence expenses for APN 8684-024-036	Watershed Conservation Authority	Completed	The WCA proposes to complete pre-acquisition activities, including due diligence review, and the acquisition of approximately 40 acres of foothill open space, referred to herein as Assessor Parcel No. 8684-024-036.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 53,225.00	\$ 53,225.00
RMC15113	Marybeth	Washington Park Project	L.A. Neighborhood Land Trust	Completed	Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust is developing a first-of-its kind park in East Rancho Dominguez in partnership with LA County Department of Parks and Rec to create a neighborhood park, including a splash pad, exercise stations and native garden.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 282,470.00	\$ 282,470.00
RMC15114	Salian	SGR Watershed Ranger Program	Council for Watershed Health	Completed	In partnership with the WCA, CWH will develop a water quality data collection and monitoring program along the upper reaches of the San Gabriel River.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
RMC15115	Marybeth	Watershed Exhibit and Classroom Improvements	Aquarium of the Pacific	Completed	Outdoor Education Center improvements, interpretive signage and Watershed Classroom expansion	Exhibit grand opening held on 05/25/17.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 358,600.00	\$ 358,600.00

Status Report as of 12/31/19

Project ID	Project Manager	Project Name	Applicant	Workprogram Status	Project Description	Project Status	Prop 1	Prop 68	Prop 40	Prop 50	Prop 84	Total Funding
RMC16001	Joe	Vasquez Property Acquisition	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Funding for the acquisition of ±40 acres of undeveloped open space located in the San Gabriel Mountain foothills above the City of Azusa, within unincorporated Los Angeles County.	Acquisition complete. Stewardship program being implemented	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 720,000.00	\$ 720,000.00
RMC17001	Marybeth	View Park & Recycled Water Campus	City of Signal Hill	Certified	The project will reclaim a municipally owned industrial site and provide a recycled water system to serve the proposed park as well as retrofit three existing parks, connect an urban trail system, and prevent runoff pollution.		\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000.00
RMC17002	Marybeth	San Gabriel River and Wilderness Park Restoration Project	City of Downey	Certified	This project will significantly enhance these ponds by improving the habitat (creating wetlands) for native birds and plant species and provide a respite for migratory birds.		\$ 1,660,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,660,000.00
RMC17003	Marybeth	Long Range Water Conservation and Park Plan	City of Cudahy	Completed	The plan seeks to develop a long range water conservation an park plan to establish a blueprint that will identify and create an inventory of: water efficiency, conservation, runoff, etc.; and sites for new parks.	Project complete	\$ 293,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 293,000.00
RMC17004	Joe	Recycled Water Campus on San Gabriel River Parkway	Water Replenishment District	Certified	The project includes many interpretive and education aspects with an outdoor amphitheater, demonstration gardens for native plants, eco-friendly gardening, multi-lingual signage, and other visitor facilities		\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000.00
RMC17005	Joe	Bassett High School Campus Green Infrastructure Project	Amigos de los Rios	Certified	This project will enhance campus “green infrastructure”, urban habitat, and demonstrate sustainable public landscaping in terms of water use, improved infiltration, and storm water management.	Final payment, plus retention, in process.	\$ 652,520.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 652,520.00
RMC17006	Marybeth	Planning for the Urban Orchard	Trust for Public Land	Certified	Project will transform 30 acres of unused, vacant land between the I-710 Freeway and the LA River into new, critically needed green infrastructure and an urban park, including an urban orchard and over one-mile of new riverfront walking and bike paths.		\$ 845,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 845,000.00
RMC17007	Sally	West Coyote Hills Open Space Acquisition	City of Fullerton	Certified	Funding for acquisition of this property would assist in purchasing 10.4 acres of open space adjacent to Robert E. Ward Nature Preserve.	Acquisition to be completed by Spring 2020	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000.00
RMC17009	Marybeth	Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (MUST)	City of Long Beach	Certified	The LB-MUST Project proposes to improve water quality by intercepting and treating the dry weather flows and a portion of the first flush of stormwater runoff normally discharging into the Los Angeles River.		\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000.00
RMC17011	Sally	Parkway Basin Water Quality Improvement Project	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	Certified	The Parkway Basin Water Quality Improvement Project includes the construction of 30 parkway basins in the unincorporated Los Angeles County.		\$ 268,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268,500.00
RMC17013	Sally	Los Cerritos Wetlands Acquisition of the Bryant Properties	Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority	Certified	The LCWA is seeking to acquire the remaining two Bryant-Dakin LLC retained parcels that extend across the San Gabriel River and along the Haynes Cooling Channel at 2nd Street/Westminster Avenue.		\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000.00

Status Report as of 12/31/19

Project ID	Project Manager	Project Name	Applicant	Workprogram Status	Project Description	Project Status	Prop 1	Prop 68	Prop 40	Prop 50	Prop 84	Total Funding
RMC17014	Sally	Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project	Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority	Certified	The LCWA is completing the environmental review of the CRP which is required to satisfy the CEQA and the NEPA.	Extension and budget augmentation of \$150,000 requested.	\$ 500,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000.00
RMC17015	Joe	Emerald Necklace Rio Hondo & Peck Water Conservation Project	Amigos de los Rios	Certified	This project will enhance biodiversity, water quality, stormwater & urban run-off management along Rio Hondo Emerald Necklace & within Peck Park by adding green infrastructure elements along River Parkway		\$ 617,385.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 617,385.00
RMC17017	Marybeth	Lynwood Park Infiltration, Restoration & Water Quality Improvement	City of Lynwood	Completed	Project seeks to replace the parking lot asphalt with permeable pavers; establish green space with native plants and shrubs in the parking lot perimeter; and install bio-swale along the parking lot median, to improve stormwater management.	Project move from Lynwood Park to Fernwood Avenue (RMC19002) due to poor percolation at the site.	\$ 41,822.45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,822.45
RMC17018	Marybeth	Phil and Nell Soto Park	City of Pomona	Certified	Development of a new recreational passive community park that incorporates the City's history and features amenities including a bioswale system, decomposed granite walking trails for water permeability, and		\$ 1,050,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,050,000.00
RMC17019	Joe	San Gabriel Mountains & Foothills Acquisition Master Plan Project	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	This plan will provide for the preservation and enhancement of vital habitat, watersheds and related biodiversity protection to improve ecological function.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
RMC17020	Joe	River Wilderness Park Arroyos Development	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	This proposed project will reshape and vegetate the arroyos and adjacent landscape to be both functional and to showcase the power of natural systems.		\$ 1,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000.00
RMC17022	Marybeth	LA River Ranger Implementation	Watershed Conservation Authority	Completed	In partnership with the MRCA, the WCA will provide oversight of the implementation of the LA River Ranger program.	Phase I complete. See RMC18003 for Phase II.	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00
RMC17023	Joe	Duck Farm House Landscape and Water	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	The improvements will be a resource for local disadvantaged communities, the greater region and will seek to catalyze change to climate adaptive home landscape design throughout the watershed.		\$ 891,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 891,200.00
RMC17024	Joe	San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative	National Forest Foundation	Certified	P84 Planning & Monitoring 75050(g)(1)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,931.00	\$ 25,931.00
RMC17026	Marybeth	Pacific Visions	Aquarium of the Pacific	Certified	The AOP is developing a series of exhibits and interactive experiences as part of its current expansion, Pacific Visions, that will allow visitors to explore the interactions among food, water, and energy in California.	Pacific Visions Opening May 24, 2019	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 372,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 1,463,000.00	\$ 1,900,000.00
RMC17027	Marybeth	Magic Johnson Park	County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works	Certified	Support of the water infrastructure improvements and construction near South Lake, a component of the park's larger \$50 million, multi-phase Master Plan Project.		\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000.00

Status Report as of 12/31/19

Project ID	Project Manager	Project Name	Applicant	Workprogram Status	Project Description	Project Status	Prop 1	Prop 68	Prop 40	Prop 50	Prop 84	Total Funding
RMC18001	Marybeth	Compton Creek Walking Path Phase II	Los Angeles Conservation Corps	Certified	This grant will specifically help fund the retaining wall to ensure safe passage for the trail users as well as obtain the permits required, waterproof the wall, and related expenditures for the drainage system associated with the wall.	Related to RMC14003	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
RMC18002	Joe	Duck Farm Phase IA - Step 2	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Development of a 31-acre river adjacent park that includes a pocket park and entry, parking, 1.25 mile rail and wildflower meadow. This grant will primarily be used for construction, plant establishment, and project close out.	Related to RMC3609	\$ 796,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 404,000.00	\$ 1,200,000.00
RMC18003	Joe	Gateway Greening Plan	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Funding for completion of the Gateway Cities and Rivers Urban Greening Plan, including developing the draft report, green solution palette, and launch online Greening Plan.		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 130,000.00
RMC18004	Marybeth	Sleepy Lagoon Planning Elements	East Yard Communities	Certified	The outreach, design and planning process will involve a collaboration with a number of organizations and agencies including Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), La Cosecha Colectiva (the Collective Harvest) and various local homeowner associations near Bell and surrounding cities		\$ 325,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 325,000.00
RMC18005	Sally	LA River Ranger Program Implementation Phase II	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Professional project management services and oversight of the River Ranger Program Study, continuing with Phase II. This includes ongoing outreach, completion of the Plan and pilot program development.	Certified Amendment 1	\$ 240,831.16	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 240,831.16
RMC18006	Joe	Trask Scout Reservation Water System Improvement & Enhancement Project	GLAAC Boy Scouts of America	Certified	Funds will hire an engineering consultant to determine the camp's various water system needs and provide an engineering estimate of expected costs. The expectation is to replace a portion of the existing water treatment to meet water demands of youth, families, and greater community and provide fire suppression storage.	Extension and budget augmentation of \$18,000 requested	\$ 112,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 112,800.00
RMC18007	Marybeth	Walnut Park Acquisition	County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation	Certified	Walnut Park, located approximately 5 miles south of Downtown Los Angeles and approximately 3 miles from the Los Angeles River. This acquisition will remove a potential nuisance property from the community and expand parkland by acquiring three parcels: APN 6201-028-014, 6201-028-016, and 6201-028-018, totaling an area of approximately 0.5 acres, which are currently vacant but are		\$ 1,265,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,265,000.00
RMC18008	Salian	Acquisition of the LA River Incubator Site	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	The funding would cover acquisition of a site in the vicinity of the Lower Los Angeles River or the Los Angeles River and Rio Hondo River Confluence, and related build-out expenses, and project management for due diligence and site selection.		\$ 6,510,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,510,000.00
RMC18009	Joe	Emerald Necklace San Gabriel River Habitat Restoration	Amigos de los Rios	Certified	The project will remove invasive weeds and plant 600 native trees and 1,600 shrubs along the San Gabriel River right of way. Currently, present invasive species impair water quality and availability, and harbor pests like the shot hole borer beetles that infest and kill regional trees.		\$ 1,117,588.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,117,588.00
RMC18010	Marybeth	Urban Orchard Project	Trust for Public Land	Certified	The Project is an identified priority (Project 155) in the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan and is part of a larger vision to transform 30-acres of unused, vacant land between the I-710 Freeway and the LA River into new, critically needed green infrastructure and an urban park, including an urban orchard and over one-mile of new riverfront walking and bike paths		\$ 1,387,401.44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,387,401.44
RMC18012	Marybeth	Community Center at DeForest Park	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Certified	The Conservation of Long Beach (CCLB) proposes to develop a master plan for the entire DeForest Park, as well as to design and install a satellite site at the DeForest Wetlands to better serve the needs of the LLAR while training youth as river stewards.		\$ 1,132,261.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,132,261.00

Status Report as of 12/31/19

Project ID	Project Manager	Project Name	Applicant	Workprogram Status	Project Description	Project Status	Prop 1	Prop 68	Prop 40	Prop 50	Prop 84	Total Funding
RMC18013	Joe	LA River Environmental Flows Study Supplemental Analysis	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	The ultimate outcome is to provide technically sound recommendations and alternatives to the Water Boards for consideration and implementation of a water flow standard that takes into consideration the existing and planned recreation and habitat uses of the Los Angeles River.		\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00
RMC19001	Joe	East Fork Sustainability River Access Project at the Oaks Areas	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Planning for the East Fork Sustainable River Access Project at the Oaks Area would initiate Phase 2 of the East Fork Project in the Oaks Areas, only, and would complete the design, engineering, and permitting for the Oaks Areas improvements.		\$ 128,700.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 128,700.00
RMC19002	Marybeth	Fernwood Avenue Development and Water Quality Improvement Project	City of Lynwood	Approved	Create new accessible park and public open space that will service over 45,000 residents in the areas of influence. It will include several recreational and educational elements, featuring native drought-tolerant plantings.	Disencumbered RMC17017 as project moved from Lynwood Park	\$ 1,650,752.55	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,650,752.55
RMC19003	Sally	Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project	City of Santa Clarita	Approved	The project will redevelop a blighted space in Canyon County and transform it to an environmentally sustainable community space and gathering location.		\$ 1,076,921.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,076,921.00
RMC19004	Joe	Shiwaka Urban Forest Planning	Camp Fire Angeles Council	Approved	The overall proposed project will encompass the development of an urban forest, including an extensive landscaping master plan with trails, interpretive signage, vernal pools as well as a new trail, called the Discovery Trail. These improvements will allow for the use of Camp Fire's facility and provide for significant enhancements to its fully accredited camp.		\$ 46,259.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,259.00
RMC19005	Marybeth	Implementation of the LA River Ranger Program Reach Zones	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	The Implementation of the LA River Ranger Program Reach Zones will facilitate coordination between Los Angeles River and tributary-adjacent governments to develop a river ranger pilot program.		\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000.00
RMC19006	Sally	Vasquez Acquisition Overlook	Watershed Conservation Authority	Certified	Acquisition of the 39-acre Vasquez Overlook parcel (AIN#: 8684-024-001) protects one of the last remaining undeveloped private holdings along the foothill interface between the San Gabriel Valley and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument from development, in order to support watershed restoration, community-driven stewardship, and compatible public uses		\$ 880,000.00	\$ 184,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,064,200.00

DATE: April 6, 2020
TO: RMC Governing Board
FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 9D: Liaison and Activities Report

RMC ACTIVITIES

Strategic Planning Board Retreat

The RMC Governing Board (Board) plays a critical role in ensuring the agency appropriately governs and fulfill their mandate to advance the public interest. In today's rapidly changing environment, it is important that RMC strategically plan for its sustainability and future. It must also ensure that the agency effectively serves the needs of the public. The Board assumes a large share of the responsibility for the success of the agency as it provides an important link between the agency and the outside environment in which the agency functions.

The purpose of the strategic planning board retreat is to develop a three to five-year blueprint for the agency's future. A Strategic Planning Board Retreat benefits RMC in the following ways:

- 1) Brings clarity and agreement on mission and vision.
- 2) Helps the agency to prepare for the future by anticipating and managing change.
- 3) Increases effectiveness and efficiency in allocating resources to achieve goals.
- 4) Aligns the board and staff.
- 5) Improves decision-making.

To accomplish this, it is important that the Board work with the Executive Officer to establish a strategic planning process, participate in the process, and approve the final strategic plan.

Because strategic planning takes time and effort, it is recommended that the Board delegate a Strategic Planning Retreat subgroup comprised of 2-3 board members to provide guidance throughout the process and to help conduct a 1-day strategic planning retreat with the board and staff.

Current world health response to COVID-19 may have an impact on RMC's strategic approach to natural resources in the future. In recognition of impacts on social conditions and economics the way to plan may be minimally or significantly altered, thus staff will monitor activities over the next several month to determine the conservancy response.

River Ranger Program (AB 1558- C. Garcia)

Since February 2018, The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and their respective JPA's (WCA and MRCA) have been collaborating jointly on the implementation of the River Ranger Plan Development, intended to develop a framework for a network of River Rangers who assist the public at sites along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. The bill was enacted in 2017 to address the limited contact with and responsibility for the river by communities, working in coordination with current revitalization programs to encourage engagement with the river as a welcoming community resource.

Under the bill, the program is intended to do the following: Establish a Los Angeles River identity; Improve public safety for visitors; Foster collaboration among those with jurisdiction over the river; Protect parks, open space, and other public space; Engage communities in the protection and preservation of the River and its resources; Promote diversity and inclusion; Promote equal access and equity among all communities along the River with regard to the development and placement of improvements along the river; Monitor the physical conditions, environmental health, and development of green space along the River, and Coordinate the work of river rangers with programs and services.

On May 31, 2019, the Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan was delivered to the State Legislature. The full report and supplemental documents may be downloaded at www.rmc.ca.gov

Currently, work is being done to establish next steps to rollout the River Ranger Program and the establishment of REACH (River, Education, Adventure, Community, and Habitat) Zones. These will be 3-4 mile stretches along the River, including tributaries, with specific aspects that will lend itself to a highly visible location for River Rangers including access to the River, proximity to a publicly accessible park, trails and open space. The establishment of a REACH Zone will create River appreciation, the benefits rippling out into surrounding communities and revitalization efforts. The Plan identifies criteria and factors to consider when locating these REACH Zones.

Lower Los Angeles River Working Group (AB 530):

With the completion of the Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan (LLARRP), the Implementation Advisory Group (IAG) continues to meet at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works headquarters in the City of Alhambra. The purpose and charge of the IAG is to:

- 1) provide a public venue for discussion of proposed projects/programs related to the Lower LA River;
- 2) Ensure proposed projects/programs are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan; and
- 3) Maximize multi-use opportunities and community benefits by encouraging collaboration among the many project proponents and organizations in the project area.

In its role as an advisory body, the IAG will provide guidance on issues presented before them, but ultimately, individual entities with jurisdiction along the river corridor including the LA County Flood Control District, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the cities will continue to have decision-making authority. The IAG aims to ensure that subsequently implemented projects are carried out in accordance with the LLARRP and that stakeholders continue to have a voice in implementation. Project proponents interested in submitting their projects to the IAG can fill out the [Project Review Package](#) and send it to LowerLARiver@dpw.lacounty.gov for review.

The IAG members and committees will work together to further define the roles and guidelines of the IAG in the upcoming months. The IAG will include four sub-committees, including:

- 1) Programs & Policies;
- 2) Public Realm, Environment, Water, Infrastructure;
- 3) Public Advisory & Community Engagement; and
- 4) Future Committee TBD (as-needed).

The next Lower LA River IAG Meeting has been **cancelled** on Wednesday, March 25th.

The committee meetings will first be comprised of members of the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan Working Group; however, the committees may choose to invite representatives of other agencies and organizations as needed to address committee needs.

Steering and sub-committee meetings will be held quarterly. The next SubCommittee meeting is scheduled for second quarter 2020 (TBD). This will be a new committee meeting format where all three committees will be present, and the meeting will be run by the three committee chairs. The sub-committees are:

- 1) Programs & Policies
 - a. Chair, Antonio Hicks, Public Counsel
 - b. Vice Chair, Dan Knapp, Conservation Corps of Long Beach
- 2) Public Realm, Environment, Water, Infrastructure
 - a. Chair, Kayla Kelly-Slatten, Conservation Corps of Long Beach
 - b. Vice Chair, Kelsey Jessup, The Nature Conservancy
- 3) Public Advisory & Community Engagement
 - a. Chair, Laura Cortez, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
 - b. Vice Chair, TBD

All committees are continuing to work on establishing a project review process and will discuss how each committee can support the development and implementation of projects, programs, policies, and efforts. Regarding a review process, the two main objectives for the sub-committees will be to:

- 1) Allow projects that have been submitted for funding to present and retain feedback, which will then be delivered to a governing Board/reviewing body for consideration, and
- 2) Allow developing projects the opportunity to gain feedback on concepts and ideas, as well as to find additional partners and funding.

RMC schedules proposed project presentations (as needed) by RMC grant applicants before the appropriate IAG committees to allow Lower LA River stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback on proposed projects before they are recommended for funding to the RMC Board. Any comments received on projects will be included in recommendation reports.

The IAG consists of the District as the chair, the RMC, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the fifteen Lower LA River cities and the chairs of the committees. The IAG and the committees will each meet quarterly. All meeting materials and schedules will be posted on the website – www.LowerLARiver.org

IRWMP Planning Activities

On June 26th, the GLAC Leadership Committee met to approve the list of projects that they will move forward with putting together the applications for IRWMP Proposition 1, Round 1. The list of projects that will move forward to the application phase is below (due 11/5/19). The Leadership Committee decided to compete for all funding that has been allocated to the entire funding area (~\$34M).

The March 25, 2020 GLAC IRWM Leadership Committee Meeting is cancelled.

Los Angeles River Master Plan Update – LA County

The County of Los Angeles is undergoing a process to update the LA River Master Plan, a comprehensive approach covering all 51 miles of the River. The effort was launched to update the original 1996 master plan, synthesizing more recent ideas for portions of the River and bringing a comprehensive vision to the transformation of the LA River. The process will be complete in 2020. County Public Works has developed a website with project information and data, including technical reports: <http://www.larivemasterplan.org/>

First draft of the master plan was distributed to the Steering Committee in January 2020. Comments were due February 13. A public draft is expected to be released Spring 2020.

RMC ACTIVE PROJECTS

Willowbrook Walking Path/Compton Creek (RMC14003):

The RMC provided a grant in the amount of \$300,000 to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps as part of the Willowbrook Walking Path Compton Creek extension. The LACC applied for an Urban Greening Grant through the Strategic Growth Council and was awarded the full request in the amount of \$798,815. Additional matching funds were committed by other project partners including the State Coastal Conservancy and the Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas (2nd District). Matching funds provided by the funding partners and the grant funds received by the Strategic Growth Council bring the total project cost to \$1,698,815.

This project includes the creation of a ½ mile permeable walking path and 2,700 linear foot by 6-foot riprap swale constructed with river rock to capture debris and treat runoff before it enters Compton Creek.

Work began on this project in September 2018 with grubbing of the site. The LACC will continue the grading and move on to construction of a fence line, retaining wall, and landscaping. Fall 2019, tasks associated with the drainage swale behind the retaining wall were continued. Catch basin construction underway. Targeted project completion in June 2020.

View Park and Recycled Water System Development Project (RMC17001):

The View Park and Recycled Water Development Project is underway. Project grant to the City is for \$2,000,000 which includes a wildlife corridor project in the City of Signal Hill that will establish a new 1.86 acre park and the associated construction of a recycled water system. The project will reclaim a municipally owned industrial site and provide a recycled water system to serve the proposed park as well as retrofit three existing parks and the Promontory Home Owner's Association common landscaped areas, connect an urban trail system, prevent runoff pollution from contaminating the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and annually save approximately 40- acre feet of potable water.

The Park construction is expected to start Spring 2020. Construction completion is projected to be September 2020. The Recycled Water Line construction will tentatively begin in June 2020 with projected completion date of February 2021.

Recycled Water Campus, San Gabriel River Parkway (RMC 17004):

Grant was approved by RMC Board and the project is underway. Grant from the RMC is for \$1,000,000.

This project supports low-impact development stormwater management features, such as swales, landscaping and permeable pavements and walkways; a stormwater capture system to augment the recycled water supply and reduce flood risk. In addition, this project will create habitat for Monarch butterflies, a migratory species proposed for endangered species candidate status; and create 3.5 acres of park-like open space with public access to the San Gabriel River. The project includes many interpretive and education aspects with an outdoor amphitheater, demonstration gardens for native plants, a working model of the San Gabriel River, eco-friendly garden, multi-lingual signage, and other visitor facilities focused on water education, and provides multiple benefits to economically disadvantaged communities. This project is part of the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Project (GRIP), fully funded at \$119 million. The project is now known as the Albert Robles Recycling Facility (ARC) and held its Grand Opening this past summer. WRD has requested additional time to close out the grant through December 2019, and still in process of close-out.

Bassett High School Campus Green Infrastructure Project (RMC 17005):

Grant from the RMC is for \$652,520, project is underway. This project will enhance campus “green infrastructure”, urban habitat, and demonstrate sustainable public landscaping in terms of water use, improved infiltration, and storm water management. Bassett High School is located in underserved area of La Puente, in San Gabriel River sub watershed. The region’s impervious grey infrastructure impairs groundwater recharge and infiltration. Proposed Green Infrastructure retrofits will reduce water use on campus by systematic turf grass reduction: planting over 2700 native, drought-tolerant trees & shrubs in mulched planters to enhance biodiversity and absorb storm water and run-off. Creating a thriving Urban Forest on campus will clean air and sequester greenhouse gas emissions and reduce Urban Heat Island Effect through shade cover. Creation of bioswales, and strategic permeable surface retrofits will collect, capture, and infiltrate storm water from campus preventing runoff from entering local waterways.



The project will encourage underserved students and community residents to participate in habitat restoration and water resources protection, explore and enjoy the campus, and learn how to connect to the region’s surrounding natural areas.

Amigos has finalized an agreement with the school district and has worked with County Public Works to present plans and work with the school district. Amigos continued site preparation including:

- Grading and grubbing complete
- Bioswale by contractor (50% complete): Diversion structure and pipes to swales are complete
- Turf Removal by Youth Corps: Turf removed, trail trenching complete
- Temp Irrigation Drip Line: Installation in progress. Points of connection have been made, main line is installed, and lateral lines have begun.

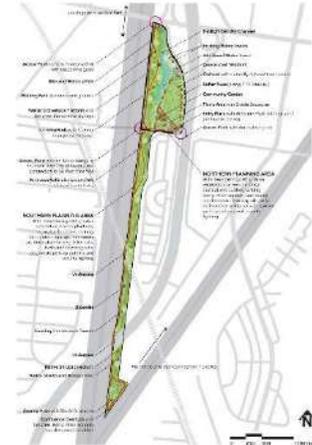
Project should be completed. Amigos de los Rios submitted their final payment request on January 7, 2020. RMC staff will confirm completion of project before closing out grant.

Planning for the Urban Orchard Development (17006):

Planning for the Urban Orchard Development grant to the Trust for Public Land is in the amount of \$845,000 with an additional \$1,387,401 that was approved at the Board meeting in May for design and construction of the wetlands component for the Orchard (RMC 18010). The project will transform 30 acres of unused, vacant land between the I-710 Freeway and the LA River into new, critically needed green infrastructure and an urban park, including an urban orchard and over one-mile of new riverfront walking and bike paths. Project deliverables include a detailed concept plan for the 30-acre park site, a feasibility study to determine the most appropriate stormwater best

management practices to be utilized at the site, and a complete set of construction drawings for the 7 acres park project area that include an orchard with culturally-relevant tree species, community gathering spaces, picnic areas, interpretive elements, native plants, and walking and bicycle paths that will eventually connect with the existing bike path along the LA River.

The City continues to host public workshops to receive input from the community for this project and has also received grant funds for the project implementation. The RMC previously approved a grant extension from June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2020 and reduction in project scope. This allows sufficient time to complete 100% construction drawings for the 7 acres and the stormwater management system that includes pumping water from the Bandini Channel and obtaining permits for the constructed wetland and diversion structure from the Bandini Channel.



West Coyote Hills Open Space Acquisition (17007):

Grant to the City is in the amount of \$2,000,000 for this acquisition. The City of Fullerton informed the RMC that they have been successful in obtaining all funds needed to complete the acquisitions of Neighborhoods 1 and 3. The City has completed its appraisal and is awaiting review by a third-party agency. The City has also completed a Preliminary Title Report. A Purchase and Sale agreement as well as a Remedial Action Plan are being developed currently and are expected to be brought to their city council for approval this winter. Escrow is expected to close around May 2020.

Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB MUST) Project (RMC 17009):

The Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Project is underway, this grant to the City is for \$2,000,000 and will improve water quality by intercepting and treating the dry weather flows and a portion of the first flush of stormwater runoff normally discharging into the Los Angeles River. The byproduct of the LB-MUST water quality treatment is recycled water which can be used to sustain proposed wetlands riparian habitat. The wetlands will be part of the total treatment train of the LB-MUST as well as function as a storage basin for the recycled water. Delays were encountered in design and construction due to a site relocation of the project to accommodate bridge improvements by the City of Long Beach at the Shoemaker Bridge site. An extension was provided to the City to allow sufficient time to accommodate for this change in the design and construction timeline through December 2020, though it is anticipated that the City will require additional time to complete the project.

Parkway Basin Water Quality Improvement Project (17011):

The Parkway Basin Water Quality Improvement Project grant to the County of Los Angeles is in the amount of \$268,500 and includes the construction of 30 parkway basins in the unincorporated Los Angeles County. A Parkway is typically defined as the area between a road's curb and the sidewalk. Parkway basins are designed to capture and treat stormwater and dry season flow (urban runoff), utilizing urban runoff for irrigation and facilitating infiltration to groundwater. These basins are constructed by excavating and lowering a portion of parkway, then cutting an opening in the curb to facilitate the flow of water from the street. The basins contain rock reinforced slopes to prevent erosion, along with the vegetation which will detain, remediate, and help infiltrate urban runoff. When a basin is full, any additional urban runoff will be unable to enter and will continue to travel in the gutter eventually to the storm drain system. Parkway basins have been successfully constructed for many years in numerous cities including: Tucson, Arizona; New York City; Portland, Oregon; and other municipalities. Locally, parkway basins have been constructed successfully in Panorama City and Studio City.

The identification of priority sites and project locations (task 1) was completed in January 2018 and construction of all 30 Parkway Basins was completed in September 2019. The County and The River Project has already begun to monitor the functions of these basins and to coordinate with the Stewards to maintain the basins.

Los Cerritos Wetlands Acquisition of the Bryant Properties (RMC 17013):

This grant to the LCWA is in the amount of \$1,000,000. The Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) currently owns approximately 177 acres of coastal wetland habitat within the Lower San Gabriel River watershed in the Cities of Seal Beach and Long Beach and the LCWA is seeking to acquire the frontage and remaining Bryant-Dakin, LLC Properties located along 2nd Street/Westminster Avenue in the City of Long Beach, totaling approximately 18 acres (Los County Assessor Parcel Nos 7237-020-053 and 7237-020-054). The LCWA is seeking to acquire the remaining two Bryant-Dakin LLC retained parcels that extend across the San Gabriel River and along the Haynes Cooling Channel at 2nd Street/Westminster Avenue. The west parcel is approximately 12 acres in size and is south along 2nd Street/Westminster Avenue and the east parcel is approximately 6 acres located on the isthmus just north of the LCWA Property on the east side of the San Gabriel River.

LCWA received approval from the Department of General Services on an appraisal report on the Bryant Properties. LCWA is still negotiating with the land owner to acquire the properties.

Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project (17014):

This grant is to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) in the amount of \$500,000. The Los Cerritos Wetlands is one of the last remaining estuarine systems in southern California, located in the Cities of Long Beach and Seal Beach. The LCWA adopted the Final Los Cerritos Wetlands Complex Conceptual Restoration Plan (CRP) in August 2015 with the next step being environmental review of the CRP. The LCWA is seeking to complete the environmental review of the CRP which is required to satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act.

A meeting with the Steering Committee, two Technical Advisory Meeting, and two public meetings have been held to solicit comments about an Optimized Restoration Plan, which is a hybrid alternative from the CRP's three alternatives. The CEQA approach is to complete a Programmatic EIR for the entire 500-acre property. The CEQA process was initiated on March 8, 2019 with the filing of the Notice of Preparation and Initial Study. The LCWA anticipates releasing a Draft EIR later this year 2020.

Emerald Necklace Rio Hondo and Peck Park Water Conservation Project (RMC 17015):

Grant to Amigos de los Rios in the amount of \$617,385 for this project which will enhance biodiversity, water quality, stormwater & urban run-off management along Rio Hondo Emerald necklace & within Peck Park by adding green infrastructure elements along River Parkway. This area is located within eastern Los Angeles County's underserved El Monte and is adjacent to County Bike Trail, residential areas and schools. Arterials cross the right of way and produce runoff and air pollution that negatively impacts river parkway and local ecosystems. The proposed multi-objective water quality project will improve watershed health, habitat, and trails along the Emerald Necklace's Rio Hondo River. It will remove invasive plants and restore biodiversity by planting over 1175 native & drought-tolerant trees and shrubs suited to multi-year droughts.

Significant invasive removal has been completed, with the monitoring, treating, and removing of previously removed areas continuing. 1205 shrubs and 120 trees have been planted. Tree stakes were installed for trees previously planted; shrubs cared for. Installation of the Irrigation to support trees and shrubs planted along the entrance bioswale was completed July 18, 2019. The second phase of the irrigation will be integrated into the construction of the parking lot BMP's.

In Q4 2019 October 1- December 31 Amigos held 1 Emerald Necklace Volunteer Stewardship at Peck Road Water Conservation Park. At this event, Amigos engage youth and community members in urban and community forestry, Community Science, green infrastructure element implementation. stewardship events run three hours and were held on October 5 (51 volunteers).



Phil and Nell Soto Park (RMC17018):

On September 27, 2018, the City of Pomona conducted the official groundbreaking for the Phil and Nell Soto Park in the City of Pomona. The 1.76 acre park will provide for active and passive recreation opportunities and includes a variety of California native plants and trees throughout the park, a butterfly habitat, and a bird sanctuary.

The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy provided a grant for the acquisition of this park and the City has recently accepted an additional grant in the amount of \$1 Million for the park construction from Proposition 1 (water bond). The park design includes natural systems to treat urban stormwater runoff, infiltration and retention of stormwater to mitigate flooding. The park was designed by Architerra Design Group and the Construction will be managed by CEM Construction. There has been a request by the City to extend the completion date to June 30, 2020 and an additional \$186,257, pending RMC approval.

There was a grand opening on February 8, 2020.



San Gabriel Mountain Community Collaborative (RMC17024):

The San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative (SGMCC) held its latest meeting on March 26, 2020.

The collaborative continues to work on challenges faced by the forest regarding community access, visitor management, and protection of natural resources. Meeting Objectives include:

- 1) Explore members' roles and commitments to the Collaborative as we transition to actively pursuing projects and initiatives with the Angeles National Forest.
- 2) Review each ad hoc committee's progress on the action plan and identify next steps.
- 3) Review updated Steering Committee selection protocol.
- 4) Take care of general SGMCC business including membership updates, announcements, etc.
- 5) Coordination with Forest Service and aligning Collaborative goals with Forest Service priorities.

National Forest Foundation project continues through March 2021, the Collaborative will be finalizing the Action Plans and start implementation of the Action Plan through 2021.

The SGMCC has a Steering Committee and four topical ad-hoc Committees working to enhance National Monument management and accessibility for local communities in four areas: Trails and Recreation, Transportation, Volunteer Engagement, and Conservation Education. Meetings occur every other month.

Compton Creek Walking Path Phase II (RMC 18001)

Provide an extension of the walking/cycling path which leads to the Compton Bike Trail. Project is currently underway with work being performed by the LA Conservation Corps.

Sleepy Lagoon Planning Project (RMC 18003)

The outreach, design and planning process will involve a collaboration with a number of organizations and agencies including Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), La Cosecha Colectiva (the Collective Harvest) and various local homeowner associations near Bell and surrounding cities. The grantee kicked off several community meetings which were well attended and gathered input regarding the prospective monument, design ideas, and its potential location.

Trask Reservation Water System Improvement Project (RMC 18006)

The Boy Scouts of America, Greater LA Area Council, (GLAAC BSA) requested funding from RMC to hire an engineering consultant to determine the camp's various water system needs and provide an engineering estimate of expected costs. The resulting report will enable GLAAC BSA to pursue additional funding opportunities to move forward with the necessary procurement, installation, and construction of the proposed improvements and upgrades, and ultimately restore the camp's potable water access.

Comments were received from SWRCB DDW on the preliminary design concept report, noting additional requirements for safety and compliance. BSA is incorporating these comments into the revised 30% project design and the technical specifications. The final geotechnical report was received, and recommendations were incorporated into the 30% design and technical specifications. The revised 30% project design was submitted to SWRCB DDW to obtain any additional comments. Based on the revised project design, the project construction cost was updated for our pending Proposition 68 proposal and forwarded to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for consideration.

BSA received approval for an \$90,200 and extension through September 30, 2020 to complete their environmental compliance at the last Board meeting in January 2020.

Walnut Park Acquisition (RMC 18007)

This grant was recently approved at the January 28, 2019 RMC Board meeting to provide a grant to the LA County Department of Parks and Recreation for the Walnut Park Acquisition. This acquisition includes a total of 0.5-acre parcels: APN 6201-028-014, 6201-028-016, and 6201-028-018, for the creation of a new pocket park located in the Walnut Park community. The grant is in the amount of \$1,265,000 and the acquisition was officially completed in June 2019.

Acquisition of the LA River Incubator Site (RMC 18008)

This grant is to the Watershed Conservation Authority. As part of the Lower Los Angeles River Grant Sub-Program (Board Resolution 2018-02), the Green Incubator project will serve as a base and catalyst for the implementation of the plan by building capacity, providing coordination, and facilitating collaboration by and for all community stakeholders. The funding would cover acquisition of a site in the vicinity of the Lower Los Angeles River or the Los Angeles River and Rio Hondo River Confluence, and related build-out expenses, and project management for due diligence and site selection. RMC is currently completing an appraisal on a proposed site in South Gate.

Emerald Necklace San Gabriel River Habitat Restoration Project (RMC 18009)

This project will restore a river parkway trail on the San Gabriel River between Live Oak Avenue and Peck Road that is part of the San Gabriel River Corridor Master Plan, the LA County Regional Bike Plan, and the Emerald Necklace Plan. This project will be implemented by Amigos de los Rios, and will improve watershed health, rain water and runoff infiltration, urban forest coverage and native habitat, and provide significant heat island reduction and recreation benefits to local communities and regional trail users of the San Gabriel River Trail.

Urban Orchard Project Construction (RMC 18010)

The Urban Orchard Development is a multi-benefit, passive park located along the LA River and the Rio Hondo Channel confluence in the City of South Gate. The Project is an identified priority (Project 155) in the Lower LA River Revitalization Plan and is part of a larger vision to transform 30-acres of unused, vacant land between the I-710 Freeway and the LA River into new, critically needed green infrastructure and an urban park, including an urban orchard and over one-mile of new riverfront walking and bike paths. The Phase 1 site comprises seven acres owned by the City of South Gate and will create one acre of functioning wetland habitat in a heavily developed, urban area that would treat and utilize stormwater from the adjacent Bandini Channel to irrigate the park and provide the community with a new greenspace. Construction is planned to start Fall 2020.

Central Jefferson High Green Alley Multi-Benefit Stormwater Project (RMC 18011)

The Central-Jefferson High Green Alley Multi-Benefit Stormwater Project will renovate a 54,446 square-foot public alley right of way in a high density 100-acre neighborhood block in South Los Angeles. Project improvements will include the installation of high albedo pavement, permeable pavers, permeable pavement, street tree planting, infiltration trenches, a dry well system, planting of native vines and trees, educational and mile marker signage, public art and traffic calming measures including planted bump-outs, crosswalk striping, lights and way finding signage. Of the total alley, 34,733 sq-ft will include stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) and an underground drywell system capturing a total tributary area of approximately 7.31 acres. The remaining 19,713 square feet of alley will include stormwater BMPs, comprised of native vine and tree plantings, and porous pavement. The green alley network in total will capture runoff and percolate at least 1,890,000 gallons of stormwater per year.

This project is being brought back to the board today under a new grant number because of a delay in the initiation of the project and a change in the expected performance end date. This grant agreement was never executed.

The Community Center at DeForest Park (RMC 18012)

In order to bring about positive changes to DeForest Park in North Long Beach, its wetlands, and the greater LLAR Region, the Conservation of Long Beach (CCLB) will develop a master plan for the entire DeForest Park, as well as design and install a satellite site at the DeForest Wetlands to better serve the needs of the LLAR while training youth as river stewards. By implementing a satellite site, CCLB will not only be able to oversee the master plan as it is carried out, but more importantly, have the resources to carry out necessary functions to sustain the health and vitality of the LLAR and its surrounding communities in the long term. During construction, the satellite site will function as a Lower LA River restoration center and crew training location.

Although the majority of the outreach has been conducted, public engagement was scheduled to continue throughout July 2020. Goal is to continue the vision plan development and have it on City Council's agenda in July 2020.

LA River Environmental Flows Study Supplemental Analysis (RMC 18013)

The Supplemental Analysis has one overarching goal: To expand the currently funded Los Angeles River Environmental Flows Study to include analysis of potential recreation and wildlife impacts to the Lower Los Angeles River. The ultimate outcome of the Supplemental Analysis is to provide technically sound recommendations and alternatives to the Water Boards for consideration and implementation of a water flow standard that takes into consideration the existing and planned recreation and habitat uses of the Los Angeles River.

RMC finalized a Conservancy Agreement with Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to move this project forward. WCA is currently negotiating a contract with SCCWRP to fund the supplemental scope.

WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ACTIVITIES

Duck Farm Project: Construction work continues with the timeline to complete expected to be extended through March 2020 for the General Contractor. The extended timeline is primarily due to SCE having not yet completed the undergrounding of their existing above ground facilities and their removal of the above ground facilities. This work is necessary to allow for final grading and planting in the upper riparian and meadows areas to be completed. SCE's has indicated that they will finish their work this month, which is critical in order to allow the project to finish final soil prep, irrigation

and planting in the upper riparian bioswale and meadow areas in February and March. In the interim, work on the construction of the dry streambed is scheduled to continue and be completed by end of Spring 2020.

Concrete curbs, seat walls (including the east entry park, west side plaza and outdoor classroom areas), and walkways have been constructed in both the east entry park area, west plaza, and overlook areas. Other work scheduled to be completed by the end of this month includes the seat walls at the overlook, installation of restroom facility finish surfaces, electrical and plumbing fixtures and tree plantings.

Decorative and Structural metal work is in fabrication and should be targeted for installation in Spring 2020.

Conservation Corps work to plant 4" potted natives along the pathways and installation of mulch will complete later this Spring. However, completion of this work is also dependent on SCE removal of their poles and overhead wires. Parking lot and entry drive has been partially constructed with final paving to be laid at the end of the project in March to ensure it is not damaged during the remaining construction work.



Entry pocket park path and seat walls to tunnel



East entry trail from pocket park heading



New concrete path placed at west-side park plaza



Seating at outdoor classroom



New restroom 'kit' facility takes shape

Duck Farm House Landscape and Water Project: WCA is also moving forward with its application for Supplementary Environmental Funds in conjunction with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. The SEP would augment the Duck Farm House Landscape and Water Project and include additional public amenities and an expanded parking lot. The Work Plan is currently being reviewed by the Regional Board.

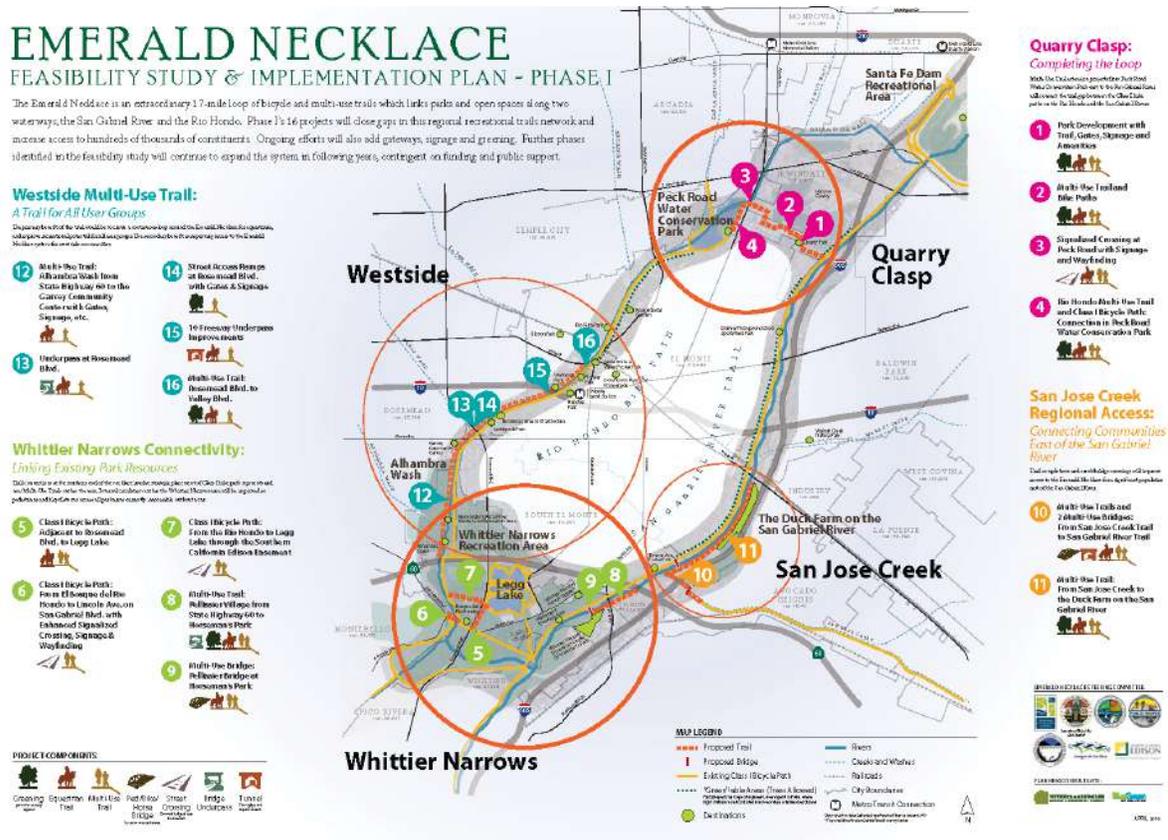


Duck Farm House Landscape and Water Project will include the construction of practical landscape-oriented water capture and conservation strategies that average homeowners can achieve in their own landscapes. The Farmhouse will be renovated and transformed into a community resource / visitor center to compliment these conservation gardens and provide additional programming opportunities.

San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network: LACFCD has engaged Brown and Caldwell as the prime consultant to prepare the plan with WCA to participate in project planning and strategic planning/technical advisory meetings over the next two years. No additional work orders have been requested at this time; however, WCA expects at a minimum to participate in reviews of technical

documents prepared by the consultants and to perform up to four additional community engagement meetings during the development of the plan. The consultant is on track to complete their initial study and existing conditions report by the end of January. WCA anticipates attending a review meeting to receive the data and study results in February or March.

Emerald Necklace: WCA attended the January Emerald Necklace Meetings hosted by Los Angeles County District 1 Supervisor Hilda Solis to provide an update on the Duck Farm River Park and Community Center and River walk projects. The meeting brings together staff from the Supervisor’s office, various Los Angeles County departments and non-profit partners to collaborate on projects to forward the greenway plan. LA County Department of Public Works is forwarding both the San Jose Bridge and River Trail that will connect San Jose Creek trail to the San Gabriel River’s eastern bank up to the Duck Farm River Park and Rosemead Blvd complete street project between Legg Lake and Durfee within the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area. Early implementation projects from the San Gabriel Valley Greenway plan being spearheaded by LA County Flood Control District includes planning and community outreach for the proposed Puente Creek greenway. There will be a special Emerald Necklace Strategic Planning Meeting on February 5th sponsored by LA County Parks and Recreation.



The Emerald Necklace is a 17-mile interconnected network of existing and envisioned bikeways, multi-use trails, parks, and greenways along the Rio Hondo and the San Gabriel River. Along the Rio Hondo the Emerald Necklace stretches from Peck Road Water Conservation Park in the north to the Whittier Narrows Recreation Areas in the south. Along the San Gabriel River, it stretches from Hanson Quarry in the north to Whittier Narrows Recreational Area in the south.

The Emerald Necklace Implementation Plan – Phase 1 (Proposed Project) includes 15 related projects that would close gaps in a regional recreational trails network and increase access to the trails to hundreds of thousands of people in the project area.

San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan: On September 12, 2019, the WCA Board approved the negotiation of a consultant contract for a regional biological report. On October 15, 2019, an RFP for a regional biological report RFP was posted to the WCA website and distributed to biological consultants with extensive field experience in the San Gabriel Mountains foothills. Four submissions were received.

The proposals were evaluated by a jury that included WCA staff and two biologists. Evaluation criteria included: understanding of overall concepts and objectives, technical approach for providing requested and optional services, qualifications of personnel assigned to the project, record of field work and insight based on references and submitted work samples, and insight into specific opportunities in WCA territory.

The proposal submitted by Psomas received the highest score. Psomas' work sample demonstrated solid field experience in the project area, and application of this knowledge at the scale of regional analysis as well as in local management recommendations.

Jurors emphasized that WCA should seek to engage biologists to field truth parcels recommended by the selected consultant before a final prioritization.

A study on human factors currently in progress. Dr. Milburn was engaged to interview municipalities and conservancies in WCA territory about open space maintenance issues, and opportunities related to access and low-impact recreational uses of open space lands. Due to unforeseen circumstances, this study has been delayed.

San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan included funds for acquisition activities. WCA has begun due diligence and strategizing for the acquisition of several San Gabriel River Canyon floodplain properties of significance to wildlife habitat.

WCA awaits Conservation Easement documents from San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy (SGMRC) for review to complete the transfer of Easley Canyon to WCA.

San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan Project will develop a comprehensive prioritized acquisition strategy and a recommended resource management and operations strategy to preserve habitat and open space, improve watershed health, and increase public access for compatible uses such as multi-use trails and related passive recreational amenities along the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains.

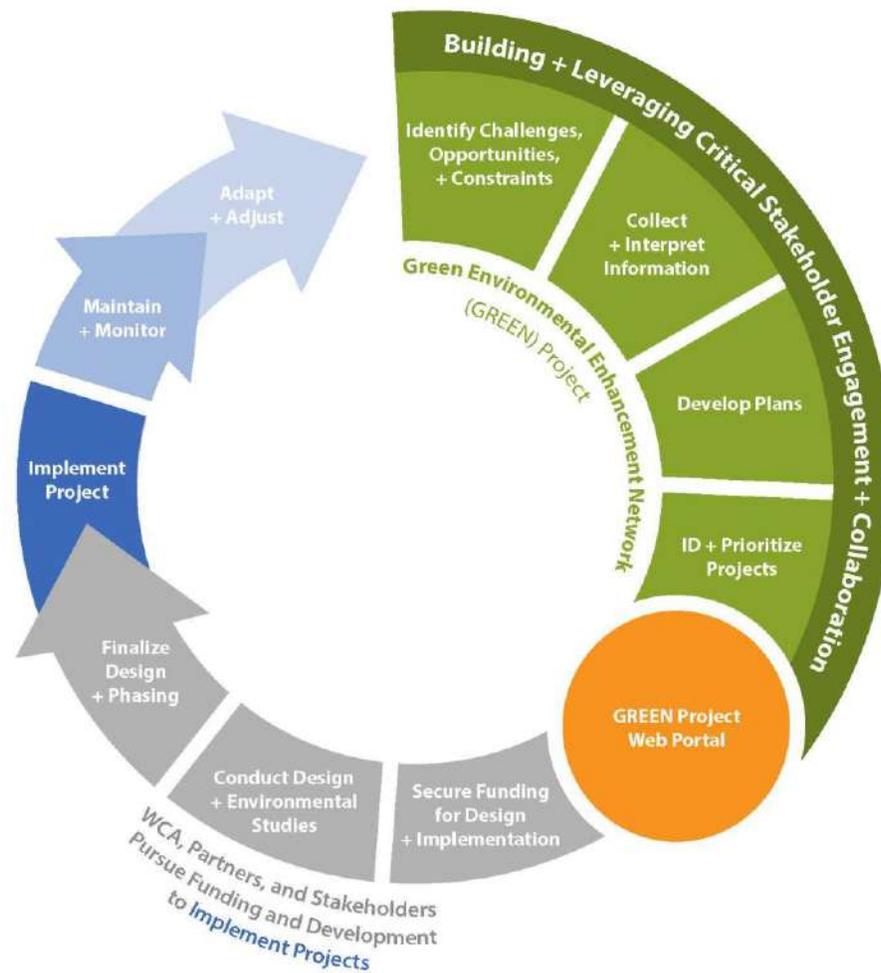
Vasquez Habitat and Open Space: The WCA received a grant award from the RMC's Proposition 68 program in November to acquire the parcel known as Vasquez Overlook (Vasquez II). Staff completed all due diligence activities in December and as a result the Vasquez Overlook property is currently in escrow with expected closing date before the end of this month. The purchase and sales agreement for Vasquez Overlook includes an 18-month Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) for the purchase of the Vasquez Access parcel [AIN 8684-024-035] (Vasquez III).

A Memorandum of Understanding/Management Agreement is on today's agenda for consideration to ratify. The agreement allows the Vasquez family, as caretakers, to continue their tradition of maintaining a U.S. Flag on the property in honor of our veterans, as well as maintain the overlook called Art and Chema's landing.



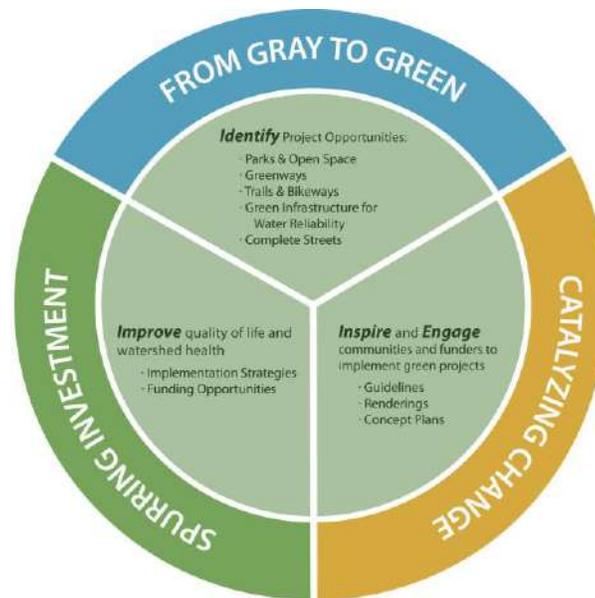
GREEN Project: The GREEN project is a multipart effort by the agency to promote urban greening in the WCA / RMC territory. WCA has begun discussions around development of a pilot Portal focused on the WCA/RMC territory or taking a County-wide approach for a regional depository of plans and projects, as well as, a project and funding match tool. The grant requires administrative extension for time to assemble a software development team capable of completing the desired functionality for the website and online tools.

The software development tasks will be part of a Phase II grant amendment or separate funding depending on the investment needed to complete the work.



The Green Regional Environmental Enhancement Network (GREEN) Project is a planning and project implementation initiative supporting watershed-based greening efforts to help support collaboration in the wider Los Angeles and Orange County area. The scope of the project includes regional data collection and assessments, identification of priority projects, and community engagement strategies culminating in the launch of an online GREEN project portal to share data and information, and to catalyze investments and positive change.

Gateway Cities and Rivers Urban Greening Master Plan: Staff are currently drafting and uploading written and visual content to the Gateway Greening website. Lyric Design & Planning are currently developing Greenscape maps and City Profile pages as WCA staff works to close out a grant from Strategic Growth Council. WCA staff are continuing to develop the Gateway Greening website with a grant from RMC through April 2020.



With a grant from the Strategic Growth Council and partner collaboration the WCA is developing a green infrastructure plan for the Gateway Cities Region. The WCA is advancing collaborative integration of regional efforts as staff continues to engage in compatible regional planning initiatives—including the work of the AB530 Lower LA River Working Group. Together with the RMC-funded GREEN Project the plan is organized as an interactive web platform positioned to facilitate coordination, planning efforts, and funding for greening projects across the Gateway Cities and beyond.

Los Angeles River Environmental Flows Study Supplemental Analysis: Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy returned the joint agreement with Rivers and Mountains Conservancy this month. Once this conservancy agreement is fully executed, WCA can begin to forward the study. Staff will finalize the consultant contract with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project and begin the study which will include water quality indicators and potential for the Rio Hondo and Compton Creek to serve as mitigation areas.

The 3rd of 4 LA River Flows Stakeholder Working Group was held on March 26, 2020.

The purpose of the Supplemental Analysis is to supplement the State Water Board funded Los Angeles River Environmental Flows Study to include a more robust analysis of the potential impacts to recreation, wildlife habitat, and water quality in the Lower Los Angeles River from reduced instream water flows. Including the WCA as part of the Stakeholder group and adding a third-party review of the analysis itself. For more information, please visit the project website: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/larflows.html

Mt Baldy Wilderness Preserve: Unsuccessful in securing a Prop A Excess Funds grant for small property improvements, staff is collaborating with the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps staff to develop a Youth training program in natural resource maintenance and stewardship for the property. The competitive grant application will be submitted by SGVCC to Regional Parks and Open Space Districts call for Measure A projects which are due in February. The program will utilize the site as a satellite training location for the corps to be trained and have hands on experience in trail maintenance, arborist, small structure repair, exotic plant removal and native plant restoration and maintenance. Additionally, nature-based solutions and community engagement/stewardship

will be integrated into the training content of the program. Partnership with the Forest Service may also be a component with those discussions to follow.

The utilization of Mt Baldy property as a Corps training site will benefit the property by providing both an active onsite presence and regular maintenance which will help to reduce negative activities such as graffiti and vandalism of trail amenities. Upon close-out of the Measure A grant, if awarded, the property will be eligible to receive Operations and Maintenance funding that will provide much needed operational cost relief to the Authority.

Acquired in 2014, the Mt. Baldy Wilderness Preserve is a 237+/- acre property located on the eastern extent of the Authority's territory, directly south of Mt. Badly Village. This open space being preserved is in its undeveloped state. The site is publicly accessible for passive recreational use.

Crystal Lake Redevelopment and San Gabriel Canyon Master Planning: The U.S. Forest Service Master Agreement has a finite life of 5 years with an end date of June 30, 2020. Funds deposited by USFS for work must be expended by that deadline or they are lost. WCA staff, working with USFS and Consultant, have identified priority projects to complete over the next 6 months while closing out the planning side of the effort in favor of design and implementation.

These priority implementation projects include the design and construction of all new camp host sites, kiosks and iron rangers at both Crystal Lake and Coldbrook campgrounds. As well as, planned improvements to the Crystal Lake Visitor Center and installation of a trash transfer station at Rincon Fire Station site. Pending approval of Federal clearances, USFS has identified the demolition of several old, unused restrooms and dilapidated ancillary buildings. These improvements will be a noticeable and welcome enhancement to the visitor experience.

All work is funded through the existing Participating Agreement between the USFS and the WCA. The workplan for this and additional work is being developed cooperatively with USFS. Further details will be shared as these joint projects are developed and finalized with USFS.

Crystal Lake Redevelopment and San Gabriel Canyon Master Planning, authorized by U.S. Forest Service under a Supplemental Project Agreement with WCA, to implement a redevelopment and enhancement conceptual planning effort for the Crystal Lake recreation area located in the Angeles National Forest, as well as, a recreation master plan for the San Gabriel Canyon area focusing on access, circulation, and recreational resources.

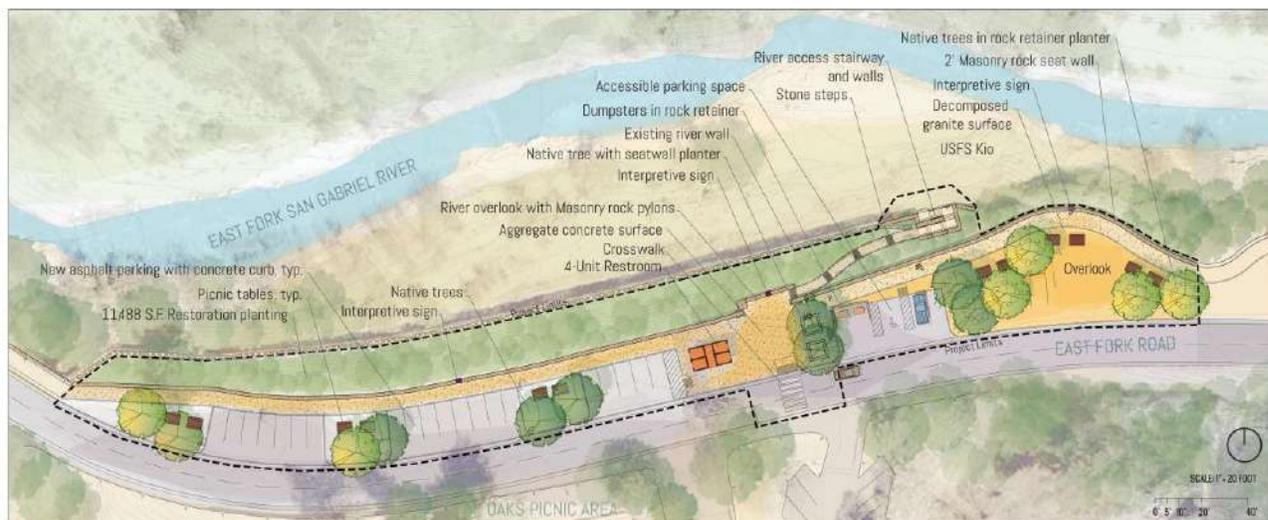
River Wilderness Park: In anticipation of filling funding gaps with Prop 68 grants, WCA extended the performance period of several existing grants to align with a new target of project completion by 2021. Staff continues to work with City of Azusa, Caltrans and Design team to complete the design for the overlook and park entry improvement elements of the park. WCA also continues to advocate for Caltrans to develop the roundabout but will develop the park in its absence in order to prevent further delays.



The RWP is an approx. 118-acre property envisioned to provide unique wilderness experiences in the lower San Gabriel River Canyon comprised of engaging landscapes, gathering spaces, thriving habitats, and a regional hub and welcome center for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

San Gabriel River Confluence with Cattle Canyon Project: WCA consultant, BlueGreen, has completed its work on the site design for the Oaks River Access Project. At the November 2019 Board Meeting, the WCA Board authorized an amendment to BlueGreen’s contract to extend the footprint of the design with funding through WCA’s Master Participating Agreement with the Forest Service. At RMC’s June 2019 Board Meeting, the RMC Board approved a partial Prop 1 grant to fund the permitting and bid/award process for the project. WCA is currently awaiting a decision Prop 68 funding from the RMC for the construction of the project.

U.S. Forest Service anticipates making a decision of record on the EIS for the project in early 2020.



Initial concept plan for the Oaks River Access project.

Along a 2.5-mile segment of the East Fork San Gabriel River recreational use is highly concentrated. This heavy use combined with the lack of facilities has resulted in degraded conditions. In response, the Cattle Canyon Project seeks to better manage the recreational use and balance the needs for resource project within this area of the San Gabriel Mountains.

South Gate Habitat Restoration Project/Parque dos Rios: The Construction continues on the Parque Dos Rios project with completion of the overlook and entry gate rockwork columns completed. Decorative metalwork railings, shade structure and gates are in fabrication. Interpretive signage and dedication sign artwork is complete. A second overlook location to view cliff swallows under the Imperial Highway bridge was identified and a drawing to construct is being readied to submit to LA County Flood Control District for approval to construct within their Right of Way. Both the overlooks will feature seating, interpretive panels and viewsopes as amenities. A grant extension from Regional Parks and Open Space District is being processed to allow for the addition of this additional overlook and to align the Prop A grant completion date with the work being completed under the Conservation Corps of Long Beach's Prop 68 grant. The structural work is anticipated to be completed by the end of January and the CCLB landscaping work by April pending timely amended approval by LACFCD for the second overlook location. WCA staff applied for the Measure W program's December call for projects to perform a feasibility to redesign the Caltrans drainage V-ditch to a nature based riparian bioswale and has been asked to present the project to the Watershed Study Area Committee in March.





Parque Dos Rios is a 7.8-acre site situated along the Lower Los Angeles River (LLAR) at the confluence with the Rio Hondo in the City of South Gate. The project will create a bike stop amenity for the LLAR trail, with overlook, shade structure, seating and interpretive graphics. The land will be planted with natives and a raptor perch installed.

Walnut Creek Habitat & Open Space: WCA staff, the City of San Dimas, BlueGreen landscape design and the City’s selected construction contractor met at the end of 2019 for a construction kickoff meeting. Construction is expected to be complete by Spring 2020.

WALNUT CREEK – WEST PHASE ONLY



Acquired in 2008, the Walnut Creek Habitat and Open Space Property is a total of approx. 60.8 acres. The location is directly east of Bonelli Regional Park and along the Walnut Creek riparian corridor. Approximately 6.7 acres are owned by the City of San Dimas and 54 acres are owned by the WCA.

City of San Dimas the City secured County Proposition A funding in the amount of \$850,000 to begin initial West Phase development. The initial phase includes site clean-up, trail development and amenities (interpretive signage, benches, etc.) for a looped spur trail, habitat enhancements, and

the planting of a vegetated buffer for neighbors and connect to the Antonovich Trail via County-operated trail staging areas.

River Ranger Program Implementation Project: WCA received the executed grant agreement from RMC. Due to current staffing limitations and timeliness of delivering a pilot program by Summary 2020, there may be the need to supplement staff with consultants to deliver the program, complete agreement and perform on-going community outreach.

The River Ranger Program will foster connections between communities, agencies, and resources to promote safe, equitable usage and stewardship of the LA River and its tributaries as an activated and connected greenway that supports ecological, social, and recreational opportunities. The Los Angeles River Ranger Program Establishment Plan was finalized in June 2019 and the program is moving toward a pilot project this summer.

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 10: Consideration of a resolution approving a grant amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Projects (RMC17014).

PROGRAM AREA: Rivers and Tributaries

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

JURISDICTION: City of Long Beach

PROJECT MANAGER: Sally Gee

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC Board approve a grant amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) to revise the timeline, budget and task list for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Projects (RMC17014).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A - LCWA Amendment Request
 Exhibit B - Timeline and Task List
 Exhibit C - Budget

The LCWA is seeking an amendment to extend the performance period of RMC 17014 (RMC Board Resolution 17-04) from June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020 and to amend the budget (Exhibit A).

The LCWA is requesting a grant extension for this project due to additional design elements that needed to be considered as planning progressed for the 500-acre Los Cerritos Wetlands Complex (Complex). LCWA is experiencing delays in completing hydrodynamic modeling of various water connections for reintroducing tides into the Complex. With the delay of release, the project timeline has been pushed back several months. The LCWA is working diligently to complete the project in a timely manner, but a six-month extension to December 31, 2020 is needed to allow enough time for project competition and grant close-out (Exhibit B).

Additionally, due to delays in the timeline, matching grant funds from the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) has run up to the reversion date. To minimize funds lost by the State, LCWA requests to shift the remaining RMC budget to fund tasks that will be completed later in the project schedule, while shifting SCC funds for tasks that will be completed earlier. As a result, more funding would be allocated to tasks such as completion of the Final EIR, Next Phase of Restoration Planning, and Public Outreach (Exhibit C). Additionally, costs to complete the project description was higher than anticipated, and supplementary funds have been allocated to that task. No additional funds are being requested from the RMC, and the grant budget remains at \$500,000.

BACKGROUND: The Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) is a joint powers authority formed by the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), State Coastal Conservancy (SCC), City of Long Beach, and City of Seal Beach. The LCWA was formed to provide a comprehensive program of acquisition, protection, conservation, restoration, and environmental enhancement of the Los Cerritos Wetlands.

Historically, the estuary of the San Gabriel River encompassed over 2,400 acres of coastal wetlands. Over the past 150 years, urbanization has reduced this area to just 500 acres of undeveloped land, which is referred to collectively as the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Much of the 500 acres were used, are currently still used, for oil production, which involved greatly manipulating the landforms so that most of the natural hydrology and corresponding habitat types have been degraded or destroyed.

Los Cerritos Wetlands is a critical piece of southern California's network of coastal salt marshes. Los Cerritos Wetlands is one of the last remaining, un-restored coastal wetland systems in southern California, which makes it a critical location for urban wetlands restoration. Some of the most important regional biological needs that can be addressed through restoration of this area are: 1) restoration of high intertidal and associated upland habitats, which are especially rare throughout the region; 2) expansion of populations of special status species; 3) mitigation of the effects of sea-level rise on long-term conversion of habitat types within the region; 4) restoration of dynamic natural processes that facilitate spatial and temporal heterogeneity within the wetland; 5) connectivity to other wetlands and open space; and 6) facilitated migration of species that are threatened by climate change and habitat fragmentation.

Restoration of Los Cerritos Wetlands provides a unique opportunity to strengthen the natural system and provide beneficial habitat for fish and other wildlife, while in turn providing flood protection for the surrounding coastal communities. The Southern California Wetland Recovery Project (SCWRP), a partnership of 17 state and federal agencies, has identified the acquisition and restoration of the Los Cerritos wetlands as a high regional priority.

In August 2015, the LCWA's Board of Directors adopted a 4-year-long study that resulted in the Los Cerritos Wetlands Conceptual Restoration Plan (CRP). The CRP presented the preliminary designs, grading plans, habitat distributions, and phasing for three restoration alternatives. Each alternative was evaluated for its habitat quality, public accessibility, tidal hydrology, construction scenarios, maintenance requirements and construction costs. The alternatives were designed with sea-level rise in mind and a sea-level rise analysis was conducted to better understand project sustainability. In May 2017, the LCWA embarked on the environmental review process for this project. Currently the LCWA and consultants are creating an Optimized Restoration Plan that will proceed through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) permitting process in the form of a Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR). A variety of required technical studies are currently underway as well as public workshops and resurrection of the Technical Advisory Committee utilized in the development of the CRP.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This amendment will not increase the overall grant amount. Other funding sources in addition to RMC funding include State Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$500,000, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the amount of \$249,500.

Funding for this project is allocated from the following:

Proposition 1, Chapter 188, Statutes of 2014

Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 allocations, Chapter 6 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:

Public Resources Code Division 22.8 provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however,

the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

RMC Resolution 2015-19 approved guidelines consistent with the Proposition 1 bond language; RMC Resolution 2016-05 approved review of forty-four grant applications submitted for the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant Program; RMC Resolution 2016-13 approved the RMC Proposition 1 (2015) Tier 1 and Tier 2 Grant Recommendations; RMC Resolution 2016-23 approved the RMC Proposition 1 Grant Program (2015) Tier 1 and Tier 2 Grant Recommendations and authorized grant distributions of \$20,261,564; RMC Resolution 2019-02 approved a grant extension and budget augmentation of \$150,000.



Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

RECEIVED

IN 20-184
MAR 11, 2020

RIVERS & MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY

Governing Board

Samuel Schuchat,
Chair
Coastal Conservancy

Suzie Price,
Vice-Chair
City of Long Beach

Joe Kalmick,
Board Member
City of Seal Beach

Roberto Uranga,
Board Member
Rivers and
Mountains
Conservancy

Mark Stanley
Executive Officer

March 3, 2020

Mark Stanley
Executive Officer
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Rd.
Azusa, CA 91702

Re: Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority Planning and Restoration Project (RMC 17014) Extension and Budget Amendment Request

Dear Mr. Stanley,

The Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority (LCWA) received RMC funds to complete the environmental review of the Los Cerritos Wetlands Conceptual Restoration Plan (CRP) required to satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (RMC 17014). The LCWA is requesting a grant extension and budget amendment for this project due to additional design elements that needed to be considered as planning progressed for the 500-acre Los Cerritos Wetlands complex (Complex). LCWA is requesting this grant be extended from June 30, 2020 to December 31, 2020, with the budget reallocation outlined below and in the attached Exhibits.

LCWA is experiencing delays in completing hydrodynamic modeling of various water connections for reintroducing tides into the Complex. Hydrodynamic modeling is a time intensive process and it has taken longer than anticipated to complete the level of analysis LCWA wishes to have before releasing a Draft EIR. With the delay of release, the project timeline has been pushed back several months. The project team is working diligently to complete the project in a timely manner but anticipates a release of the Final EIR in Fall 2020. An extension of this grant to December 2020 would allow enough time for project completion and close-out. Please see the amended project schedule in the attached timeline.

Additionally, due to project delays, matching grant funds from the State Coastal Conservancy has run up to the reversion date. To minimize funds lost, LCWA is requesting to shift the remaining RMC budget to fund tasks that will be completed later in the project schedule, while shifting SCC funds for tasks that will be completed earlier. As a result, more funding would be allocated to completing the Final EIR, Next Phase of Restoration Planning, and Public Outreach. Additionally, costs to complete the project description was higher than anticipated, and supplementary funds have been allocated to that task. No extra funds are being requested from the RMC, and the grant budget remains at \$500,000. Please review the attached budget for more detailed cost amendments.

RE: Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority Planning and Restoration Project (RMC 17014) Amendment 10
March 3, 2020
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this amendment. If you have any questions, please contact the project manager, Sally Gee, at 626-815-1019 ext. 104 or at sgee@rnc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Sam Schuchat
LCWA Board Chair

Grantee: Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority

Project Name: Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project

Contact and Address: Sally Gee, 100 Old San Gabriel Canyon Rd Azusa CA 91702

RMC Proposition 1 Grant Program Tasklist and Timeline

Performance Begin and End Date January 23, 2017 - December 31, 2020

	Work Plan Task Number and Name	Jan 2017 - Dec 2017	Dec 2017 - Dec 2018	Jan 2019 - Mar 2019	Apr 2019 - Dec 2019	Jan 2020 - Mar 2020	Apr 2020 - Jun 2020	Jul 2020 - Sept 2020	Oct 2020 - Dec 2020
1	Engage Environmental Consultant (Jan 2017 - Dec 2017)								
2	Technical Reports (Dec 2017 - Mar 2020)								
3	EIR Project Description/Notice of Preparation (Nov 2018 - April 2019)								
4	Preparation and Release of Draft EIR (Feb 2019 - April 2020)								
5	Release of Final EIR (May 2020 - Oct 2020)								
6	Prepare Findings/Statement of Overriding Considerations (May 2020 - Aug 2020)								
7	Next Phase of Restoration Plan (Apr 2020 - Sept 2020)								
8	Public Outreach (Jan 2017 - Sept 2020)								
9	Project Management (Jan 2017 - Dec 2020)								
0	Contingency (Jan 2017 - Dec 2020)								

Budget / Timeline and Tasklist:						
Task #	Tasklist and Timeline	Current RMC Budget	Difference	Proposed RMC Budget	State Coastal Conservancy	Proposed Total Budget
1	Engage Environmental Consultant (Jan 2017 - Dec 2017)	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
2	Technical Reports (Dec 2017 - Mar 2020)	\$190,000.00	-\$78,000.00	\$112,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$227,000.00
3	EIR Project Description/Notice of Preparation (Nov 2018 - April 2019)	\$25,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$29,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$42,000.00
4	Preparation and Release of Draft EIR (Feb 2019 - April 2020)	\$145,000.00	-\$6,000.00	\$139,000.00	\$128,260.00	\$267,260.00
5	Release of Final EIR (May 2020 - Oct 2020)	\$10,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$0.00	\$43,000.00
6	Prepare Findings/Statement of Overriding Considerations (May 2020 - Aug 2020)	\$15,000.00	-\$4,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	\$11,000.00
7 (New)	<i>Next Phase of Restoration Plan</i> (Nov 2019 - Sept 2020)	\$0.00	\$26,500.00	\$26,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$29,500.00
8	Public Outreach (Jan 2017 - Sept 2020)	\$50,000.00	\$24,500.00	\$74,500.00	\$40,000.00	\$114,500.00
9	Project Management (Jan 2017 - Dec 2020)	\$35,000.00	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	\$68,500.00	\$103,500.00
0	Contingency	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
--	<i>Optimized Restoration Alternative</i> (Feb 2018 - Dec 2020)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$132,240.00	\$132,240.00
	Total Costs	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$1,000,000

April 6, 2020 – Item 10

RESOLUTION 2020-12

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY FOR THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS PLANNING AND RESTORATION PROJECT (RMC17014)

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 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (“Proposition 1”) 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 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) 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 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.
- 3 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Proposition 1.
- 4 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan.
- 5 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.
- 6 FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 7 ADOPTS the staff report dated April 6, 2020.
- 8 APPROVES a grant amendment to the Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority revise the budget, task list, and to extend the timeline through December 31, 2020 for the Los Cerritos Wetlands Planning and Restoration Project (RMC 17014).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 11: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority for the San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Acquisition Master Plan (RMC 17019)

PROGRAM AREA: Mountains and Foothills

PROJECT TYPE: Acquisition/Planning

JURISDICTION: City Azusa

PROJECT MANAGER: Joseph Gonzalez

RECOMMENDATION: That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board authorize a grant budget and timeline amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) for the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Acquisition Master Plan (RMC 17019)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A – Task list/Timeline
 Exhibit B – Budget
 Exhibit C – San Gabriel Foothills – parcels of interest map
 Exhibit D – WCA Amendment Request

With the passage of the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, the RMC established Proposition 68 grant program guidelines which provided for project applications to be submitted for funding consideration (RMC Resolution 2019-06). Under Chapter 8 of Proposition 68, \$30,000,000 is allocated for projects throughout all of the RMC territory.

RMC Board in September 2017 approved \$250,000 in funding to the WCA for the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Acquisition Master Plan (RMC Resolution 2017-16) in Proposition 84 Bond funds. WCA has expended \$58,422.03 in planning and research activity. The balance of \$191,577.97 is proposed to be funded through Proposition 68 Bond funds. To ensure project adheres to RMC's Proposition 68 grant program criteria, the project has been reevaluated to assure compliance and is proposed to receive an extension of the grant period until April 30, 2021.

Projects prioritized for funding recommendations to the Governing Board are subject to multiple factors upon review, including project score and ranking amongst territory-wide submittals, project readiness, and public benefit value. Project proponents are provided the opportunity to receive higher scores based on additional information provided through staff interviews that demonstrate

an alignment with RMC goals and objectives, and granting of funds is consistent with RMC programs, which include:

Common Ground, from the Mountains to the Sea - Supports the Watershed and Open Space Plan vision for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watersheds, seeks to restore balance between natural and human systems. Guiding principles: 1) growing greener (create, expand and improve open space and access to open space), 2) enhancing waters and waterways, and 3) coordinate regional planning efforts.

RMC Environmental Justice Policy - To ensure that the public, including minority and low-income populations, are informed of opportunities to participate in the development and implementation of all RMC-related programs, policies and activities, and that they are not discriminated against, treated unfairly, or caused to experience disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects from environmental decisions.

Tribal Consultation - To ensure Indian tribes and tribal communities are able to provide meaningful input into the development of regulations, rules policies, programs, projects, plans, property decisions, and activities that may affect tribal communities; supporting AB52 and CEQA, which require separate consideration of tribal cultural resources from that of paleontological resources.

After review by RMC staff, this grant received a score of 80 out of a total 100 points or 80% and staff recommends funding of this project.

Project:	San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Acquisition Master Plan	
Applicant:	Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA)	
Program area:	Urban Lands	
Amount requested:	\$250,000	
Amount recommended for funding:	\$250,000	
RMC PROP 68 REGIONWIDE GRANT PROGRAM - EVALUATION CRITERIA SUMMARY		
Factor	Project Score	Total Possible Points
1. Access Value	10	10
2. Urban Land Value	6	7
3. Water Sustainability/Water Storage/Water Infrastructure	9	13
4. Habitat and Restoration Resource Values	19	19
5. Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities	17	28
6. Matching Funds	5	9
7. Stakeholders/Partners Resource Value	9	9
8. Capacity	5	5
TOTAL POINTS	80	100

The WCA is requesting to extend the grant performance period for the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan (RMC 17019) by ten-months from the current performance period end date of June 30, 2020 to April 30, 2021, within the remaining budget. This extension will enable WCA to augment the Initial Study by Trust for Public Land with additional studies and community input to inform the prioritization of acquisition opportunities that meet the shared goals and objectives of the RMC, WCA and community.

These additional studies include but are not limited to:

1. Augmenting property inventory data from The Trust For Public Lands with newly identified properties of significant conservation and connectivity potential
2. Applying Psomas' Regional Biological Opportunities study, currently underway as a scientific lens perspective when evaluating the prioritization of acquisitions
3. Expanding an initial study on Human Factors to further capture local and regional influences related to local conservation decision-making and community support building. The initial study on Human Factors by Dr. Lee-Anne Milburn includes interviews with local municipalities and conservancies, and highlights commonalities, past challenges, and potential conflicts, and makes recommendations for stakeholder engagement next steps.
4. Engage regional specialists and academic scientists as stakeholders to increase the scientific rigor of the plan's findings

The requested time extension will allow WCA to coordinate and cultivate expert and community feedback on the Regional Biological Opportunities and Human Factors studies through meetings, presentations, and/or roundtables. WCA will hire the professional services of consultants to incorporate the above feedback into the final Master Plan report, which will include visualizations as well as the resulting recommended priority parcels.

BACKGROUND: The San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan will become a valuable resource to both the WCA and RMC in protecting our foothills, improving watershed health, increasing public access to open space and trails, and forming effective partnerships to protect these opportunities. The requested additional time will ensure rigor in evaluating future land donations, and in actively shaping opportunities where WCA may best exercise its role in watershed restoration, community-driven stewardship, and public access for compatible passive recreational uses.

WCA currently holds over 500 acres of conservation lands, most of which have been acquired through donation or transfer through other conservation entities. WCA continues to be contacted by willing sellers of additional undeveloped foothills lands. At the same time conflicts arising over expectations about the maintenance of conservation lands have challenged public entities that own conservation lands. In light of these conflicts, clarifying regional priorities for acquisition and building partnerships to support acquisition and eventual maintenance obligations are of critical importance.

The additional work that can be accomplished under the requested time extension will enable regional partners to explore strategies for conservation that best leverage limited resources, and to focus public resources on open space acquisitions that have the highest value for the region.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This amendment will not increase the overall grant amount but extends the performance period through April 30, 2021. The total project cost for the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan (RMC 17019) is \$250,000. This grant was initially authorized from Proposition 84 funds by the RMC on September 25, 2017 in the amount of \$250,000 to the WCA under Resolution 2017-16. Additional RMC funding sources following this resolution will include Proposition 68 funding.

Funding for this project was allocated from the following:

Public Resources Code Division 43
 Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection
 Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) allocations, Chapters 5 and 7 under statues:

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

Proposition 68, Chapter 852 Statues of 2017
 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 allocations, Chapter 8, under statute:

80110(b)(6): San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES:

Public Resources Code Division 22.8 provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

RMC Resolution 2017-16 authorized a grant of Proposition 84 funds in the amount of \$250,000 to the Watershed Conservation Authority for Foothill Acquisition Master Plan Project on September 25, 2017. A 9-month timeline extension was administratively approved in September 2019.

Exhibit A Task List / Delivery Schedule

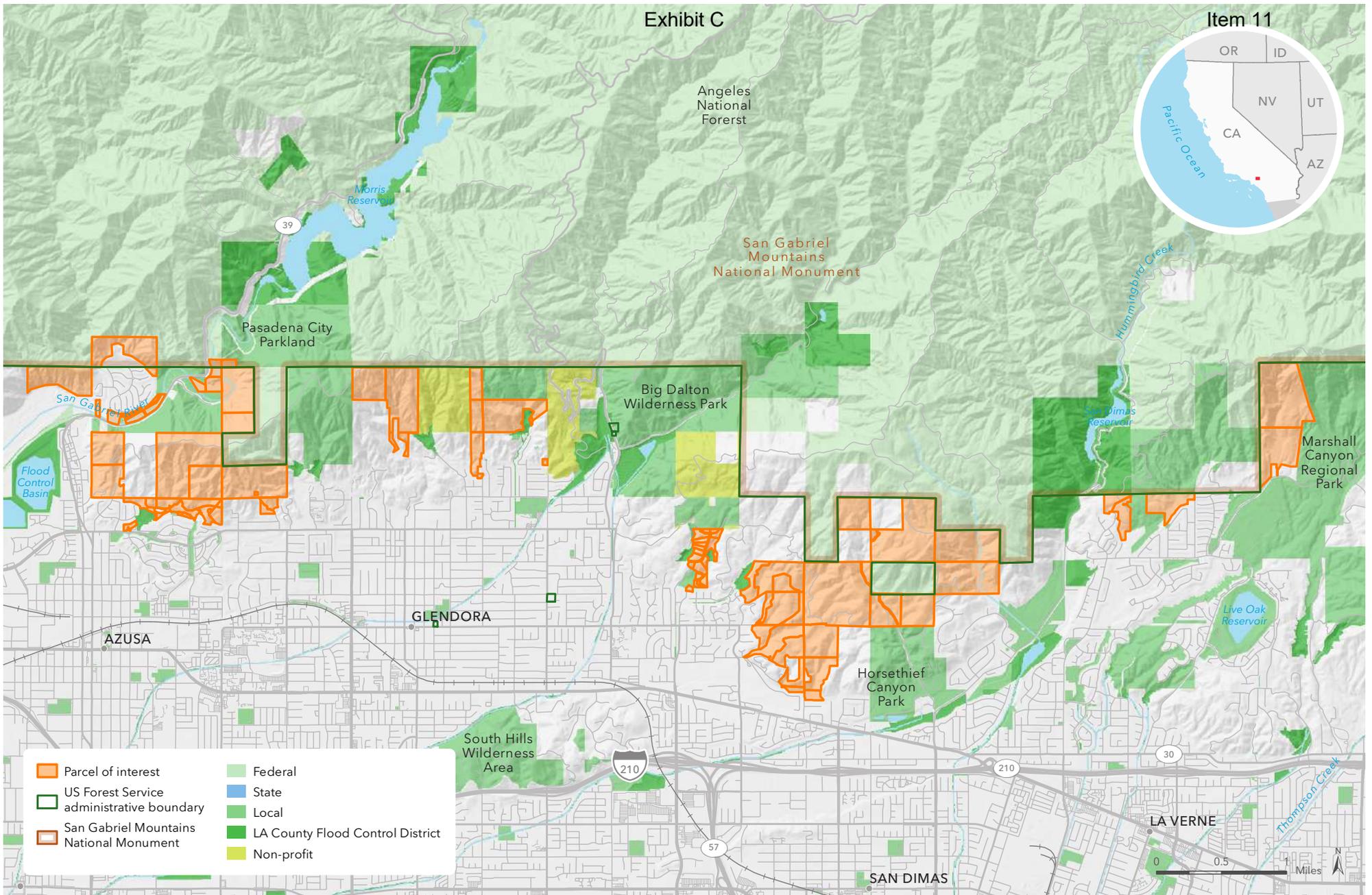
RMC17019 San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan
(March 2020)

TASKS	2019												2020												2021					
	1			2			3			4			1			2			3			4			1		2			
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J
0 WCA: PM and Grant Admin																														
Project Management																														
1 Master Plan Content																														
Initial Study - <i>Trust for Public Land</i>																														
Regional Bio Opps Initial Study - <i>Psomas</i>																														
Reg Bio Opps Stakeholder feedback																														
Reg Bio Opps groundtruthing																														
Reg Bio Opps Final Report- <i>Consultant TBD</i>																														
Human Factors Initial Study - <i>Lee-Anne Milburn</i>																														
Human Factors Stakeholder feedback																														
Human Factors Final Report - <i>Consultant TBD</i>																														
Supplemental Content - <i>WCA</i>																														
2 Limited Acquisition Implementation																														
Acquisition Implementation																														

Grant re-opened | Completion April 30, 2021

Exhibit B
Tasks and Budget
RMC17019 San Gabriel Mountains & Foothills Acquisition Master Plan

Work Plan Tasks	Original Budget Nov 15, 2017	Amended Budget Dec 20, 2019	Amendment Request Feb 20, 2020	% Change
PM and Grand Admin	\$ 50,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	0%
Project Management	\$ 50,000	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000	
Master Plan Report	\$ 125,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	0%
Initial Study	\$ 84,000	\$ 84,000	\$ 17,000	
Supplemental Content	\$ 41,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,000	
Regional Biological Opportunities- Initial Study, Stakeholder feedback, Groundtruthing, Final Report		\$ 20,000	\$ 50,000	
Human Factors - Initial Study, Stakeholder feedback, Final Report		\$ 5,000	\$ 40,000	
Limited Acquisition Implementation	\$ 75,000	\$ 67,200	\$ 67,200	0%
Indirect		\$ 18,800	\$ 18,800	
TOTAL	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	



San Gabriel Foothills - East

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

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February 24, 2020

Mark Stanley
 Executive Officer
 Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
 100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
 Azusa, CA 91702

GOVERNING BOARD

**Herlinda Chlco,
 Chair**

Designee for Janice Hahn
 Los Angeles County Board of
 Supervisors, 4th District

**Sandra Maravilla
 Vice Chair**

Designee for Kathryn Barger
 Los Angeles County Board of
 Supervisors, 5th District

Vincent Chang

Designee for Hilda Solis
 Los Angeles County Board of
 Supervisors, 1st District

Karly Katona

Designee for Mark Ridley-
 Thomas
 Los Angeles County Board of
 Supervisors, 2nd District

Dan Arrighi

Rivers and Mountains
 Conservancy

Roberto Uranga

Rivers and Mountains
 Conservancy

Vacant

Rivers and Mountains
 Conservancy

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Carolina Hernandez

Designee for Mark Pestrella,
 Director
 Los Angeles County
 Department of Public Works

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mark Stanley

RE: Request to amend RMC17019, the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan

Dear Mr. Stanley,

The Watershed Conservation Authority respectfully requests an amendment to RMC17019, the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan, to extend the grant performance period by ten-months through April 30, 2021.

During this time, the plan will be augmented with additional special studies and community input to inform the prioritization of acquisition opportunities that meet the shared goals and objectives of the RMC, WCA and community. These activities include but are not limited to:

1. Augment property inventory data from The Trust For Public Lands with newly identified properties of significant conservation and connectively potential
2. Apply, in progress, Psomas led Regional Biological Opportunities study, as a scientific lens perspective when evaluating the prioritization of acquisitions
3. Expand the human factors study to further capture local and regional influences related to local conservation decision-making and community support building. The draft report captures interviews with local municipalities and conservancies that highlights commonalities, past challenges, potential conflicts, and makes recommendations for community engagement next steps.
4. Engage regional specialists and academic scientists as stakeholders to increase the scientific rigor of the plans findings

The requested time extension will allow WCA to further coordinate and cultivate expert and community feedback through meetings, presentations, and/or roundtables, and for consultants to incorporate their feedback into the plan's final recommendations. WCA will hire the professional services of a consultant to incorporate the above deliverables, create visualizations, and compile the final study report and resulting priority parcels.

As WCA continues to be contacted by willing sellers of undeveloped foothills lands, clarifying regional priorities for acquisition and building partnerships to

this end are of critical importance. The additional work that can be accomplished if the requested time extension is granted will enable regional partners to explore strategies for conservation that best leverage limited resources, and to focus public resources on open space acquisitions that have the highest value for the region.

The San Gabriel Mountains Foothills Open Space Acquisition Master Plan will become a valuable resource to both the WCA and RMC in protecting our foothills, improving watershed health, increasing public access to open space and trails, and forming effective partnerships to protect these opportunities. The requested additional time will ensure rigor in evaluating future land donations, and in actively shaping opportunities where WCA may best exercise its role in watershed restoration, community-driven stewardship, and public access for compatible passive recreational uses.

The WCA thanks you in advance for your consideration of our request. If you have questions or concerns please contact Jane Tsong, project manager, at jtsong@wca.ca.gov or 626-815-1019 ext. 103.

Sincerely,



Herlinda Chico
Governing Board Chair

Enclosures:

Exhibit A: Task List/Delivery Schedule
Exhibit B: Tasks and Budget

HC:ljt

April 6, 2020 – Item 11

RESOLUTION 2020-13

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING A GRANT BUDGET AND TIMELINE AMENDMENT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS AND FOOTHILLS ACQUISITION MASTER PLAN (RMC17019)

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 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (“Proposition 68”); and

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of funds from Proposition 68, the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 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 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 84, Chapter 5 and 7, Section 75050(g)(1) or Chapter 8, Section 75060(3) of Division 43 of Public Resource Code; and

WHEREAS, The grantee has requested a grant from Proposition 68, Chapter 7, Section 80100(a)(1)(B) or Chapter 8, Section 80110(b)(6) 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 68 RMC Grant Program is consistent with the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (“Proposition 68”), which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
- 4 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Proposition 68.
- 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 April 6, 2020.
- 9 AUTHORIZES a grant budget and timeline amendment to the Watershed Conservation Authority to add Proposition 68 as a funding source and extend the project timeline to April 30, 2021 for the San Gabriel Mountains and Foothills Acquisition Master Plan (RMC 17019).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 12: Consideration of a resolution to approving the Executive Officer to enter into the San Gabriel River Discovery Center JPA Dissolution Agreement

PROGRAM AREA: Rivers and Tributaries

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

JURISDICTION: City of South El Monte

PROJECT MANAGER: Salian Garcia

RECOMMENDATION: That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board approve a resolution for the Executive Officer to enter into the San Gabriel River Discovery Center JPA dissolution agreement.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A – San Gabriel River Discovery Center Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Agreement
 Exhibit B – Final San Gabriel River Discovery Center JPA Dissolution Agreement

Staff has engaged with the joint powers authority provided through authorization of Resolution 2019-15, approved April 29, 2019 to wind up the dissolution of the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority (SGRDCA) in accordance with the formation document and authorizing sections, of the SGRDCA Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement, Article X, Terms of Agreement, Admission and Withdrawal, Sections 10.2, 10.3, 10.3(a), and 10.3(c) (Exhibit A).

On April 29, 2019, the RMC Governing Board authorized the Executive Officer to negotiate the terms of a mutually acceptable Joint Powers Authority (JPA) dissolution agreement with the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority's (SGRDCA's) member agencies (Resolution No. 2019-15). The member agencies include:

- A. County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, a Department of the County of Los Angeles, a political subdivision of the State of California,
- B. San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, a state agency organized with the California Resources Agency,
- C. Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, a California Municipal Water District, and
- D. Central Basin Municipal Water District, a California Municipal Water District.

Over the course of the past several months the RMC Executive Officer met with the authorizing representative of each member agency to negotiate the terms of the dissolution agreement. The terms and language of the agreement was finalized on January 15, 2020 (Exhibit B). Both the water district agencies have brought the dissolution agreement to their respective governing bodies, but still awaits final signature from Central Basin Municipal Water District. The County of Los Angeles will provide the last and final signature to the dissolution agreement, fully certifying the dissolution of the SGRDCA.

BACKGROUND: The formation of the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority (SGRDCA) was formed December 6, 2005 pursuant to Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5, Article 1 (6500 et seq.) of the California Government Code. The member's mission in formation of a JPA is to provide for the planning, development, construction and operation of a proposed San Gabriel River Discovery Center within the natural area of Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area.

Whittier Narrows is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers and is operated by the County of Los Angeles under an Operating Agreement with the Corps. The existing Nature Center at the site is small and in need of refurbishment. The proposed Discovery Center would have replaced the existing nature center at the park and allow for expanded educational and interpretive programs focused on the San Gabriel River and the conservation of water resources. However, in March 2018, the Department of the Army – Los Angeles District Corps of Engineers provided a statement to County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation Planning and Development Agency that "...it has been determined that there are circumstances which preclude going forward with construction of this (Discovery Center) project." Army Corps projects, most significantly the Dam Safety Modification Study (DSMS) which may extend impacts to the natural area of Whittier Narrows, may take up to four years to complete. Development in the area is impeded until completion of the study due to possible impacts to the habitat of federally-listed species.

Support for the Discovery Center topped more than 110 organizations and individuals representing organizational bodies. Despite this robust recognition of the Center's benefit, given the length of time for any future Discovery Center project development and the lease being held by the County of Los Angeles, it was recommended and approved by the RMC that the SGRDCA cease activity and move to transfer the project to the County of Los Angeles under the guidance of its Parks and Recreation Department.

FISCAL INFORMATION: All grant agreements from RMC funding sources have been closed and reconciled, including RMC3477 in the amount of \$3,000,000 (Proposition 84) which was fully expended by May 2017. An additional grant, RMC17012, in the amount of \$541,384 (Proposition 1) was approved on January 23, 2017; however, no expenditure was made with these funds. Subsequently, the funds were disencumbered and the grant agreement withdrawn. Lastly, the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles (SansD) has a remaining balance of \$2,000,132. These funds are currently being held in an escrow account held by the SansD. This SEP fund have been fully reconciled and will be encumbered with an alternative SEP and escrow agreement as approved by by SansD and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Contracts with other agencies are currently being reconciled and closed out with their respective grantors.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) statute provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

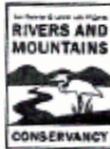
Section 32614.5:

- (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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.



County of Los Angeles

San Gabriel and
Lower Los Angeles
Rivers and Mountains
ConservancyUPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICTCentral Basin
Municipal Water District

**SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER AUTHORITY
JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT**

THIS JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT (the "Agreement") is made and entered into, on this 6 day of December 2005 (the "Effective Date") pursuant to Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5, Article 1 (§6500 *et seq.*) of the California Government Code by and among the following public agency entities:

- A. The County of Los Angeles, a political subdivision of the State of California and a body corporate and politic pursuant to the California Government Code (Govt. §23000 *et seq.*) (hereinafter, the "County"); and
- B. The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, a state agency organized within the California Resources Agency pursuant to the California Public Resources Code (Public Resources Code §32600 *et seq.*); (hereinafter, the "RMC");
- C. The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, a California Municipal Water District organized under the California Water Code (Water Code §71000 *et seq.*) (hereinafter, the "Upper District"); and
- D. The Central Basin Municipal Water District, a California Municipal Water District organized under the California Water Code (Water Code §71000 *et seq.*) (hereinafter, the "Central Basin").

For the purposes of this Agreement the County, the RMC, Upper District and Central Basin may be referred to collectively as the "Parties" or individually as a "Party".

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Parties are each "public agencies" within the meaning of Section 6500 of the California Government Code and authorized by their respective governing bodies to jointly exercise any power common to them pursuant to Title 1 (General), Division 7 (Miscellaneous), Chapter 5 (Joint Exercise of Powers) of the California Government Code (Govt. Code §6500 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, the Parties seek to undertake the construction of an educational facility under the aegis of a joint exercise of powers authority with the multi-faceted purpose of (1) increasing public knowledge of water-related environmental issues, including water conservation and natural habitat preservation and restoration; (2) increasing public awareness of the rich and vibrant history of the San Gabriel River the important role it has played in the social and economic development of the San Gabriel Valley; (3) raising capital for the construction of the educational facility; (4) raising support for the ongoing operation of the educational facility; and (5) procuring outside funding on behalf of the educational facility; and

WHEREAS, the Parties, on or about August 12, 2003 made and entered into an interim Cooperative Agreement for the initial planning and design of the proposed educational facility – a facility whose proposed name is the “San Gabriel River Discovery Center” (hereinafter, the “Discovery Center”); and

WHEREAS, the interim Cooperative Agreement succeeded in generating public interest in the development of the Discovery Center while also enabling the Parties and other interested public and private organizations to develop a clearer vision of the Discovery Center’s purpose and focus; and

WHEREAS, the Parties now recognize the need to develop a flexible yet more clearly defined collective governance structure to proceed with the planning, development, construction and operation of the Discovery Center; and

WHEREAS, the Parties continue to welcome and encourage the active participation and involvement of other public agencies and private organizations (collectively, “Stakeholders”) in the planning, development, construction and operation of the Discovery Center; and

WHEREAS, the Parties also envision and welcome the addition of other public agencies as Parties to this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the joint exercise of powers authority created by this Agreement shall serve as an efficient and inclusive vehicle for making the Discovery Center a reality.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE MUTUAL COVENANTS AND PROMISES OF THE PARTIES HERETO, AND THE PROVISIONS, CONDITIONS AND TERMS PROVIDED FOR HEREIN, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I PURPOSE

- 1.1 Creation of Authority: There is hereby created a joint exercise of powers authority to be known as the “San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority” (hereinafter, the “Authority”). The Authority is formed by this Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Title One, Division 7, Chapter 5, Articles 1 and 2 of the California Government Code (Govt. Code §6500 *et seq.*). It is the intent of the Parties that the Authority shall be the entity responsible for administering this Agreement and shall be a public entity separate and apart from the Parties.
- 1.2 Purpose: The purpose of this Agreement, its attached exhibits and the joint exercise of powers authority it creates is as follows:

- (a) To increase public knowledge of water-related environmental issues, including water conservation and natural habitat preservation and restoration;
- (b) To increase public awareness of the rich and vibrant history of the San Gabriel River and the important role it has played in the social and economic development of communities along its water course;
- (c) To raise public awareness of the importance of conserving and protecting ground water resources in the Main San Gabriel Basin and in the Central Groundwater Basin;
- (d) To raise capital for the planning, design, development, construction and operation of the Discovery Center;
- (e) To generate public and institutional interest and support for the ongoing operation of the Discovery Center;
- (f) To harness the vision, insight and creativity of other civic-minded, public and private organizations for the development of exceptional, informative and inspiring educational displays and educational programs; and
- (g) To identify, procure and secure reliable, long-term funding sources for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the Discovery Center.

ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. Definitions: For the purposes of this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below, unless otherwise indicated herein:
- (a) Authority: The term "Authority" means the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority, a joint exercise of powers authority created pursuant to this Agreement in accordance with Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5 (Joint Exercise of Powers) of the California Government Code (Govt. Code §6500 *et seq.*)
 - (b) Board: The term "Board" means the governing board of the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority. The Board consists of the representatives of each public agency Party to this Agreement in addition to one Stakeholder representative.
 - (c) Board Member: The term "Board Member" means any one of the occupants of the representational seats that make up the governing board of the San Gabriel River Discovery center. For the purposes of this Agreement, the plural term "Board Members" shall refer either to the membership of entire Board or to more than one Board Member, whichever meaning is reasonably appropriate given the context of its use. Upon the initial execution of this Agreement, the Board shall consist of a representative for the County, a representative for the RMC, a representative for the Upper District, a representative for the Central Basin, and a representative of the Stakeholders. The foregoing, however, shall not be interpreted to preclude the addition of new Board Members through the addition of new Parties to this Agreement

pursuant to Section 10.5 (Admission of New Parties), below.

- (d) Brown Act: The term "Brown Act" means the Ralph M. Brown Act codified under the California Government Code. (Govt. Code §54950 *et seq.*).
- (e) Discovery Center: The term "Discovery Center" means the San Gabriel River Discovery Center, an interactive educational facility dedicated to: (1) increasing public knowledge of water-related environmental issues, including water conservation and natural habitat preservation; (2) increasing public awareness of the rich and vibrant history of the San Gabriel River and the important role it has played in the social and economic development of the communities along its water course; (3) raising capital for the construction of the educational facility; (4) raising support for the ongoing operation of the educational facility; and (5) procuring outside funding on behalf of the educational facility.
- (f) May: The word "may," as used herein, refers to matters that are discretionary. The phrase "may not," however refers to matters that are prohibited.
- (g) Public Agency Board Member: The term "Public Agency Board Member" refers to those Board Members representing any public agency Party to this Agreement. The plural term "Public Agency Board Members" shall be a collective reference to all of the Public Agency Board Members or a grouping consisting of more than one Public Agency Board Member, whichever is reasonably appropriate given the context.
- (h) Shall and Must: The words "shall" and "must," as used herein, refer to matters that are mandatory.
- (i) Stakeholder: The term "Stakeholder" means any public entity or private organization, whether non-profit or for-profit whose insight and expertise are intended to assist the Authority in the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of the Discovery Center. No entity may be considered a Stakeholder, unless and until such entity is approved to become a Stakeholder by unanimous vote of the Public Agency Board Members and is made a signatory to the "Stakeholders Agreement." An entity's status as a Stakeholder may be revoked by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Public Agency Board Members, with or without cause.
- (j) Stakeholder Agreement: That certain written agreement by which various public agencies and non-profit organizations may become Stakeholders and agree to be bound by the terms, conditions, provisions, duties and obligations set forth therein.

ARTICLE III POWERS OF AUTHORITY

3.1. Powers: Pursuant to Sections 6503.5 and 6506 of the California Government Code, responsibility for the administration of this Agreement and the Discovery Center shall rest with the Authority through its Board. In the name of the Authority, the Board shall exercise the powers common to the Parties which include the power:

- (a) To make and enter into contracts, leases and other agreements for the purpose of planning,

- designing, constructing, operating, funding and/or maintaining the Discovery Center;
- (b) To hire employees and retain agents, consultants, independent contractors and other service providers for the purpose of planning, designing, constructing, operating, funding and/or maintaining the Discovery Center;
 - (c) To acquire, contract for, construct, manage, maintain, or operate any building or other facility necessary for the construction, operation and/or maintenance of the Discovery Center;
 - (d) To incur debt, liabilities or obligations in the furtherance of the planning, development, design, construction, operation and ongoing maintenance of the Discovery Center;
 - (e) To finance any capital acquisition or improvement or the maintenance, servicing, and operation of any improvement, facility, park or open space land;
 - (f) To acquire, hold or dispose of property by lease, lease purchase, purchase or sale;
 - (g) To apply for and execute appropriate grants or contracts for the purpose of financing the planning, design, construction, operating and/or maintenance of the Discovery Center;
 - (h) To sue or be sued in its own name, provided that the Authority shall not commence or intervene in any lawsuit without the approval of its Board;
 - (i) To raise revenue, to levy and collect rates, fees and charges, and to issue bonds, notes, warrants and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the costs and expenses incidental to the purpose of the Authority;
 - (j) To set the operational programs of the Discovery Center;
 - (k) To contract with the federal government of the United States of America, the State of California and any other governmental entity;
 - (l) To contract with any public agency (including the County, the Upper District, the RMC or the Central Basin) or any private entity for the routine, day-to-day operation and maintenance of the Discovery Center facility;
 - (m) To create, organize and dissolve subcommittees in its sole and absolute discretion;
 - (n) To invest surplus funds pursuant to Government Code Section 6509.5 or other applicable laws of the State of California;
 - (o) To undertake in cooperation with any other public or private agency or organization projects connected with or related to the activities and mission of the Discovery Center;
 - (p) To develop and participate in the creation of a foundation whose purpose shall be to solicit and secure funding for the Discovery Center and its activities and to promote and sponsor the purpose and objectives of this Agreement, the Authority and the Discovery Center.

(q) To exercise powers common to the Parties, including but not limited to all the powers specified in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, codified under Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the California Government Code (Govt. Code §6500 *et seq.*) for the purposes of implementing this Agreement.

3.2 The foregoing powers are subject to the restrictions upon the manner of exercising the powers as imposed upon the Upper District as provided in, and for the purposes of, Government Code §6509.

3.3 The Authority shall have no power to acquire property by eminent domain.

ARTICLE IV. GOVERNING BOARD

4.1. Organization: The Authority shall be governed by the Board which shall consist of the Board Members, each of which shall possess one (1) vote. Upon the initial execution of this Agreement, the Board seats shall be allocated as follows:

- (a) County Representative: One (1) of the Board seats shall be allocated to the Director of the County Department of Parks and Recreation. Such person shall serve at the pleasure of the County and may be removed by the County at any time with or without cause.
- (b) RMC Representative: One (1) of the Board seats shall be allocated to a person appointed by the RMC in its sole and absolute discretion. Such person shall serve at the pleasure of the RMC and may be removed by the RMC at any time with or without cause.
- (c) Upper District Representative: One (1) of the Board seats shall be allocated to a person appointed by the Upper District in its sole and absolute discretion. Such person shall serve at the pleasure of the Upper District and may be removed by the Upper District at any time with or without cause.
- (d) Central Basin Representative: One (1) of the Board seats shall be allocated to a person appointed by the Central Basin in its sole and absolute discretion. Such person shall serve at the pleasure of the Central Basin and may be removed by the Central Basin at any time with or without cause.
- (e) Stakeholder Representative: One (1) of the Board seats shall be allocated to the Chair of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, a person selected by the Stakeholders and confirmed by majority vote of the Public Agency Board Members to serve on the Board. The initial allocation of Board seats to the County, the RMC, the Upper District and the Central Basin shall not be interpreted to preclude future additions to the total number of Board Members through the addition of new Parties to this Agreement pursuant to Section 10.5 (Admission of New Parties).

4.2. Meetings: The Board shall fix the hour, date and place for its regular meetings. Special and/or Adjourned meetings may be held as provided for under the Brown Act. All meetings of the Board shall be called, held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Brown Act and pursuant to such other rules adopted by the Board that are consistent with the Brown Act. The Board shall

keep, or cause to be kept, the minutes of the Board's open meetings and as soon as reasonably possible after each meeting, forward a copy of the minutes to each member of the Board. All Board Members shall maintain the confidentiality of any and all closed session meetings of the Board to the extent required by law.

- 4.3. Quorum and Procedure: A simple majority of the full membership of the Board shall constitute the minimum quorum necessary for the transaction of Board business. The affirmative vote of a majority of those members who participate in a vote on any given matter shall constitute an action of the Board. A Board Member participates in a vote when he or she (a) is present and seated at the dais during a meeting of the Board or participates in a teleconference authorized by the Brown Act; (b) is not disqualified from voting on a particular matter by operation of law, including without limitation the California Political Reform Act (Govt. Code §81000 *et seq.*); and (c) votes "Yes", "No" or "Abstains." By resolution, the Board may adopt Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, to set forth the governing rules for the conduct of Board meetings, but only to the extent such rules are not in conflict with the Brown Act or any other applicable laws or with the provisions of this Agreement.
- 4.4. Compensation: Board Members shall serve without compensation from the Authority. The foregoing notwithstanding, each Party with a representative on the Board may elect to compensate its representative in compliance with all applicable laws of the State of California.
- 4.5. Notices: The Board, by resolution, shall designate a specific location at which it will receive notices, correspondence, and other communications and shall designate one of its employees or agents as its "officer" for the purpose of receiving service of process on behalf of the Authority.
- 4.6. Officers: At the first (1st) regular meeting of the Board, and annually thereafter on the first (1st) Board meeting held in the month of January of each year, the Board Members shall nominate and elect from among themselves a Board President, and Vice-President. In the event the elected President, or Vice-President ceases to be a Board Member or otherwise vacates the Board office, the resulting vacancy shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Board held after such vacancy occurs. If the President is absent from a meeting of the Board, the Vice-President shall act as President. The President, or in his or her absence the Vice-President, shall preside over all meetings of the Board.

ARTICLE V. STATUTORY NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1. Notice Upon Creation / Amendment of Agreement: Within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Agreement or any amendment thereto (whichever the case may be), the Board shall cause a notice of such Agreement or such amendment to be prepared and filed with the office of the Secretary of State for the State of California. Pursuant to Government Code Section 6503.5, such notice shall contain:
- (a) The name of each of the Parties and any other public agencies which may later become parties to this Agreement;
 - (b) The date upon which the Agreement became effective or the effective date of any amendment thereto;

- (c) A statement of the purpose of the Agreement; and
- (d) In the case of an amendment to this Agreement, a description of the amendment.

ARTICLE VI. ADMINISTRATION

- 6.1 Executive Officer: The Authority and the Discovery Center shall be administered in accordance with the policies and directives of the Board. The Board may appoint, hire or otherwise retain a person to serve as the Authority's Executive Officer. The Executive Officer shall perform the functions set forth under §6505.1 of the California Government Code and such other functions as the Board may prescribe by resolution.
- 6.2 Legal Counsel: The Authority may use counsel from its member agencies, or it may retain independent legal Counsel.
- 6.3 Use of Party Personnel: To implement this Agreement, the Parties hereto agree the Authority will enter into a separate contract with the County for the operation and/or maintenance of the Discovery Center facility which may include providing administrative support to the Authority and the Board.
- 6.4 Hiring of Personnel: To achieve the purposes of this Agreement, the Authority may, from time to time, establish positions and fix salaries of employees of the Authority. The Executive Officer shall be responsible for the overall supervision of such employees, subject to oversight by the Board.

ARTICLE VII. FISCAL CONTROLS AND ADMINISTRATION

- 7.1 Fiscal Year: The fiscal year of the Authority shall commence on the first (1st) day of July of each year.
- 7.2 Contributions of the Parties: To the extent funds are legally available therefore, the Parties are hereby authorized to make payments and contributions of public funds, as provided in §6504 of the California Government Code.
- 7.3 Responsibility for Funds and Disbursements: The Authority shall be strictly accountable for all funds, receipts, and disbursements. The Authority shall adopt an annual budget, in a form approved by the Parties, which budget shall be submitted to the Board for approval. Public funds may not be disbursed by the Authority except pursuant to a budget which has been adopted by the Board, and all receipts and disbursements shall be in strict conformance with the adopted and approved budget.
- 7.4 Designation of Treasurer-Depository of Authority Funds: Consistent with Section 6505.5 of the California Government Code, the Treasurer of the Upper District shall act as the treasurer of the Authority (hereinafter, the "Treasurer") and shall be the designated depository of the Authority's funds and have custody of all the money of the Authority, from whatever source. Acting in such capacity the Treasurer shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) Receive and receipt all money of the Authority and place such money in the Authority treasury to the credit of the Authority;
- (b) Be responsible, upon his or her official bond, for the safekeeping and disbursement of all Authority money so held;
- (c) Pay, when due, out of money of the Authority held by him or her, all sums payable on outstanding bonds and coupons of the Authority;
- (d) Pay any other sums due from the Authority from Authority money, or any portion thereof, only upon warrants of the public officer performing the functions of Auditor-Controller pursuant to this Agreement; and
- (e) Verify and report in writing on the first (1st) day of July, October, January and April of each year to the Authority Board and to the Parties to the Agreement, the amount of money he or she holds for the Authority, the amount of receipts since his or her last report, and the amount paid out since his or her last report.

Upon completion of the construction of the Discovery Center, the Parties may re-designate the Treasurer in compliance with applicable law and by amendment to this agreement. The initial Treasurer shall serve until replaced as set forth in this Agreement.

7.5 Designation of Authority Auditor-Controller / Duties of Auditor-Controller: Pursuant to Section 6505.5 of the California Government Code, an officer or employee of the Upper District shall serve as Auditor-Controller for the Authority. Any person designated to serve as Auditor-Controller shall possess the education, training, skills and experience necessary to perform the duties of Auditor-Controller and must possess any and all required licenses and certifications to perform such work. Upon completion of the construction of the Discovery Center, the Parties may re-designate the Party whose officer or employee shall serve as the Authority's Auditor-Controller or such other person who may lawfully act as Auditor-Controller, in compliance with applicable law and by amendment to this Agreement. The initial Auditor-Controller shall serve until replaced as set forth in this Agreement.

7.6 Duties of Auditor-Controller: Pursuant to Sections 6505 and 6505.5 of the California Government Code, the Auditor-Controller shall do the following:

- (a) Draw warrants to pay demands against the Authority when the demands have been approved by the Treasurer and the Executive Director acting under the supervision of the Board;
- (b) Make or contract with a certified public accountant or a public accountant to make an annual audit of the accounts and records of the Authority, except that the Auditor-Controller need not make or contract for the audit in any case where an annual audit of the accounts and records of the Authority by a certified public accountant or public accountant is otherwise made by an agency of the state or the United States only as to those accounts and records which are directly subject to such a federal or state audit.

In each case, the minimum requirements of the audit shall be those prescribed by the Controller for special districts under Section 26909 of the California Government Code and shall conform to

generally- accepted auditing standards. Pursuant to Section 6505 of the California Government Code, when an audit of an account and records is made by a certified public accountant or public accountant, a report thereof shall be filed as public records with each of the contracting Parties to the Agreement and also with the County auditor and shall be sent to any public agency or person in California that submits a written request to the joint powers authority. Pursuant to Section 6505 of the California Government Code, such report shall be filed within twelve (12) months of the end of the fiscal year or years under examination. Any costs of the audit, including contracts with the certified public account or public accountant, in making the audit pursuant to Government Code Section 6505 shall be borne by the Authority and shall be a charge against any unencumbered funds of the Authority available for the purpose. Pursuant to Government Code Section 6505, the Authority Board, by unanimous vote, may replace the annual special audit with an audit covering a two-year period. Pursuant to Government Code Section 6505, the Authority shall be exempt from the requirement of an annual audit, if and only if, the financial statements are audited by the State Controller as a way of satisfying federal audit requirements.

- 7.7 Budget: Within sixty (60) days after the first meeting of the Board and annually on the first (1st) day of July thereafter, a general budget for the balance of the fiscal year and the ensuing fiscal year shall be adopted. The initial general budget and each succeeding general budget shall include without limitation the following: (a) the general administrative expenses of the Authority to be incurred during the period covered by the general budget; (b) the allocation among the Parties of the amounts necessary to cover the general budget expenditures; and (c) general operation and maintenance. Prior to the first full fiscal year of the Authority's operation, and for each successive year, the Board shall approve a preliminary general budget no later than the 1st day of April, for the next fiscal year. The Board shall adopt a final budget no later than July 1 of each year. A copy of the preliminary budget when approved and a copy of the final general budget when adopted shall be filed with each Party. The Parties acknowledge and agree that each shall be responsible for contributing to each annual budget its fair share for the annual maintenance and operation costs of the Discovery Center.
- 7.8 Books and Accounts: Full books and accounts shall be maintained for the Authority in accordance with practices established by, or consistent with, those utilized by the Controller of the State of California for like public entities. In particular, the Authority's Treasurer and Auditor-Controller shall comply strictly with Title 1, Division 7, Chapter 5 of the California Government Code. (Govt. Code §6500 *et seq.*). The Treasurer of the Authority may invest Authority funds in accordance with applicable laws and with the prior consent of the Board. All interest collected on the Authority's funds shall be accounted for and posted to the account of such funds.
- 7.9 Audit: The records and accounts of the Authority shall be audited annually, in compliance with applicable law, and copies of the audit reports shall be filed with the County Auditor, the State Controller, and each of the Parties within one hundred twenty (120) days of the end of the fiscal year under examination. The audit shall be conducted in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America ("GAAP") and shall be accompanied by a financial/compliance opinion of an independent certified public accountant.
- 7.10 Inspection of Records and Audit: At any time during the normal business hours, the Authority shall make available to the Parties for examination, all of the data and records with respect to the Authority and all matters covered by this Agreement. The Authority shall permit the Parties to make audits of all invoices, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, and other data and media relating to

the matters covered by this Agreement, at the cost and expense of the Party seeking the audit and inspection. Except as otherwise required or authorized by law, the Authority shall maintain such data and records for a period of not less than three (3) years following the submission of each year's annual audit and financial report.

ARTICLE VIII BOND

- 8.1. Bonding: The Executive Officer, and Treasurer shall file an official bond with the Authority. When deemed appropriate by the Authority, a master bond may be utilized as referred to in Government Code Section 1481, and the bond shall also comply with the requirements of Title 1, Division 4, Chapter 3 of the California Government Code, with those sections being deemed applicable to the Authority. The bond shall be in the initial amount of not less than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or such other sum as the Board may deem reasonably appropriate at some later point in time. The premium shall be paid by the Authority.

ARTICLE IX PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

- 9.1. Privileges and Immunities: Pursuant to Government Code Section 6513, all of the privileges and immunities from liability, exemptions from laws, ordinances and rules, all pension, relief, disability, workers' compensation, and other benefits which apply to the activity of officers, agents or employees of any Party when performing its respective functions within the territorial limits of its respective public agency, shall apply to them to the same degree and extent while engaged in the performance of any of their functions and duties extraterritorially under the provisions of Article 1 (Joint Powers Agreements) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of the California Government Code.

ARTICLE X TERM OF AGREEMENT, ADMISSION AND WITHDRAWAL

- 10.1 Term of Agreement: This Agreement and the Authority created hereunder shall continue until terminated. No termination shall be effective until all revenue bonds and other forms of indebtedness issued pursuant hereto, and the interest thereon, shall have been paid or adequate provisions for such payment shall have been made in accordance with any resolution of the authority authorizing the issuance thereto.
- 10.2 Winding-Up Upon Termination of Agreement: Upon termination of this Agreement, the Authority forthwith shall wind up its affairs, including discharging all of its outstanding legal obligations. Personal property and funds remaining in the Authority shall be returned to the Party from which the funds or personal property were obtained, except as mutually agreed by the Parties. Except as otherwise provided under Section 10.6(c), all real property, if any, owned by the Authority shall be conveyed as the Authority shall determine, and if no determination is made, then such property shall be deemed to be conveyed to the Parties, in equal interests, as tenants in common.
- 10.3 Dissolution of Authority: Upon the effective date of the withdrawal of all the Parties from this Agreement, this Agreement shall be deemed terminated. As long as two or more Parties remain Parties to this Agreement, this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. The Agreement may

also be terminated by unanimous written agreement of the Parties.

- (a) Preconstruction Termination: If the Parties terminate the Agreement prior to the commencement of construction of the Discovery Center, each Party shall receive their contribution to the Authority, subject to the payment of all of the Authority's outstanding debts and the discharge of all other outstanding liabilities.
- (b) Post-Construction Termination: If the Agreement is terminated following the construction of the Discovery Center, the facility and all attached fixtures shall become the property of the County. Each Party shall also receive its proportionate share of the Authority's residual monetary funds following payment of all of the Authority's outstanding debts and the discharge of any enforceable liabilities. The foregoing notwithstanding, if the County withdraws from the Agreement, the County agrees that, subject to its lease with the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("Army Corps"), the Authority shall maintain the exclusive authority to operate and maintain the Discovery Center facility without disruption or interference on the part of the County until such time as the Agreement is terminated or until such time as County ceases to maintain possession and control over the real property upon which the Discovery Center is situated, whichever occurs first.
- (c) Modification of Dissolution Terms: The Parties by mutual written agreement may modify the manner in which the Authority is terminated and the manner in which its assets shall be distributed.

10.4: Withdrawal of Parties: Any Party may withdraw as a Party to this Agreement any time provided the withdrawing Party provides all other Parties with one-hundred and eighty (180) days prior written notice of its intent to withdraw from the Agreement and the Authority. The foregoing notwithstanding, a withdrawing Party shall continue to be responsible for any and all outstanding financial obligations, debts, liabilities or other financial commitments incurred or pledged by the withdrawing Party during the fiscal year in which the withdrawal occurs. A withdrawing Party shall also continue to be responsible for any and all long-term financial commitments made by the Party, until such obligations are either discharged or arranged to the satisfaction of the remaining Parties.

10.5 Admission of New Parties: Additional "public agencies" within the meaning of Section 6500 of the California Government Code may become a Party to this Agreement by resolution of the governing boards of each of the then existing Parties and majority approval of the Public Agency Board Members. Notwithstanding the passage of resolutions in support of membership by the governing boards of each Party, the admission of new Parties shall also be conditioned upon such additional terms and conditions provided by the Board by way of a Participation Agreement between the Authority and the newly admitted Party. As an additional condition to admission all new Parties shall be required to become signatories to this Agreement by way of an addendum executed by all of the Parties.

10.6 Acknowledgment and Acceptance of Fundamental Responsibilities: Irrespective of any other provision contained in this Agreement, all Parties acknowledge, understand and agree to the following:

- (a) In executing this Agreement each is committed to dedicating significant assets which are to be

- utilized in the furtherance of the central objectives of this Agreement, namely, (1) the planning, design and construction of the Discovery Center at Whittier Narrows; (2) the securing of reliable long term funding sources for the operation and maintenance of the Discovery Center as well as for the development of exhibits and programs central to the Discovery Center's educational and informational purpose; (3) the creation of a stable, operational governance structure for the planning, design, development, construction, operation, maintenance and funding of the Discovery Center; and (4) the creation of a reliable administrative support structure to oversee the efficient and creative operation of the Discovery Center; and
- (b) The "significant assets" to be dedicated by a Party may include any or all of the following: (1) monetary contributions; (2) service contributions; (3) the dedication of personal property; or (4) the dedication of real property, including the real property at Whittier Narrows upon which the Discovery Center shall be constructed; and
- (c) County's agreement to use its best efforts to assign its interests in the land and/or use rights to the real property upon which the Discovery Center is situated is to be construed as satisfying the County's obligations to contribute (significant assets) for purposes of section 10.6 (b) above. The Parties acknowledge that such County actions are subject to any approvals required by the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("Army Corps"), applicable law and existing agreements between the County and the Army Corps. For purposes of section 10.2 above, on (Winding Up Upon Termination), any interest in property or use rights constructed by the County shall be returned solely to the County. For purposes of section 10.4 above, on (Withdrawal of Parties), any interests in property or use rights contributed by County shall be returned solely to County upon its withdrawal except that land use rights may be subleased to the Authority to operate the Discovery Center.

ARTICLE XI LIABILITIES

- 11.1 Tort Liabilities: The tort liability of the Authority, its public employees and members of the Board, the Executive Officer and public employees of the Parties to this Agreement who may be loaned to the Authority, shall be controlled by the provisions of Division 3.6 of the California Government Code (Govt. Code §810 *et seq.*). The provisions of Division 3.6 of the California Government Code relating to indemnification of public employees and the defense of actions arising out of any act or omission occurring in the scope of their employment, shall apply to all public Board Members, the Authority's public officers, public employees and elected or appointed officials, officers and employees of each of the public Parties.
- 11.2 As authorized by California Government Code Section 6508.1, the Parties wish to expressly provide in this Agreement, that the debts, liabilities and the obligation of the Authority shall not be the debts, liabilities and obligations of the Parties to the Agreement. Therefore, the Parties wish to rely upon the authorization of Government Code Section 6508.1 and its interpretation in Tucker Land v. State of California (2001) 94 Cal. App. 4th 1191, and thereby make this Agreement and provide that neither the Authority, nor its governing Board, shall have the power to bind the Parties to this Agreement, or any of them, to any debt, liability, contract or obligation, or to employ any person on behalf of the Parties, or any of them; no debt, liability, contract, obligation, employee, or agent of the Authority or its Board shall be or constitute thereby a debt, liability, contract, obligation, employee

or agent of the Parties or any of them. The forgoing, shall not release each Party from fulfilling or otherwise satisfying any funding pledges it makes as part of the Authorities annual budget.

ARTICLE XII. INSURANCE

- 12.1. Insurance Specifications: As more specifically set forth in the insurance specifications attached and incorporated hereto as *Exhibit "A"*, the Authority shall procure and maintain for the duration of this Agreement (or for whatever duration is otherwise required under this Article) insurance against claims for damage to property or injuries to persons (including without limitation bodily injury and personal injury) which may arise from, or occur in connection with, the performance of this Agreement by the Authority or the Authority's officials, officers, employees, representatives, agents and volunteers. The Board by resolution may from time to time amend or modify the insurance requirements set forth under *Exhibit "A"*.

ARTICLE XIII. CONTROVERSIES

- 13.1. Disputes and Defaults: In the event (a) of any reasonable good faith dispute or disagreement as to the interpretation, meaning or effect of any provision of this Agreement; or (b) any Party fails to perform or adhere to any duty, obligation, term, condition or provision of this Agreement, a putative default shall have occurred. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, if a putative default remains uncured or unresolved by a Party alleged to be in default for a period in excess of sixty (60) calendar days from the date upon which the Party alleging default issues notice of default (hereinafter, a "Default Notice") to the allegedly defaulting Party, the Party upon whom the Default Notice is issued shall be deemed in "Default." In the event of such Default, the non-Defaulting Party may pursue any and all remedies available to it at law or in equity, provided however that the initiation of any legal proceedings shall be preceded by mediation and/or arbitration. Where a Default arises out of a dispute or disagreement as to the interpretation, meaning or effect of any provision of this Agreement, during the 60-day period referenced, above, shall with diligence and in good faith, meet and confer to identify and articulate the source of the dispute or disagreement and offer a written explanation to the opposing Party setting forth the grounds and basis for that Party's particular interpretation of provision at issue. The Parties agree that the language of any provision shall be interpreted according to its plain wording, unless such interpretation would lead to an absurd or illegal outcome. The Parties further agree that a dispute or disagreement as to the meaning or effect of any provision is not made in "good faith" if the wording is susceptible to only one reasonable meaning.
- 13.2. Legal Costs: The Parties agree that they shall each be responsible for their respective attorneys fees, expert fees, court fees and other litigation costs, regardless of whether a Party ultimately prevails through legal action or any other manner of proceeding arising out of a Default. The Parties further agree that they shall each be responsible for an equal share of the cost of any mediator or arbitrator presiding over any mediation or arbitration proceedings whether or not such mediation or arbitration proceedings are undertaken voluntarily by the Parties or on the order or directive of a court of competent jurisdiction. The mediator or arbitrator shall be a person mutually agreed to by the Parties.
- 13.3. Per Se Defaults: A Party shall be in Default *per se*, where the Party fails to contribute or pay when due, any sums committed or pledged by the Party pursuant to any budget adopted under the

provisions of this Agreement. In addition to the rights and remedies accorded under Section 13.1, above, in the event a Party is in Default on the grounds stated in this Section 13.3, the Public Agency Members representing the Parties that are not in Default, may by unanimous vote, expel the defaulting Party from further participation under this Agreement, including revocation of Party status and the right to appoint a representative to the Board. Consistent with Section 10.4, above, a Party so expelled from the Authority and this Agreement shall continue to be responsible for any and all outstanding financial obligations, debts, liabilities or other financial commitments incurred or pledged by the withdrawing Party during the fiscal year in which the withdrawal occurs. A withdrawing Party shall also continue to be responsible for any and all long-term financial commitment, until such obligations are either discharged or arranged to the satisfaction of the remaining Parties.

ARTICLE XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

- 14.1. Notices: All notices permitted or required under this Agreement shall be given to the respective Parties at the following address, or at such other address as the respective Parties may provide in writing for this purpose:

COUNTY:

County of Los Angeles
Department of Parks & Recreation
433 S. Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975
Attn: Director

Phone: (213) 738-2951
Fax: (213) 738-6444

RMC:

San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and
Mountains Conservancy
900 S. Fremont Ave
Annex Bldg., 2nd Floor
Alhambra, CA 91802-1460
Attn: Executive Officer

Phone: (626) 458-4315
Fax: (626) 979-5363

UPPER DISTRICT:

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
11310 Valley Boulevard
El Monte, California 91731
Attn: General Manager

Phone: (626) 443-2297
Fax: (626) 443-0617

CENTRAL BASIN

Central Basin Municipal Water District
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210

Carson, CA 90746-1296
Attn: General Manager

Phone: (310) 217-2411

Fax: (310) 217-2414

Such notice shall be deemed effective when personally delivered or successfully transmitted by facsimile as evidenced by a fax confirmation slip or, when mailed, forty-eight (48) hours after deposit with the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepared and addressed to the Party at its applicable address.

- 14.2. Captions and Headings: All captions and headings contained herein are for convenience only, and are not to be construed as governing or modifying the language of the Agreement.
- 14.3. Governing Law: This Agreement shall be interpreted and governed according to the laws of the State of California. In the event of litigation between the Parties, venue, without exception, shall be in the Los Angeles County Superior Court of the State of California. If applicable law requires that all or part of any such litigation be tried in federal court, venue, without exception, shall be in the Central District of California located in the City of Los Angeles, California.
- 14.4. Modification: This Agreement may be amended from time-to-time in writing by unanimous action of the Parties; provided however, that any such amendment shall take into consideration the holders of any revenue bonds or other forms of indebtedness which are outstanding in accordance with any resolution of the authority authorizing the issuance thereof. Upon amendment of this Agreement, the Authority shall also comply with the statutory notice requirements referenced in Article V, above.
- 14.5. Binding Effect: This Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the successors of the Parties.
- 14.6. Severance Clause: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Agreement, or the application thereof, to any of the Parties for any other person or circumstances, is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the Agreement, or the application of such provision to the other Parties, or to any other person or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby. Each of the Parties hereby declares that it would have entered into this Agreement and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or the application thereof, to any Party or any other person or circumstance be held invalid.
- 14.7. Non-Assignment: The Parties shall not assign any rights or obligations under this Agreement without the written consent of the Authority Board and the other Parties to this Agreement.
- 14.8. Authorization to Execute: The officers and/or officials signing this Agreement on behalf of their respective Parties warrant and represent that they have been duly authorized by the governing body of the Party they represent to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Party and bind the same to all the terms, conditions, duties, provisions and obligations contained herein.
- 14.9. Counterparts: This Agreement may be signed in counterparts. The "Effective Date" of this Agreement shall be the date upon which the County, the RMC, the Upper District and Central Basin

have all executed this Agreement and shall be the first date to appear above.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement on the day and year hereinafter indicated.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

APPROVED AS TO FORM
BY COUNTY COUNSEL

By: Mike Antonovich
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
MAYOR

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR

By: [Signature]
Lillian D. Salinger, Senior Deputy

Attest :

Violet Varona-Lukens
Executive Officer-Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors



By: [Signature]
Deputy

SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS & MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: Belinda V Faustinos
Name: BELINDA V. FAUSTINOS
Title: EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Date: 9/21/05

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

UPPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: [Signature]
Name: Timothy C. Jochem
Title: General Manager
Date: 10/5/05

By: [Signature]
Name: E. Clarke Moseley
Title: General Counsel
Date: 10/5/05

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER
DISTRICT:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: [Signature]
Name: Arthur J. Aguilar
Title: General Manager
Date: 11/9/05

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

DISSOLUTION AGREEMENT

This Dissolution Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into this ____ day of _____, 2020 by and between the County of Los Angeles (“County”), the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (“RMC”), the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (“Upper District”), and the Central Basin Municipal Water District (“Central Basin”). For the purposes of this Agreement, the County, RMC, Upper District, and Central Basin may be referred to collectively by the capitalized term “Parties.” The capitalized term “Party” may refer to the County, RMC, Upper District, and Central Basin interchangeably, as appropriate.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into that certain Joint Powers Agreement dated December 6, 2005 (“JPA”), establishing the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority, a joint powers authority (“Authority”), pursuant to Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the California Government Code section 6500, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Authority was created to plan, develop, construct and operate the San Gabriel River Discovery Center (“Discovery Center”), but as of the date of this Agreement construction has not begun; and

WHEREAS, Article X of the JPA provides that the Authority shall continue until the JPA is terminated either by the withdrawal of all the Parties or through a unanimous written agreement executed by all of the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Parties seek to terminate the JPA and dissolve the Authority, and consistent with the provision of Article X of the JPA, the Parties desire to enter into this Agreement to authorize and consent to the termination of the JPA and the dissolution of the Authority, and to provide for the distribution of the Authority’s assets.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

TERMINATION OF THE JPA AND DISSOLUTION OF THE AUTHORITY

- 1.1 Dissolution of the Authority. The Parties agree to dissolve the Authority effective as of the date of the Authority has both satisfied all outstanding debts and liabilities and distributed the remaining Authority assets as provided herein (“Effective Date”). After the Effective Date, the Parties agree not to do any further business or to incur any further obligations on behalf of the Authority, except as deemed necessary to (i) complete any remaining distribution of Authority assets; (ii) complete the winding up of unfinished business; or (iii) carry out liquidating of the affairs of the Authority.

- 1.2 Termination of the JPA. Pursuant to Section 10.3 of the JPA, the Parties agree to terminate the JPA as of the Effective Date. The Parties acknowledge and agree that as of the Effective Date the JPA shall of no further force and effect.
- 1.3 Winding-up. The Parties authorize the Authority's Executive Officer to oversee the wind-up the affairs of the Authority, including:
- a) Payment of all known outstanding debts and liabilities and all costs, and payment of all other expenses associated with the dissolution of the Authority;
 - b) Distribution of the remaining Authority assets as set forth in Section 1.4, below;
 - c) Preparation of a final audit report of the Authority's accounts and records to be submitted to the Parties upon completion of the dissolution process;
 - d) Filing of an Amendment of a Joint Powers Agreement Form and Statement of Facts – Roster of Public Agencies with the office of the California Secretary of State; and
 - e) Any and all other actions or tasks determined reasonably necessary or appropriate to wind-up the affairs of the Authority and complete the dissolution process.
- 1.4 Distribution of Assets. Consistent with the JPA, the Parties agree that the assets remaining after all of the Authority's debts and liabilities have been fully discharged shall be disposed as follows:
- a) All personal property shall be returned to the Party from which it was originally obtained;
 - b) All of the Authority's unexpended monetary funds, by mutual agreement of the Parties, shall be granted to the Watershed Conservation Authority, a joint exercise of powers authority organized under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act codified at Government Code Section 6500 et seq., except as otherwise required by applicable law;
 - c) All interests in real property or land use rights contributed by the County shall be returned solely to the County; and
 - d) All remaining grant funds from the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, as part of the settlement of the Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R4-2006-0040, shall be transferred to the County.
 - e) Authority will deliver to the County all plans, documents, digital files, GIS, grant proposals and other related documents for the Discovery Center no later than 30 days from the Effective Date.

ARTICLE II

RELEASE

- 2.1 Release. Upon the Effective Date, the Parties hereby release and discharge each other, each of their respective assigns and successors and each of their directors, officers, employees and agents, from any and all claims, actions, debts, liabilities, demands, obligations, promises, acts, agreements, costs and expenses (including, without limitation, court costs and attorneys' fees), damages, and causes of action of whatever kind or nature, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, arising, or accruing before the Effective Date, based on, arising out of, or in connection with (i) the operation of the Authority since its inception, including, without limitation, the ownership, management, development and disposition of its assets, and (ii) the breach of any representation, warranty or covenant in the JPA dated December 6, 2005, and all matters directly or indirectly claimed or alleged between the Parties in connection therewith or in any way related thereto.
- 2.2 The Parties agree and acknowledge that the release contained in Article II of this Agreement applies to both known and unknown claims and agree to waive the benefits of California Civil Code §1542, which states as follows:

“A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.”

The Parties agree and represent that they may hereafter discover facts different from or in addition to those they now know or believe to be true in respect to the claims, demands, debts, liabilities, accounts, actions or causes of action herein released, and hereby agree that these releases shall be and remain in effect in all respects as complete, general and full releases as to the matters released, notwithstanding any such different or additional facts, unless such facts were negligently or intentionally misrepresented by any Party.

ARTICLE III

MISCELLANEOUS

- 3.1 Assignment. No Party shall assign this Agreement to any other person or entity, in whole or in part, without the express written consent of all other Parties.
- 3.2 Waiver. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed, or shall constitute, a waiver of any other provision, whether or not similar, nor shall any waiver constitute a continuing waiver. No waiver shall be binding unless executed in writing by the party making the waiver.
- 3.3 Notices. Any notice or other communication required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be directed to the Parties at their respective addresses shown below, or such other address as either party may, from time to time, specify in writing for this purpose:

if to County: County of Los Angeles
 Department of Parks & Recreation
 1000 South Fremont Avenue, Unit #40
 Alhambra, CA 91803
 Attn: Director

if to RMC: San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and
 Mountains Conservancy
 100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
 Azusa, CA 91702
 Attention: Executive Officer

if to Upper District: Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
 602 Huntington Drive, Suite B
 Monrovia, CA 91016
 Attention: General Manager

If to Central Basin: Central Basin Municipal Water District
 6252 Telegraph Road
 Commerce, CA 90040
 Attention: General Manager

- 3.4 Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties pertaining to the subject matter contained herein and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous oral or written agreements, representations, statements, documents, or understandings of the Parties.
- 3.5 Amendment. No supplement, modification, or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding unless executed in writing by all Parties.
- 3.6 Governing Law and Venue. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with, and governed by, the laws of the State of California. Without exception any action or litigation proceeding brought by any Party in which this Agreement is subject, the venue shall be the Los Angeles County Superior Court of the State of California. If applicable law requires that all or part of any such litigation be tried in federal court, venue, without exception, shall be the Central District of California located in the City of Los Angeles, California.
- 3.7 Effect of Headings. The headings of the paragraphs of this Agreement are included for purposes of convenience only, and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of any of its provisions.
- 3.8 Invalidity. Any provision of this Agreement which is invalid, void, or illegal, shall not affect, impair, or invalidate any other provision of this Agreement, and such other provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- 3.9 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed simultaneously in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

- 3.10 Further Assurances. Each Party agrees to execute, acknowledge, and deliver such further instruments as may be necessary or desirable to accomplish the intent and purpose of this Agreement, provided that the Party requesting such further action shall bear all costs and expenses related thereto.
- 3.11 Severability. Any provision of this Agreement which is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable shall be invalid or unenforceable only to the extent of such determination, which shall not invalidate or otherwise render ineffective any other provision of this Agreement.

(SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have entered into and executed this Agreement on the day and year indicated hereinafter.

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION**

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

**SAN GABRIEL & LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

**UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL
WATER DISTRICT**

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

**CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER
DISTRICT**

APPROVED AS TO FORM

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

April 6, 2020 – Item 12

RESOLUTION 2020-14

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ENTER INTO THE SAN GABRIEL RIVER DISCOVERY CENTER JPA DISSOLUTION AGREEMENT

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, this action authorizes the Executive Officer to negotiate the terms of a mutually acceptable JPA dissolution agreement with the San Gabriel River Discovery Center Authority (SGRDCA) and its member agencies; 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 actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 3 ADOPTS the staff report dated April 6, 2020.
- 4 AUTHORIZES the Executive Officer to enter into the San Gabriel River Discovery Center JPA Dissolution Agreement

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the

Resolution No. 2020-14

SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST:

David Edsall
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: April 6, 2020
TO: RMC Governing Board
FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Item 13: Consideration of a Resolution approving a Proposition 1 grant to Amigos de los Rios for the Monrovia Unified School District Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project (RMC 19011)

PROGRAM AREA: Urban Lands

PROJECT TYPE: Design Build

JURISDICTION: City of Monrovia

PROJECT MANAGER: Joseph Gonzalez

RECOMMENDATION: That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board approve a grant in the amount of \$609,693 to Amigos de los Rios for the Monrovia Unified School District Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project (RMC19011).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A – Tasklist & Timeline
 Exhibit B – Project Budget
 Exhibit C – Project Location
 Exhibit D – Project Designs
 Exhibit E – Letter of Partnership from Superintendent, Monrovia USD

With the passage of the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) in November 2014, the RMC established Proposition 1 grant program guidelines which provided for project applications to be submitted for funding consideration (RMC Resolution 2015-18).

In the Fall of 2016, the RMC Governing Board approved Proposition 1 funding guidelines. The RMC Governing Board began approving funding to projects at the start of 2017 through November 2017 as part of the Round One Proposition 1 Call for Projects.

In Fall of 2018, upon approval of the RMC Governing Board (Resolution 2018-22), staff opened the Round Two Call of Projects between October 16, 2018 to December 16, 2018. Of the \$30,000,000 allocated to RMC under Chapter 6, section 79731(f) up to \$10,000,000 is being made available for Round Two, for projects though out all if RMC territory. Note, projects within the Los Angeles River corridor have a separate RMC urban river funding source.

Projects prioritized for funding recommendations to the Governing Board are subject to multiple factors upon review, including project score and ranking amongst territory-wide submittals, project readiness, and public benefit value. Project proponents are provided the opportunity to receive higher scores based on additional information provided through staff interviews that demonstrate

an alignment with RMC goals and objectives, and granting of funds is consistent with RMC programs, which include:

Common Ground, from the Mountains to the Sea - Supports the Watershed and Open Space Plan vision for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watersheds, seeks to restore balance between natural and human systems. Guiding principles: 1) growing greener (create, expand and improve open space and access to open space), 2) enhancing waters and waterways, and 3) coordinate regional planning efforts.

RMC Environmental Justice Policy - To ensure that the public, including minority and low-income populations, are informed of opportunities to participate in the development and implementation of all RMC-related programs, policies and activities, and that they are not discriminated against, treated unfairly, or caused to experience disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects from environmental decisions.

Tribal Consultation - To ensure Indian tribes and tribal communities are able to provide meaningful input into the development of regulations, rules policies, programs, projects, plans, property decisions, and activities that may affect tribal communities; supporting AB52 and CEQA, which require separate consideration of tribal cultural resources from that of paleontological resources.

After review by RMC staff, this grant received a score of 110.9/132 or 84% and recommends funding of the planning components for the project only.

Project:	Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project	
Applicant:	Amigos de los Rios	
Program area:	Urban Land	
Amount requested:	\$609,693	
Amount recommended for funding:	\$609,693	
RMC PROP 1 REGIONWIDE GRANT PROGRAM - EVALUATION CRITERIA SUMMARY		
Factor	Project Score	Total Possible Points
1. Restore River Parkways	8.2	10
2. Educational/Interpretive Signage	2	2
3. Habitat and Restoration Resource Values	12.1	15
4. Matching Funds	3	7
5. Environmental Justice and DAC	32.5	38
6. Multi-benefit and multi-jurisdictional	2.8	3
7. Stakeholders/Partners Resource Value	8	8
8. Stewardship and Management Plan Value	3.7	4
9. Water Sustainability/Storage/Infrastructure	8.8	10
10. Urban Land Value	9.1	10
11. Water Resource Quality Value	20.7	25
TOTAL POINTS	110.9	132

Amigos de Los Rios, a non-profit that works to design, build, and restore parks and open space, will partner with Monrovia Unified School District (MUSD) to protect water resources and quality

at Santa Fe Middle and Plymouth Elementary Schools in an underserved area of the City of Monrovia.

This project will plant 160 native and drought-tolerant trees and 900 shrubs around the campus perimeters and at key locations throughout the school sites, helping to beautify, create 'nearby nature' and serve their nearly 1,000 students and the region's families. It will remove water-intensive grass species, in order to create a nature discovery - living laboratory on Campus Park with native, drought-tolerant urban forestry and water-saving Low-Impact Development elements students can enjoy.

In addition to the project's urban forestry, the project will also make key Low-Impact Development retrofits designed to enhance the sites' water conservation values: Bioswales, landscape planters, rain gardens, rain barrels and infiltration areas will be strategically installed to capture and infiltrate stormwater on-site. These elements will be integrated into relevant areas; permeable pavement will be strategically located at entrances and exits to school parking lots to improve stormwater management. The proposed Green Infrastructure elements retrofits of the schools will demonstrate how to collect, capture, and infiltrate water on-site at the parking lot, drive lane, and in campus fields, enhancing water resources management on site, reduce water use on school grounds, and help more efficiently manage stormwater and vector issues for the benefit of school community and Monrovia residents. This approach will use nature-based solutions to minimize on-site flooding, which is an issue for both schools.

Monrovia's schools are also joint use facilities with the City of Monrovia, so in addition to contributing to regional watershed and ecosystem health, the urban greening will create improved public green space. The Schools are located near the Emerald Necklace Regional Bike Trail Loop - and notably to Peck Water Conservation Park. Watershed Interpretive Elements on campus will highlight the green infrastructure transformations and inform residents about key open space resources nearby including public lands of Monrovia Canyon Park, the Angeles National Forest, Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, and the Pacific Ocean to the south.

Other green infrastructure 'ecosystem services' to the campuses and surrounding residential communities, include: managing regional water reliably; protecting regional biodiversity; air quality improvements; greenhouse gas sequestration; heat island mitigation; celebration of natural and cultural history; improved access to physical recreation and an enhanced sense of place with nature discovery areas; and opportunities for students to practice and learn the value of environmental stewardship and civic engagement.

If approved by the board, this project will have a timeline of 2 years from April 6, 2020 to an anticipated completion by April 30, 2022.

BACKGROUND: The proposed green infrastructure project will improve green amenities at Plymouth Elementary School and Santa Fe Middle School which are located in the City of Monrovia, part of the East Los Angeles metro region and San Gabriel River Watershed drainage basin. Monrovia is also primarily minority city: 41.5% Latino, 14% Asian, and 5.3% African American population, and this region is park-poor and disproportionately impacted by pollution, with major freeways and arterials nearby impairing waterways, air quality, and causing environmental health problems. The project will serve and improve public and environmental health for disadvantaged urban communities within densely populated eastern Los Angeles County, improving open green space access in order to relieve the burdens of grey infrastructure. This innovative project will demonstrate sustainable school campus grounds management with

significant co-benefits to students and community that are provided by the urban greening elements: proven academic performance improvements, physical fitness and community mental health benefits.

The proposed project is part of Amigos de los Rios' greater planning effort, the Emerald Necklace Initiative (based on the 1930 Olmsted Bartholomew Plan), a regional vision for an interconnected network of parks, green spaces, and trails spanning Los Angeles County from the San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. The Olmsted Plan called for greening of school yards as park like settings for benefit of students and community members. This is of vital importance to the urban area, serving Latino and Asian communities that are disadvantaged by poor environmental conditions, deficient green space access, and associated socio-economic indicators including low income and challenged educational attainment.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This grant award to Amigos de los Rios will be for a total amount of \$609,693 in Proposition 1 funds, with matching funds totaling \$142,100, for project total of \$751,793.

Funding for this project is allocated from the following statute of Proposition 1:

Proposition 1, Chapter 188, Statutes of 2014

Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 allocations, Chapter 6 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:

Public Resources Code Division 22.8 provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources projection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

Exhibit A **Monrovia Unified School District Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project** Item 13

July 2019 - June 2022

Task List & Timeline	Percent % Work Complete	2020				2021												2022										
		Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22		
PHASE 1																												
1 Project Management																												
Direct Project Management & Admin		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Community Stakeholder Outreach & Agency Input				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X						
Community Based Design			X	X	X	X	X																					
Consult Civil Engineer, Landscape Architect, Green Infrastructure Design			X	X	X																							
Final Design Review				X	X	X																						
PHASE 2																												
1 Site Preparation																												
Site Preparation and Grading, Haul Away						X	X	X		X			X	X	X													
Pavement Removal (School Breaks)						X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X												
Turf Removal													X	X	X	X												
PHASE 3																												
1 Construction																												
Installation: Bioswales/Rain Gardens, Permeable Pavement, Infiltration Areas														X	X	X												
Shrub Planting						X	X	X	X	X								X	X	X								
Tree Planting						X	X	X	X	X								X	X	X								
Irrigation Retrofit						X	X	X	X	X																		
Manufacture & Install Water Resources Interpretive Elements																		X	X	X	X	X						
PHASE 4																												
1 Establishment																												
Establishment							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Maintenance Manual & As Builts																					X	X						
Grant Completion & Close Out																									X	7X		



RMC Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1)

MONROVIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CAMPUS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Grant Budget

Project Elements	Unit Cost \$	Unit Measure	Quantity	Total Project Costs	RMC Funding	School District	Amigos Applicant Match	In Kind Donations / Volunteers	Check Total
PHASE 1									
1. Project Mgmt.									
Project Management & Admin	\$ 52,000	ea.	1	\$ 52,000	\$ 52,000				\$ 52,000
Community Based Design/Outreach	\$ 25,000	ea.	1	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000				\$ 25,000
Civil Engineer	\$ 25,000	ea.	1	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000				\$ 25,000
Landscape Architect/Arborist	\$ 12,000	ea.	1	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000				\$ 12,000
Construction Admin	\$ 6,000	ea.	1	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000				\$ 6,000
Survey Engineer	\$ 6,000	ea.	1	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000				\$ 6,000
1. SUBTOTAL				\$ 126,000	\$ 126,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126,000
2. Construction									
2a. Site Prep									
Tree Well Retrofit	\$ 500.00		4	\$ 2,000.00				\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
New Tree Well Creation (Asphalt or Concrete Cut and Haul away)	\$ 850.00		18	\$ 15,300.00	\$ 15,300.00				\$ 15,300
Grass Removal/Grubbing	\$ 6.00	SF	2800	\$ 16,800.00	\$ 15,800.00			\$ 1,000	\$ 16,800
Asphalt removal (Bioswale Rain Garden)	\$ 4.50		1100	\$ 4,950.00	\$ 3,950.00			\$ 1,000	\$ 4,950
LID Planter Masonry	\$ 6,500.00		2	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00				\$ 13,000
Permeable Surfaces	\$ 12.00		2600	\$ 31,200.00	\$ 31,200.00				\$ 31,200
Permeable Pavement	\$ 26.00		3800	\$ 98,800.00	\$ 98,800.00				\$ 98,800
Rain Garden	\$ 8,000.00		2	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 9,000.00			\$ 7,000	\$ 16,000
Rain Barrel	\$ 1,200.00		6	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 5,200.00			\$ 2,000	\$ 7,200
Bioswale/Drainage Retrofit Infiltration Area	\$ 65,000.00		1	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 61,000.00			\$ 4,000	\$ 65,000
High Efficiency Irrigation to Trees & LID Planters	\$ 38,000.00		1	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 2,000			\$ 38,000
2a. Subtotal				\$ 308,250.00	\$ 289,250.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 308,250.00
2b. Urban Forestry									
Tree Stock	\$ 75.00	Ea.	160	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00				\$ 12,000
Tree Stakes & Ties (2 stakes & 4 Ties)	\$ 14.00	Ea.	320	\$ 4,480.00	\$ 4,480.00				\$ 4,480
Tree Planting	\$ 135.00	Ea.	160	\$ 21,600.00	\$ 7,000.00			\$ 14,600	\$ 21,600
Tree Staking Youth Corps	\$ 40.00	Ea.	160	\$ 6,400.00	\$ 6,400.00				\$ 6,400
Native & Mediterranean Shrub Stock	\$ 12.00	Ea.	900	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 10,800.00				\$ 10,800
Shrub Planting	\$ 38.00		900	\$ 34,200.00	\$ 13,250.00			\$ 20,950	\$ 34,200
Mulch	\$ 23.00		900	\$ 20,700.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 3,000	\$ 12,000		\$ 20,700
Soil Amendments & Mycorrhize	\$ 2.00		900	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00				\$ 1,800
2b. Subtotal				\$ 111,980.00	\$ 61,430.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 35,550.00	\$ 111,980.00
2c. Interpretative Elements									
Multi Lingual Water Resources Protection Interpretive Elements (Manufacture, Install)	\$ 800	ea.	16	\$ 12,800.00	\$ 8,000		\$ 2,200	\$ 2,600	\$ 12,800
2c. Subtotal				\$ 12,800.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 12,800.00
2. SUBTOTAL 2a + 2b + 2c				\$ 433,030	\$ 358,680	\$ 5,000	\$ 14,200	\$ 55,150	\$ 433,030
PHASE 1 GRAND TOTAL				\$ 559,030	\$ 484,680	\$ 5,000	\$ 14,200	\$ 55,150	\$ 559,030
PHASE 2									
1. Plant Establishment									
Establishment 30%	\$ 25	ea.	160	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,500			\$ 2,500	\$ 4,000
Shrub & Mulch	\$ 25	ea.	850	\$ 21,250	\$ 1,500			\$ 19,750	\$ 21,250
Establishment 60%	\$ 25	ea.	160	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,500			\$ 2,500	\$ 4,000
Shrub & Mulch	\$ 25	ea.	850	\$ 21,250	\$ 1,500			\$ 19,750	\$ 21,250
Establishment 100%	\$ 25	ea.	160	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,500			\$ 2,500	\$ 4,000
Shrub & Mulch	\$ 25	ea.	850	\$ 21,250	\$ 1,500			\$ 19,750	\$ 21,250
Update Maintained Manual & Create As Built during Habitat Monitoring	\$ 3,500	ea.	1	\$ 4,500	\$ 3,500		\$ 1,000		\$ 4,500
1. Subtotal				\$ 80,250	\$ 12,500	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 66,750	\$ 80,250
PHASE 2 GRAND TOTAL				\$ 80,250	\$ 12,500	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 66,750	\$ 80,250
Contingency									
Contingency x%			1	\$ 44,046	\$ 44,046		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,046
Subtotal Contingency				\$ 683,326	\$ 541,226	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,200	\$ 121,900	\$ 683,326
Indirect									
10%	10%			\$ 68,467	\$ 68,467				\$ 68,467
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS				\$ 751,793	\$ 609,693	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,200	\$ 121,900	\$ 751,793

Monrovia, CA | Sante Fe & Plymouth Schools

Project Location Map

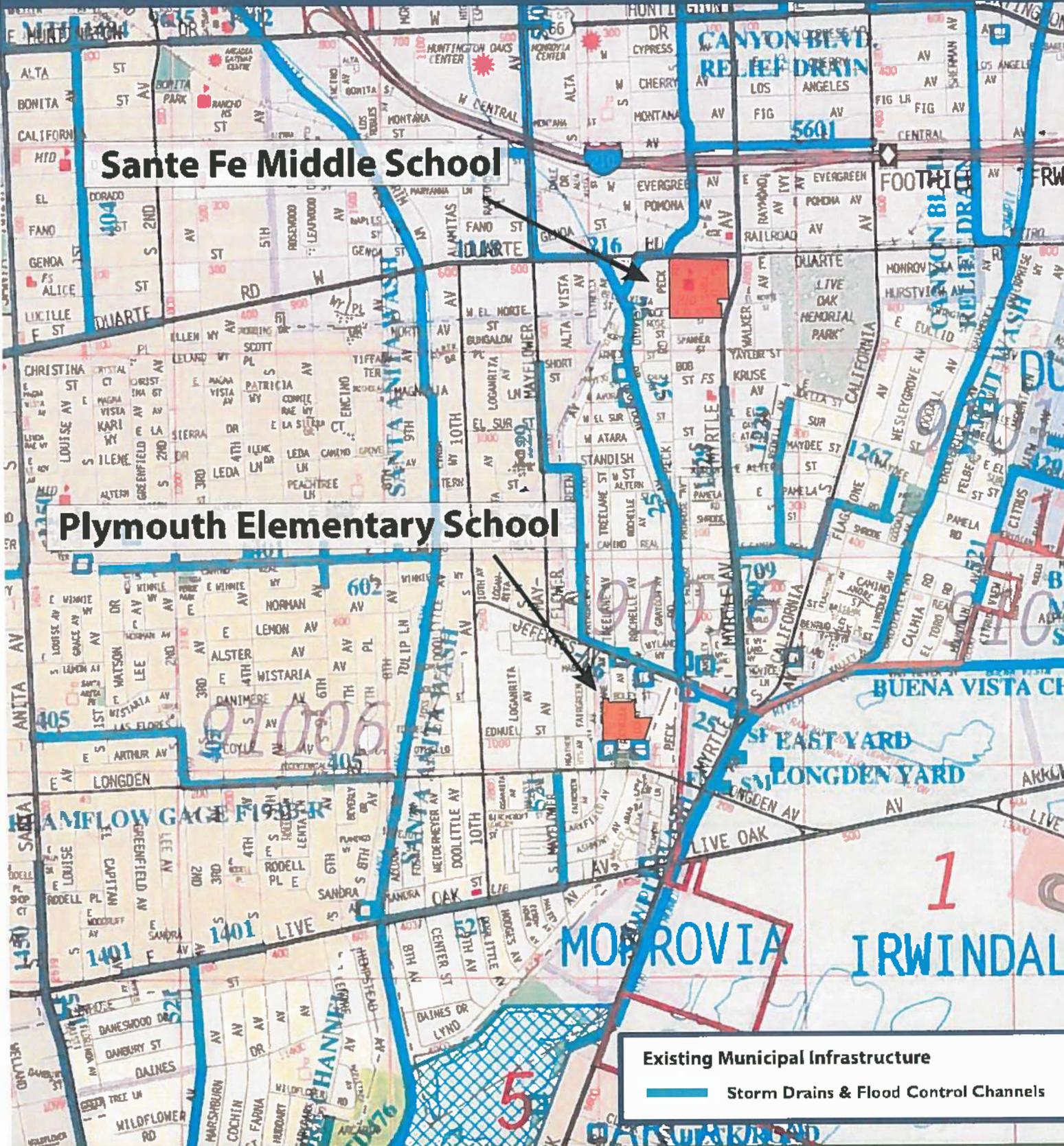


MONROVIA

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sante Fe Middle School

Plymouth Elementary School



Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development
RMC Prop | Grant Program | Storm Drain System





360'

365'

Green Infrastructure Elements					
	Permeable Surface		Proposed Tree		Rain Barrel
	LID Infiltration Planter		Mulched Landscape - Native Plants / Turf Removal		Storm Drain
	Bioswale		Interpretive Elements		Rain Gutter
	Rain Garden				Entry/Exit

E Longden Ave



W Duarte Rd

435'

Peck Rd

430'

Santa Fe Pl

425'

Sports Fields

420'

Green Infrastructure Elements

- | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|------------------|
| | Cool Surface | | Proposed Tree | | Bench |
| | LID Infiltration Planter | | Mulched Landscape - Native Plants / Turf Removal | | Rain Barrel |
| | Bioswale | | Interpretive Elements | | Butterfly Garden |
| | Rain Garden | | Storm Drain | | Entry/Exit |

S Myrtle Ave

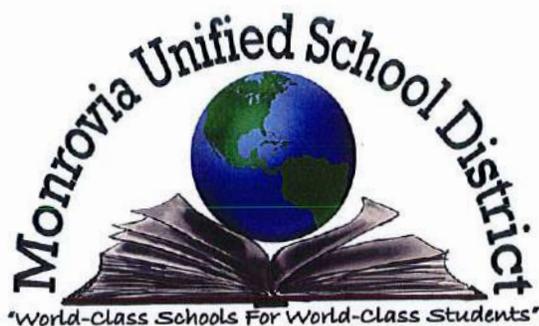
415'

B. Santa Fe Middle School

148 W Duarte Rd, Monrovia, CA 91016

Joint Use





DARVIN JACKSON
Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

SUE KAISER
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services

CONNIE WU
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services

CHARLES POOVAKAN
Chief Technology Officer

SHERSHONNA HUFF
Administrative Assistant

325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016 * 626/471-2010 * FAX 626/471-2077

December 15, 2018

Proposition 1 Grant Program
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Rd.
Azusa, CA 91702

**LETTER OF PARTNERSHIP & PERMISSION
AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS
Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project**

Dear Grant Coordinator,

We are pleased to support Amigos de los Rios' Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project proposal at Santa Fe Computer Science Magnet Middle and Plymouth Elementary schools for the River and Mountain Conservancy (RMC) Proposition 1 Grant. The proposed project will boost our Metro Area's shared urban forest to help capture and filter storm water and will feature natural infrastructure elements such as trees, native plant landscape planters, bioswales, rain gardens, permeable pavement and surfaces. The urban greening project will provide key water resources and community health benefits by capturing and infiltrating storm water. Our multi benefit campus green infrastructure project will promote air quality, mitigate heat islands, enhance greenhouse gas uptake, provide native habitat, and expand the variety of recreation opportunities available. We will teach students how to protect precious water resources by integrating and celebrating natural infrastructure on two of our DAC school campuses. We believe this will inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. We know urban greening has significantly proven academic, mental health and physical fitness benefits for students.

This project will take place at Santa Fe Computer Science Magnet Middle School and Plymouth Elementary Schools in Monrovia, California, sites owned by the Monrovia Unified School District. As the Agency overseeing operations and ongoing care for the proposed sites, we approve of this project and will grant Amigos de los Rios to work with the District to complete the proposed urban greening work. Once the natural infrastructure elements are installed and native plants have been successfully established,

Page 2 of 2

Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project
Amigos de los Rios
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant Program

Monrovia Unified School District will take over ongoing care of the sites for at least 20 years as part of regular school facility site maintenance.

This project will integrate meaningful natural infrastructure amenities into the Santa Fe Computer Science Magnet School and Plymouth Elementary School Campuses, transforming and deconstructing the “Asphalt Quilt” of the school sites into a greener forest-based discovery area for the benefit of students, families, and community members. Our Campuses are Joint Use facilities with City of Monrovia. Project activities will include: the removal of water-intensive grass and planting of water smart trees and shrubs to improve soil health, capture storm water and runoff, the retrofitting of impermeable areas into permeable surfaces to improve groundwater infiltration and watershed health. The project will interlace beautiful elements to capture and manage storm water and urban runoff to improve campus experience while also protecting coastal waterways from pollutants entering storm drain system from our location within the upper watershed. These elements will improve educational and recreational opportunities for school community and surrounding community residents; promoting healthy outdoor recreation and making the school site a more inspiring, environmentally sustainable, welcoming environment as community hub.

These School project sites will serve as a key example and demonstration project of how these multiple objective campuses will increase the sites’ percolation capacity into groundwater systems, ultimately help to both protect river and coastal marine ecosystems from degradation due to polluted runoff and help secure and protect our region’s limited water resources that are severely threatened by drought and climate change. Greening elements will inspire cultural awareness of these and other critical water resources issues.

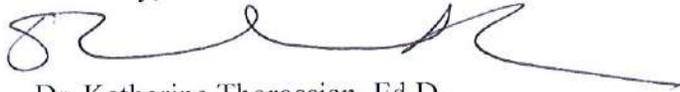
The proposed project is part of the larger Emerald Necklace Green Infrastructure Initiative, based on the 1930 Olmsted Bartholomew Plan for a robust, interconnected green infrastructure network to be developed systematically from Angeles National Forest - ‘Mountains to Sea’. This collaborative vision includes partnership with myriad agencies. Amigos de los Rios has successfully completed multiple Emerald Necklace projects including with the City of Monrovia. The Emerald Necklace provides underserved communities with much-needed opportunities enjoying ‘nearby nature’ for healthy recreation, education and aesthetic enjoyment.

Amigos de los Rios has a successful history of fostering collaboration between diverse entities and delivering positive results in underserved communities. This project will result in further dynamic collaboration with Monrovia Unified School District to achieve the outlined environmental and social benefits.

Page 3 of 2
Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project
Amigos de los Rios
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Proposition 1 Grant Program

We support Amigos de los Rios' efforts to enhance our school district campus/ if awarded, the project will provide multiple benefits for current future generations to enjoy and cherish.

Sincerely,



Dr. Katherine Thorossian, Ed D.
Superintendent
Monrovia Unified School District
626-471-2000

April 6, 2020 – Item 13

RESOLUTION 2020-15

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING A PROPOSITION 68 GRANT TO THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS FOR THE MONROVIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CAMPUS GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (RMC19011)

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 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (“Proposition 1”) 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 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) 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 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.
- 3 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Proposition 1.
- 4 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan.
- 5 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;
- 6 FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 7 ADOPTS the staff report dated April 6, 2020.
- 8 AUTHORIZES a grant of in the amount of \$609,693 to the nonprofit organization Amigos de los Rios through April 30, 2022 for the Monrovia USD Campus Green Infrastructure Development Project (RMC19011).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 15: Consideration of a resolution approving a Proposition 68 grant to the Watershed Conservation Authority for the Duck Farm River Center Development Project (RMC19013)

PROGRAM AREA: Urban Lands

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: County of Los Angeles

PROJECT MANAGER: Sally Gee

RECOMMENDATION: That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board approve a grant in the amount of \$2,024,020 to the Watershed Conservation Authority for the Duck Farm River Center Development Project (RMC19013).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A – Tasklist & Timeline
 Exhibit B – Project Budget
 Exhibit C – Project Location
 Exhibit D – Project Design

With the passage of the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, the RMC established Proposition 68 grant program guidelines which provided for project applications to be submitted for funding consideration (RMC Resolution 2019-06).

In Spring 2019, staff opened a Call for Projects between April 29, 2019 and July 15, 2019. Under Chapter 8 of Proposition 68, \$30,000,000 is allocated for projects throughout all of the RMC territory. Note, projects within the Los Angeles River corridor have a separate RMC urban river funding source.

Projects prioritized for funding recommendations to the Governing Board are subject to multiple factors upon review, including project score and ranking amongst territory-wide submittals, project readiness, and public benefit value. Project proponents are provided the opportunity to receive higher scores based on additional information provided through staff interviews that demonstrate an alignment with RMC goals and objectives, and granting of funds is consistent with RMC programs, which include:

Common Ground, from the Mountains to the Sea - Supports the Watershed and Open Space Plan vision for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watersheds, seeks to restore balance between natural and human systems. Guiding principles: 1) growing greener (create,

expand and improve open space and access to open space), 2) enhancing waters and waterways, and 3) coordinate regional planning efforts.

RMC Environmental Justice Policy - To ensure that the public, including minority and low-income populations, are informed of opportunities to participate in the development and implementation of all RMC-related programs, policies and activities, and that they are not discriminated against, treated unfairly, or caused to experience disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects from environmental decisions.

Tribal Consultation - To ensure Indian tribes and tribal communities are able to provide meaningful input into the development of regulations, rules policies, programs, projects, plans, property decisions, and activities that may affect tribal communities; supporting AB52 and CEQA, which require separate consideration of tribal cultural resources from that of paleontological resources.

After review by RMC staff, this grant received a score of 85.5 out of a total 100 points or 85.5% and staff recommends funding of this project.

Project:	Duck Farm River Center Development Project	
Applicant:	Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA)	
Program area:	Urban Lands	
Amount requested:	\$2,000,000	
Amount recommended for funding:	\$2,024,020	
RMC PROP 68 REGIONWIDE GRANT PROGRAM - EVALUATION CRITERIA SUMMARY		
Factor	Project Score	Total Possible Points
1. Access Value	10	11
2. Urban Land Value	8.5	10
3. Water Sustainability/Water Storage/Water Infrastructure	10.25	13
4. Habitat and Restoration Resource Values	9.75	10
5. Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities	23.25	25
6. Matching Funds	4	9
7. Readiness	3.5	5
8. Stakeholders/Partners Resource Value	10.5	11
9. Stewardship and Management Plan Value	5.75	6
TOTAL POINTS	85.5	100

The Duck Farm River Center Development Project will transform a 1929 Spanish colonial revival iconic farmhouse into a waterwise educational resource and visitor center for the public. The Center will include interpretive elements that explore the watershed history of the San Gabriel River, its ecology and the role the river still plays today in providing potable drinking water to adjacent communities. The indoor space will include opportunities for local art, local water resource information, weatherization and low impact development demonstrations and resources.

The project will also include ADA-compliant restrooms, shade structures, and landscape features to mitigate sound and environmental impacts of nearby freeway, rail and industrial areas in this largely underserved equestrian district. The site exterior will provide additional outdoor learning spaces for visitors and organized school groups. The Center will include a platform for educational

outreach and community activities with research materials, interactive features, and multilingual interpretive signage that will demonstrate and highlight practical strategies for water security and climate resilience, as well as the natural history of the river corridor from the historical days of the native Tongva and agrarian Rancho culture to the highly urbanized environment of Los Angeles today. The Center's location within a "jewel" of the Emerald Necklace Park network makes it an ideal environment to educate and provide information to visitors exploring this regional recreational and ecological resource (see project "Background" section for more information).

The Center, if funded, will fully realize the (RMC Prop 1 funded) Duck Farm House Landscape and Water Conservation Project to open a community resource and demonstration center which will incorporate two (2) acres of water-wise residential landscaping demonstrations for visitors to emulate in their own homes. This project gap funding is critical to complete the center and grounds, which together will encourage residents to retrofit high resource consumptive landscapes into functional sites that capture and conserve water using simple and aesthetically pleasing strategies.

If approved by the board, this project will have a timeline of 2 years 11 months from April 2020 to an anticipated completion by March 31, 2023.

BACKGROUND: The proposed project is located along the San Gabriel River and is an essential piece of the region's Emerald Necklace Master Plan, which is a 17-mile river greenway trail loop in the upper San Gabriel River Watershed. The Center is also a connection within the San Gabriel River Corridor Master Plan associated with the existing 28-mile San Gabriel River Trail. Together the Duck Farm and adjacent system of trails connect park poor, disadvantaged communities between the recreational and regionally significant San Gabriel Mountains National Monument (SGMNM) all the way down to the ecologically significant Los Cerritos Wetlands which leads towards the coasts of Seal Beach and Long Beach. The native landscape and water conservation center of the Duck Farm House will provide a significant amenity to the adjacent communities of South El Monte, Baldwin Park, and the unincorporated Los Angeles County neighborhoods of Avocado Heights, Bassett and North Whittier.

The Duck Farm River Center project is an expansion of the Duck Farm River Park to include the old farm house location as a community water conservation resource center. Currently, this project is partially funded by an RMC Proposition 1 grant for the water conservation and infrastructure elements of the gardens, leaving a funding gap to complete facility modifications/rebuild and non-water related public amenities including outdoor courtyard/classroom, restrooms, and parking enhancements.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This action approves a grant award to Watershed Conservation Authority in the amount of \$2,024,020 for the Duck Farm River Center Development Project. The project has received additional funds of \$891,200 from RMC Prop 1 to construct the Water Conservation Demonstration Garden. Potential matching funding of \$2,000,132 could be funded through County Sanitation Districts SEP program for the garden and other stormwater LID elements.

The funding request is for use towards grant administration, project management, construction and non-construction costs. Project elements include design, permitting, insurance, inspections, administration, and labor compliance estimated to cost \$395,000. House renovations and reconstruction constitutes the bulk of the work, including building interior and exterior renovations, structural work, building systems, solar panels, and interpretive features, estimated to cost

\$1,400,520. Exterior site amenities, including fencing, operational signage, and outdoor classroom, estimated to cost \$188,500.

Funding for this project will be allocated from:

Proposition 68, Chapter 852 Statutes of 2017

California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 allocations, Chapter 8, under statute:

80110(b)(6): San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES:

Public Resources Code Division 22.8 provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

Exhibit B: BUDGET

Grantee:	Watershed Conservation Authority
Project Name:	Duck Farm River Center Development
Contact and Address:	100 N Old San Gabriel Canyon Road, Azusa, CA 91702
RMC Total Budget Request	\$2,024,020

Project Element	Proposed RMC Prop 68	RMC Prop 1 Funding (Secured)	MATCHING SEP Funding (Pending)	Measure A /Other (To Apply)	Total Project
Stormwater LID Features and Habitat Enhancement					
Bioswales, Rain Gardens, Infiltration Galleries		\$ 100,000	\$ 285,000		\$ 385,000
Gray Water system		\$ 30,000	\$ 50,000		\$ 80,000
Rain Gutters, Rain Chains, Rain Barrels		\$ 20,000			\$ 20,000
Native Plantings / Edible Landscaping / Habitat Enhancement		\$ 10,000	\$ 420,000		\$ 430,000
Water system installation and water-efficient irrigation		\$ 225,500	\$ 60,000		\$ 285,500
Pervious pavement, walking paths, and parking		\$ 100,000	\$ 415,132		\$ 515,132
Subtotal		\$ 485,500	\$ 1,230,132	\$ -	\$ 1,715,632
Exterior Site Amenities					
Outdoor classroom, seating and picnic areas	\$ 54,300	\$ 105,000		\$ 129,360	\$ 288,660
Sound attenuation / interpretive walls/features	\$ -			\$ 528,000	\$ 528,000
Decorative Fence and Gate	\$ 55,000				\$ 55,000
Shade structures with water capture elements		\$ 40,000	\$ 170,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 330,000
Interpretive displays and related furnishings		\$ 33,580	\$ 135,000		\$ 168,580
Parking Lot Light Fixtures and Operational Signage	\$ 79,200				\$ 79,200
Maintenance Yard and Out Buildings				\$ 118,800	\$ 118,800
Subtotal	\$ 188,500	\$ 178,580	\$ 305,000	\$ 896,160	\$ 1,568,240
House Renovation / Reconstruction					
Demolition/Site Preparation	\$ 79,200				\$ 79,200
Building Foundation/Utilities & Systems	\$ 265,320			\$ 130,680	\$ 396,000
Building Structure, Exterior and Interior	\$ 831,600			\$ 356,400	\$ 1,188,000
Building Interior Finishes/Interpretive Displays and Related Furnishings	\$ 224,400			\$ 897,600	\$ 1,122,000
					\$ -
Subtotal	\$ 1,400,520	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,384,680	\$ 2,785,200
Construction Contingency					
Subtotal	\$ 40,000	\$ 27,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 202,000
Soft Costs					
Admin / PM / CM	\$ 75,000	\$ 66,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 391,000
A & E / Field A&E / Consultants	\$ 110,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 253,000	\$ 548,000
Permitting / Insurance / Labor Compliance / Inspections / Misc	\$ 20,000		\$ 90,000	\$ 79,200	\$ 189,200
Indirect	\$ 190,000	\$ 89,120			\$ 279,120
Subtotal	\$ 395,000	\$ 200,120	\$ 380,000	\$ 432,200	\$ 1,407,320
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 2,024,020	\$ 891,200	\$ 2,000,132	\$ 2,763,040	\$ 7,678,392



Duck Farm River Center Development RMC Proposition 68 Grant Program

Exhibit C: Project Location Map



Legend

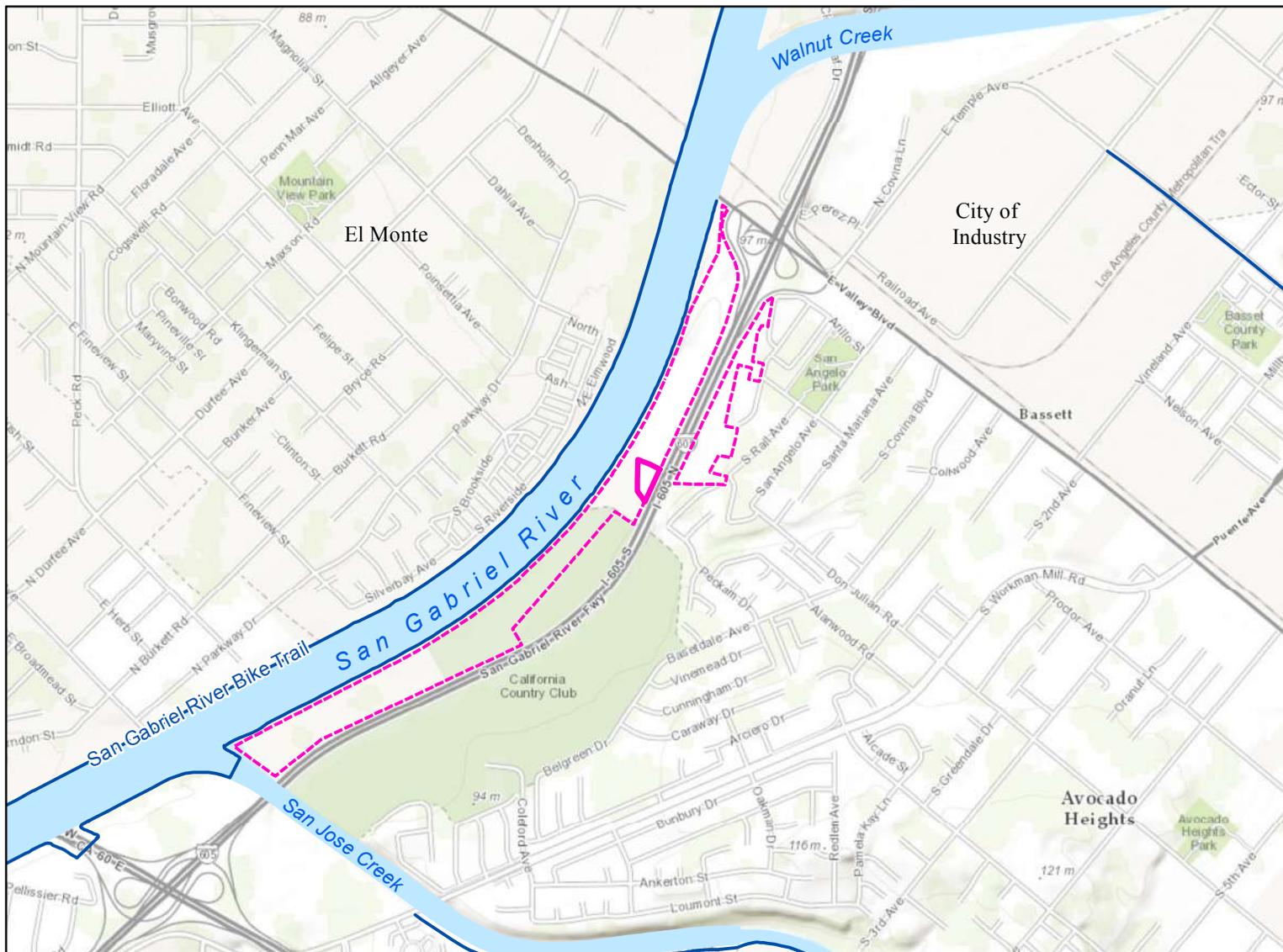
- RMC Territory
- Protected Open Space
- Rivers and Water Bodies
- County Boundary
- Freeways





Duck Farm River Center Development

Project Vicinity Map



Legend

-  Project Area
-  Duck Farm Property
-  Bike Trails
-  Rivers and Water Bodies
-  Protected Open Space

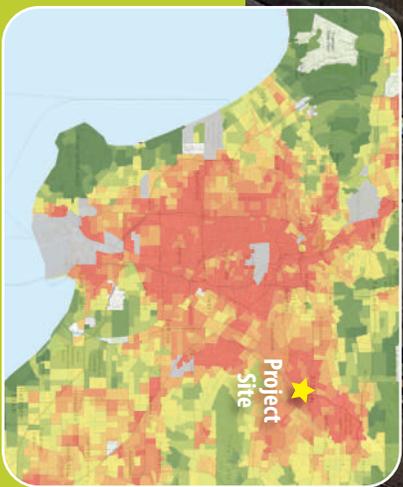
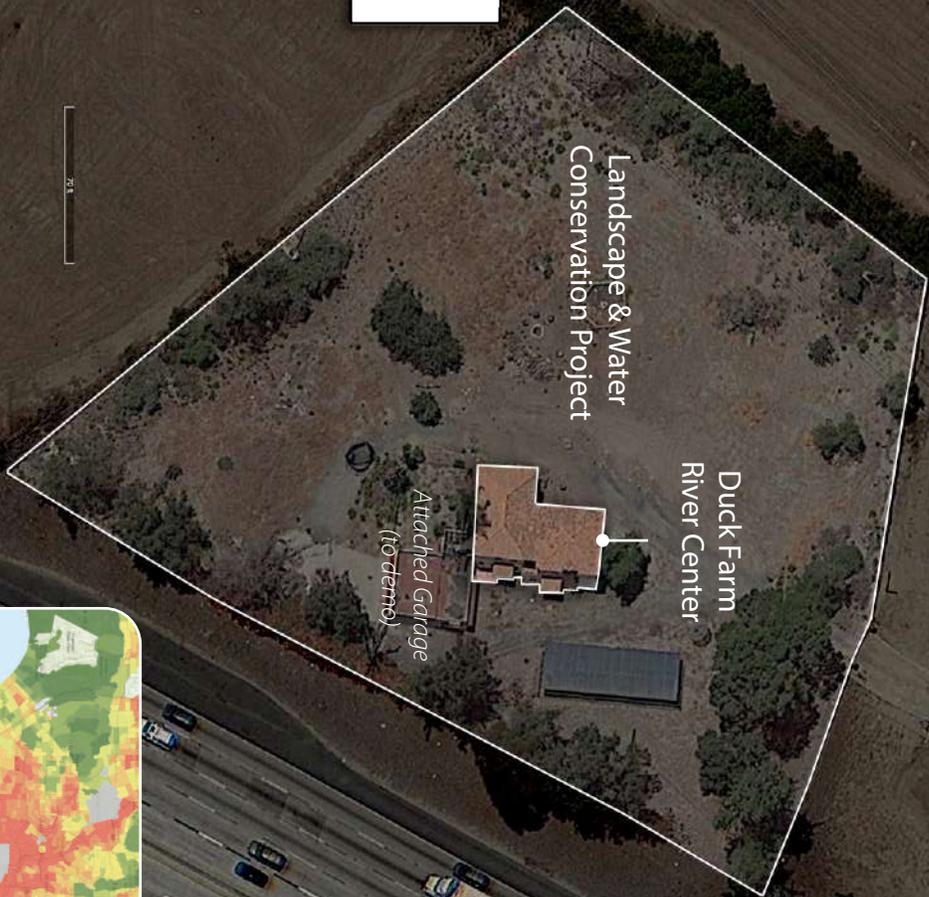
Data: Base Map Service from ESRI. Parcel information provided by the Los Angeles County Assessor's Office. Bike path information provided by Los Angeles County Department of Public Works.





Note:
Second floor to be
administration space

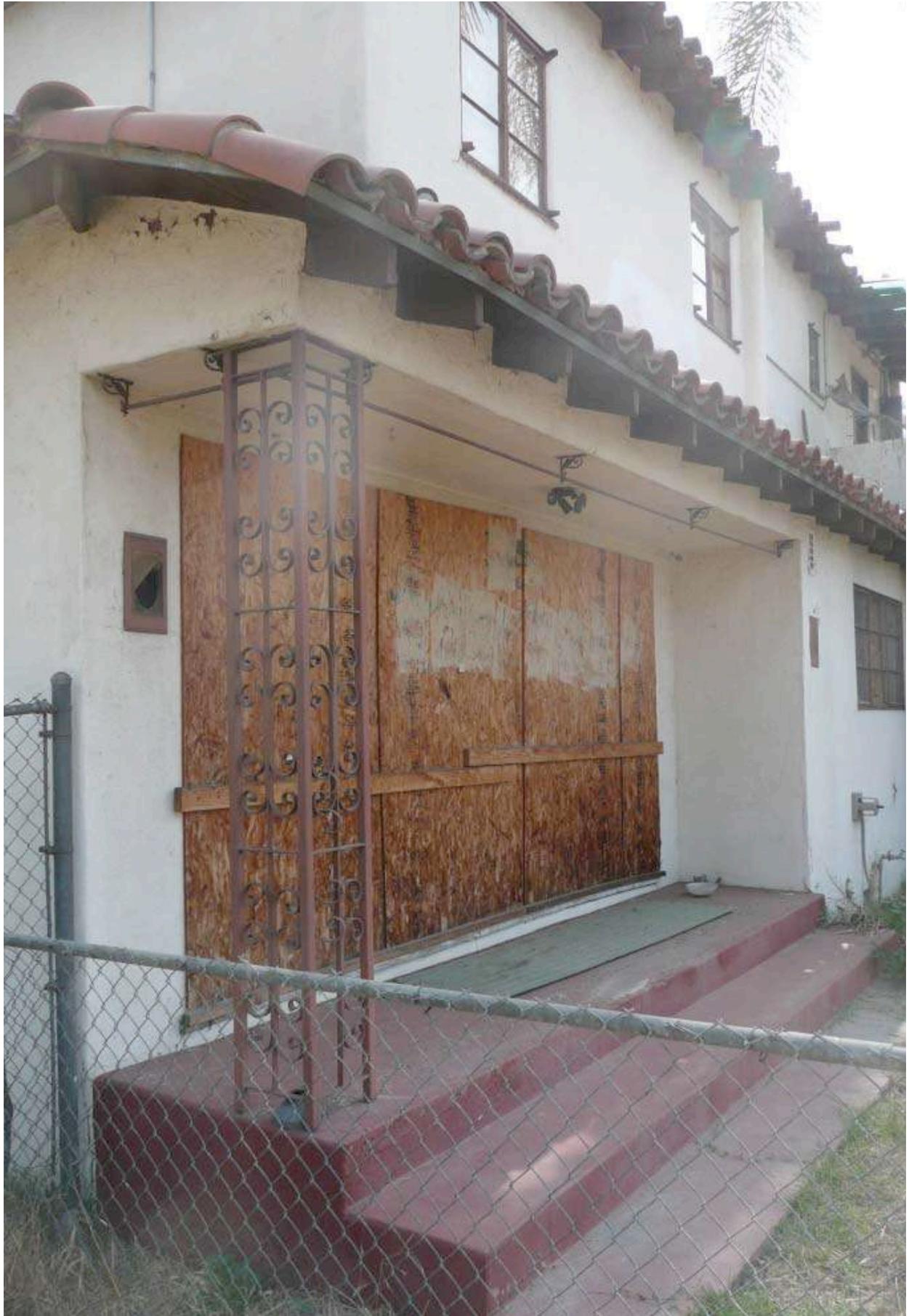
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DUCK FARM RIVER CENTER DEVELOPMENT
PROP 68 GRANT PROGRAM
SECTION 13 – PROJECT PHOTOS









April 6, 2020 – Item 15

RESOLUTION 2020-17

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING A PROPOSITION 68 GRANT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE DUCK FARM RIVER CENTER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (RMC19013)

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 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (“Proposition 68”); and

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of funds from Proposition 68, the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 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 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 68, Chapter 7, Section 80100(a)(1)(B) or Chapter 8, Section 80110(b)(6) 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 Proposition 68 RMC Grant Program is consistent with the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (“Proposition 68”), which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
- 3 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Proposition 68.
- 4 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan.
- 5 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;
- 6 FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 7 ADOPTS the staff report dated April 6, 2020.
- 8 AUTHORIZES a grant of in the amount of \$2,024,020 to the Watershed Conservation Authority through March 31, 2023 for the Duck Farm River Center Development Project (RMC19013).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 16: Consideration of a resolution approving a Proposition 68 grant to County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation for the Salazar Park Water Conservation Project (RMC 19014)

PROGRAM AREA: Urban Lands

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: County of Los Angeles

PROJECT MANAGER: Arturo Gonzalez

RECOMMENDATION: That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board approve a grant in the amount of \$1,996,380 to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for the Salazar Park Water Conservation Project (RMC 19014).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A – Tasklist & Timeline
 Exhibit B – Project Budget
 Exhibit C – L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation Match Verification Letter
 Exhibit D - Project Location
 Exhibit E - Project Design

With the passage of the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, the RMC established Proposition 68 grant program guidelines which provided for project applications to be submitted for funding consideration (RMC Resolution 2019-06).

In Spring 2019, staff opened a Call for Projects between April 29, 2019 and July 15, 2019. Under Chapter 8 of Proposition 68, \$30,000,000 is allocated for projects throughout all of the RMC territory. Note, projects within the Los Angeles River corridor have a separate RMC urban river funding source. At least 20 percent of the funds available shall be allocated for projects serving severely disadvantaged communities (SDAC), defined as 60% of the State's Median Household Income. This project is located in an SDAC.

Projects prioritized for funding recommendations to the Governing Board are subject to multiple factors upon review, including project score and ranking amongst territory-wide submittals, project readiness, and public benefit value. Project proponents are provided the opportunity to receive higher scores based on additional information provided through staff interviews that

demonstrate an alignment with RMC goals and objectives, and granting of funds is consistent with RMC programs, which include:

Common Ground, from the Mountains to the Sea - Supports the Watershed and Open Space Plan vision for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watersheds, seeks to restore balance between natural and human systems. Guiding principles: 1) growing greener (create, expand and improve open space and access to open space), 2) enhancing waters and waterways, and 3) coordinate regional planning efforts.

RMC Environmental Justice Policy - To ensure that the public, including minority and low-income populations, are informed of opportunities to participate in the development and implementation of all RMC-related programs, policies and activities, and that they are not discriminated against, treated unfairly, or caused to experience disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects from environmental decisions.

Tribal Consultation - To ensure Indian tribes and tribal communities are able to provide meaningful input into the development of regulations, rules policies, programs, projects, plans, property decisions, and activities that may affect tribal communities; supporting AB52 and CEQA, which require separate consideration of tribal cultural resources from that of paleontological resources.

After review by RMC staff, this grant received an initial score of 79.15 out of a total 100 points or 79% and recommends funding of this project. After discussing the proposed project with the applicant, the score has been revised to 80.52 or 81%.

Project:	Salazar Park Water Conservation Project	
Applicant:	Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation	
Program area:	Urban Lands	
Amount requested:	\$1,996,380	
Amount recommended for funding:	\$1,996,380	
RMC PROP 68 REGIONWIDE GRANT PROGRAM - EVALUATION CRITERIA SUMMARY		
Factor	Project Score	Total Possible Points
1. Access Value	9.5	11
2. Urban Land Value	7.88	10
3. Water Sustainability/Water Storage/Water Infrastructure	8.14	13
4. Habitat and Restoration Resource Values	6	10
5. Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities	24.5	25
6. Matching Funds	4.75	9
7. Readiness	3.5	5
8. Stakeholders/Partners Resource Value	11	11
9. Stewardship and Management Plan Value	5.25	6
TOTAL POINTS	80.52	100

The Salazar Park Water Conservation Project is a multi-benefit green infrastructure and beautification project proposed in a heavily used park located in the heart of the East Los Angeles. The proposed project will create a demonstration garden space, walking paths, shade trees,

seating and tables, and signage, and convert two existing parking lots to incorporate sustainable materials, including permeable paving and drought-tolerant landscaping.

The project proposes the creation of a native and drought-tolerant demonstration garden space (Central Garden) that will be central to the park. The new Central Garden will replace existing impervious paving and basketball courts as well as water intensive turf with a collection of climate-appropriate and native plant materials that have low water requirements. The Central Garden will also include a greywater irrigation system, which will divert stormwater from the adjacent community building roof to serve as irrigation for the garden space.

In addition, the project proposes that both large existing parking areas will be converted to permeable paving and drought-tolerant landscaping (over 75% native), including trees, which will also mitigate the Urban Heat Island Effect. Project elements include site preparation and demolition of existing paving, general grading, installation of permeable paving, curbs, parking stall striping inclusive of Americans with Disability Act (ADA), health related educational and historic/cultural signage, drought tolerant landscaping and trees, irrigation system, and perimeter fencing. The converted parking lots will ensure that stormwater be retained onsite, filtered through the permeable asphalt, and stored in a stone reservoir to allow slow infiltration into the soil below enabling pollutant reduction and replenishment of the water table. Salazar Park was originally named Laguna Park because of flooding issues that still persist in the park, the proposed project would help mitigate those issues.

If approved by the board, this project will have a timeline of 3 years 4 months from April 2020 to an anticipated completion by August 30, 2023.

BACKGROUND: Goals and objectives for the proposed project are aligned with the Vision Plan and the Community Report, developed by the grassroots organization Promesa Boyle Heights, which emphasize reinvestment into Salazar Park and the community it serves. The Vision Plan itself aims to develop a safer and more community-oriented park environment while creating tangible climate resiliency outcomes. While Salazar Park is a beloved and highly used park, there is an acknowledgement that violence and threats to safety do exist. There was particular emphasis on sustainability for the design and supporting the rich history and cultural significance of the site, the goals and objectives for Salazar Park include:

1. Increasing sustainability with park infrastructure improvements with the creation of the Central Garden and conversion of the existing parking infrastructure.
2. Providing educational and interpretive opportunities with the Central Garden and signage.
3. Emphasizing safety and connectivity for the community.

Salazar Park Project is located in unincorporated East Los Angeles. The project will improve an existing park in a Severely Disadvantaged Community (with a median household income of less than \$38,420 (DAC Mapping Tool). According to County DPH, the community ranks in the bottom quartile (ranked 110 out of 120 communities) for economic hardship. The proposed project is within a ¼ mile and ten minutes walking distance to a residential area and has three transit stops that are within ¼ mile or ten minute walk from high-use bus stops.

The East Los Angeles community has a density seven times that of Los Angeles County with approximately 135,000 residents that are predominantly Latino (97 percent), serving as a historic port of entry for working class immigrants. Nearly 60 percent of all households are bilingual and there is a strong sense of cultural identity. East Los Angeles also has a higher percentage of children under the age of 5 (8.7 percent) compared to the County (6.6 percent). In terms of

available park space, County DPH reports that East Los Angeles ranks 85 out of 120 communities. County DPH also indicates that the community ranks 115 out of 120 communities for years of potential life lost per 100,000 people due to premature diabetes mortality. According to the CalEnviroScreen 3.0 (June 2018), the area around Salazar Park is located in the highest pollution burden area, with a score of 96 to 100 percent. Located between five major freeways, the surrounding community contains a high concentration of oil refineries, auto body shops, and rail yards—all contributing to higher than average rates of respiratory illness and other negative health impacts. Salazar Park sits 150 yards from the Interstate 5 Freeway, a major truck corridor, as well as an area of heavy industry just south of the park. Twenty-seven percent of children in the surrounding area have been diagnosed with asthma, versus 15 percent for all of Los Angeles County.

Salazar Park sits at the heart of the community and on the frontlines of social and environmental justice. The project would provide respite from urban density and industrial uses as well as community greening, and is especially well-situated to advance park equity and climate resiliency with the implementation of the proposed project through the native landscaping and trees that will be planted as part of this project.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This action approves a grant award to County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$1,996,380 for the Salazar Park Water Conservation Project. The project has a matching fund of \$500,000 from Prop A which will be used to construct active recreation, LED lighting and other utility upgrades to the park. Total project cost including match is \$2,496,380.

Funding from the RMC is to cover the cost of grant administration, project management, construction and non-construction costs. Design, permitting, site preparation and demolition, estimated to cost \$580,724. Permeable paving and walkways, estimated to \$443,009 and \$246,710 will be spent on seating, shade structures, picnic tables and benches as well as BBQ. Landscaping and Irrigation estimated to \$309,730 including the Plant Demonstration Garden and trees. These are some highlights of the budget, the remaining costs include other hardscape improvements and drainage modification and utilities.

Funding for this project will be allocated from:

Proposition 68, Chapter 852 Statutes of 2017
California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 allocations, Chapter 8, under statute:

80110(b)(6): San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES:

Public Resources Code Division 22.8 provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources projection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

Task List and Timeline
Salazar Park / County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

Project Task Detail by Project Phase	Task by Month/Year												
	Apr-20	Dec-20	Mar-21	Jun-21	Sep-21	Dec-21	Mar-22	Jun-22	Sep-22	Dec-22	Feb-23	Jun-23	Aug-23
PHASE 1													
<i>Board Letter, Contracting</i>	█	█											
Task 1 Design, Engineering, Permits, and Testing			█	█	█	█							
<i>Construction Solicitation and Contracting</i>					█	█							
Task 2 Site Preparation and Demolition					█	█	█						
Task 3 Site Paving, Hardscape, Amenities						█	█	█	█	█			
Task 4 Landscape and Irrigation						█	█	█	█	█			
Task 5 Utilities						█	█	█	█				
<i>Construction End</i>										█	█		
Project Closeout												█	
Grant Closeout													█

Budget			
Salazar Park / County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation			
Project Task Detail by Project Phase	RMC Funding 0	Los Angeles County, local source, Prop. A	Total 0
Phase 1			
1 Design, Engineering, Permits, and Testing			
Construction Documents	\$ 154,500		\$ 154,500
Geotechnical/MT&I	\$ 30,000		\$ 30,000
Agronomy testing	\$ 6,000		\$ 6,000
Site surveys	\$ 18,000		\$ 18,000
Plan Check and Permits	\$ 100,000		\$ 100,000
Subtotal Task 1	\$ 308,500	\$ -	\$ 308,500
2 Site Preparation and Demolition			
Site clearing	\$ 147,616		\$ 147,616
Additional site clearing/addition	\$ 6,493		\$ 6,493
Site grading	\$ 147,615	\$ 24,789	\$ 172,404
Subtotal Task 2	\$ 301,723	\$ 24,789	\$ 326,512
3 Site Paving, Hardscape, Amenities			
Decorative paving and walkway, "Sattilo tiles"	\$ 53,585		\$ 53,585
Concrete curb at planting area	\$ 11,242		\$ 11,242
Concrete seating and walls around demo garden	\$ 154,560		\$ 154,560
Shade structure, complete (posts and footing)	\$ 53,750		\$ 53,750
Picnic tables, 6'x5' with bench	\$ 33,000		\$ 33,000
BBQ	\$ 4,400		\$ 4,400
Interpretive signage	\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000
Permeable paving	\$ 389,424		\$ 389,424
Concrete curbs, 6"	\$ 33,286		\$ 33,286
Parking stall striping	\$ 5,136		\$ 5,136
ADA parking stall striping	\$ 408		\$ 408
Wheel stop	\$ 14,125		\$ 14,125
ADA parking signs and post mounted signs	\$ 3,300		\$ 3,300
restore outdoor sports courts	\$ -	\$ 16,880	\$ 16,880
Perimeter CL fencing, 8' high	\$ 54,810	\$ 14,611	\$ 69,421
Sports field lighting		\$ 137,310	\$ 137,310
Subtotal Task 3	\$ 826,026	\$ 168,801	\$ 994,827
4 Landscape and Irrigation			
Planting areas and soil preparation	\$ 104,670		\$ 104,670
Plant demonstration garden	\$ 45,068		\$ 45,068
Trees, 36" box	\$ 20,000	\$ 9,200	\$ 29,200
Tree, Specimen	\$ 20,001		\$ 20,001
native sod installation		\$ 103,849	\$ 103,849
Irrigation system	\$ 90,493	\$ 11,500	\$ 101,993
Subtotal Task 4	\$ 280,232	\$ 124,549	\$ 404,781
5 Utilities			
Protect, modify drainage as required	\$ 98,411		\$ 98,411
electrical plans, conduit, pole installation		\$ 136,406	\$ 136,406
Subtotal Task 5	\$ 98,411	\$ 136,406	\$ 234,817
SUBTOTAL TASK 1+2+3+4+5	\$ 1,814,891	\$ 454,545	\$ 2,269,436
PHASE 1 GRAND TOTAL			
	\$ 1,814,891	\$ 454,545	\$ 2,269,436
CONTINGENCY			
Contingency (not to exceed 10% of RMC Grant)	\$ 181,489	\$ 45,455	\$ 226,944
SUBTOTAL CONTINGENCY	\$ 181,489	\$ 45,455	\$ 226,944
PROJECT GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,996,380	\$ 500,000	\$ 2,496,380



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

John Wicker, Director

Norma E. Garcia, Chief Deputy Director

March 11, 2020

Mr. Mark Stanley
Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702

Dear Mr. Stanley:

**SALAZAR PARK WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT
MATCH VERIFICATION**

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) submitted the Salazar Park Water Conservation Project (Project) for the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy's Proposition 68 Grant Program. The Project will provide green infrastructure updates to the site, including constructing a native demonstration garden and converting impermeable surfacing to pervious asphalt on the site's parking lots to improve existing flooding and water quality issues. It is an important piece of a larger community-supported vision plan for Salazar Park, which reimagines the park as a local gathering place and community hub reflective of the site's history and the residents that it serves.

To demonstrate its commitment to the overall vision for Salazar Park, the Department will carry out concurrent site improvements, including sports field improvements and green updates such as installation of LED lighting and replacement of the existing turf with a native drought-tolerant and water-conserving perennial grass; restoration of the outdoor sports courts; tree planting of native Western Sycamore Trees; and updates to the existing irrigation system. These improvements will be funded with local Proposition A funding in the amount of \$500,000.

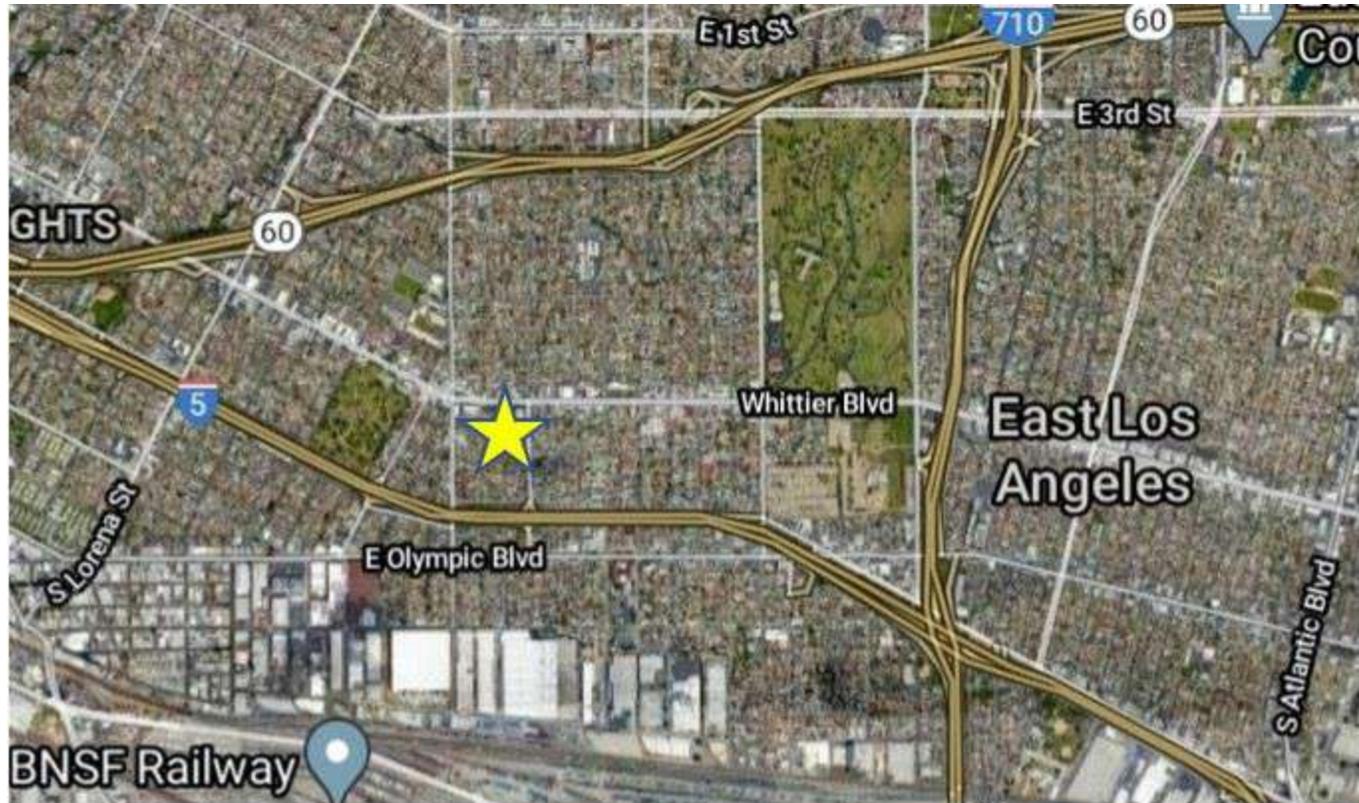
Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kasey Dizon at (626) 588-5360 or kdizon@parks.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Alina Bokde by Andrea Kenna

Alina Bokde
Deputy Director

AB:AV:kd



April 6, 2020 – Item 16

RESOLUTION 2020-18

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING A PROPOSITION 68 GRANT TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE SALAZAR PARK WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT (RMC19014)

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 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (“Proposition 68”); and

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of funds from Proposition 68, the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 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 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 68, Chapter 7, Section 80100(a)(1)(B) or Chapter 8, Section 80110(b)(6) 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 Proposition 68 RMC Grant Program is consistent with the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (“Proposition 68”), which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
- 3 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Proposition 68.
- 4 FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan.
- 5 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;
- 6 FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 7 ADOPTS the staff report dated April 6, 2020.
- 8 AUTHORIZES a grant of in the amount of \$1,996,380 to the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation through August 30, 2023 for the Salazar Park Water Conservation Project (RMC19014).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____

Resolution No. 2020-18

David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: April 6, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 17: Consideration of a resolution to accept local assistance funds from Natural Resources Agency for Lower Los Angeles River restoration projects

PROGRAM AREA: Lower Los Angeles River and Tributaries

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

JURISDICTION: Lower Los Angeles River Corridor

PROJECT MANAGER: Salian Garcia

RECOMMENDATION: That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Governing Board approves a resolution to accept local assistance funds from Natural Resources Agency for Lower Los Angeles River restoration projects.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A: Lower LA River Revitalization Plan – Rio Hondo Confluence Signature Project
 Exhibit B: Site Plan
 Exhibit C: Los Angeles County Public Works Budget Appropriation Proposal

As specified in the Budget Act of 2017, of ten million dollars appropriated for the Los Angeles County River Restoration Projects, seven million dollars (\$7,000,000.00) were appropriated for the multijurisdictional effort in developing projects along the lower Los Angeles River currently targeted for enhancement within the confluence area of the Rio Hondo River. These projects include the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Cultural Center and the relocation of Los Angeles Flood Control District maintenance yard at 5525 E Imperial Highway, with in the City of South Gate; and the implementation of a River Ranger pilot program for the Rio Hondo Confluence area; and any remaining funds be used towards design and implementation of enhancements at the confluence area.

The provision of this appropriation from California Natural Resources Agency, the fund recipient, is available for encumbrance or expenditure through June 30, 2022. Unlike previous general and local assistance appropriations, the funding could not be directly moved to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC). Subsequently, the RMC will accept the general fund allocation for local assistance in the form of a grant or other encumbering instrument. This funding will be expended on development and implementation, including but not limited to feasibility studies, concept and schematic design, outreach activities, environmental assessments, contract management, construction, maintenance, programming and security.

BACKGROUND: Planning for the Lower Los Angeles River was initiated by passage of AB 530, which established the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group and completed

a Revitalization Plan. The plan identified several opportunities for urban river enhancements that touch on integration of open space, recreation, housing, active transportation, business development and public safety.

One of the three signature project areas identified in the Lower LA Revitalization Plan (LLARRP) was the Rio Hondo Confluence Area Project—see Exhibit A. Improvements at the Rio Hondo Confluence aim to maximize public use and enjoyment of the river corridor, and include channel modifications, vegetated open space, riverbank terracing, bridge parks, and bike paths.

One of the specific projects identified in the LLARRP was a Community Cultural Center in Southeast Los Angeles. RMC, with the County of Los Angeles, is leading developing of the SELA Cultural Center in the City of South Gate, with other project partners such as LA County Supervisorial Districts, Public Works, Natural Resources Agency, and the Department of Arts and Culture. The Project site is approximately nine and a half (9.5) acres located south of Imperial Highway and adjacent to the Los Angeles River (see Exhibit B). The site is currently owned and operated by the County of Los Angeles Public Works' Flood Control District and being used as a service yard. The Project is envisioned as a multi-arts facility consisting of a visual arts and music institution as well as spaces that could potentially incorporate other local cultural and community organizations. Also planned for the Project is site programming featuring outdoor performance space, trails, and play areas. The Project is anticipated to include approximately 95,000 square feet of building programming and 500,000 square feet of site programming.

Additionally, in support of diverse, vibrant spaces along and connected to the Lower LA River, the LLARRP recommended development of a River Ranger Program to strengthen real and perceived public safety, and support education, job training, and stewardship and naturalist programs. A River Ranger Program Establishment Plan was completed in May 2019. Funding could be used to develop a pilot implementation of a River Ranger program for Rio Hondo Confluence area. Any remaining funds would be used toward design and implementation of enhancements at the confluence area.

FISCAL INFORMATION: The funding will be appropriated to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy in the form of a grant or other encumbering instrument as provided in the Budget Act of 2017. The funding is available for encumbrance or expenditure through June 30, 2022:

Budget Act of 2017 (Assembly Bill No. 97, Chapter 14)

For local assistance, Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency: Los Angeles County, River Restoration Projects in the amount of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000), and of this amount, allocation to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy is seven million dollars (\$7,000,000).

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) statute provides in part that:

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.
- (b) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Section 32614: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (b) Enter into contracts with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties, and enter into a joint powers agreement with a public agency, in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (e) Enter into any other agreement with any public agency, private entity, or person necessary for the proper discharge of the conservancy's duties for the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (f) Recruit and coordinate volunteers and experts to conduct interpretive and recreational programs and assist with construction projects and the maintenance of parkway facilities.

Further, Section 32614 provides that: The conservancy may do all of the following:

- (g) Undertake, within the territory, site improvement projects, regulate public access, and revegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with any other public agency with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602. The conservancy may also, within the territory, upgrade deteriorating facilities and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection. The conservancy may undertake those projects by itself or in conjunction with another local agency; however, the conservancy shall provide overall coordination of those projects by setting priorities for the projects and by ensuring a uniform approach to projects. The conservancy may undertake those projects with prior notification to the legislative body of the local agency that has jurisdiction in the area in which the conservancy proposes to undertake that activity.

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 executor interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

LEGEND

CHANNEL ENHANCEMENTS

- 1 Modified Low-Flow Channel
- 2 Vegetated Terraces
- 3 River Crossing
- 4 Access Ramp

PARK ENHANCEMENTS

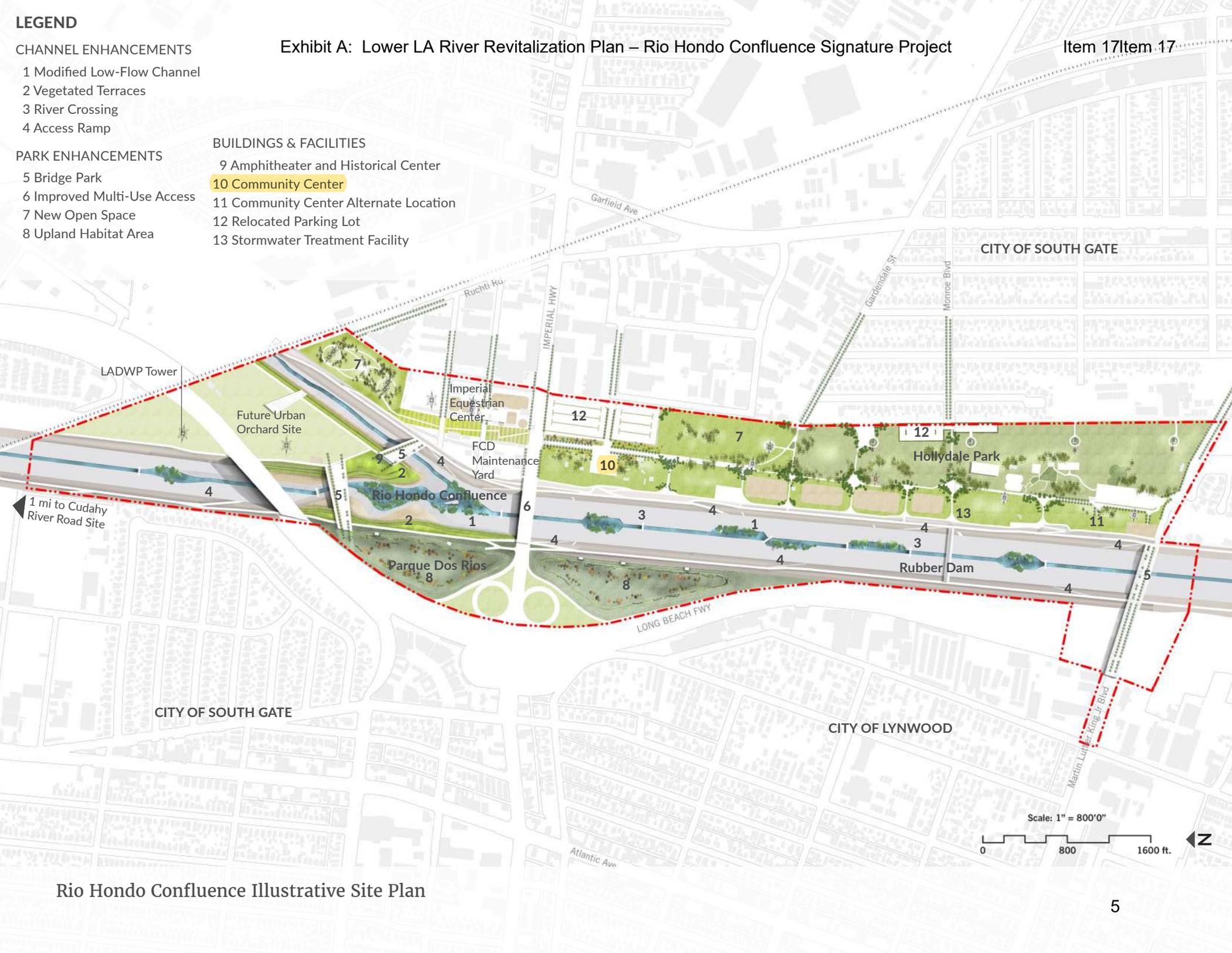
- 5 Bridge Park
- 6 Improved Multi-Use Access
- 7 New Open Space
- 8 Upland Habitat Area

BUILDINGS & FACILITIES

- 9 Amphitheater and Historical Center
- 10 Community Center
- 11 Community Center Alternate Location
- 12 Relocated Parking Lot
- 13 Stormwater Treatment Facility

Exhibit A: Lower LA River Revitalization Plan – Rio Hondo Confluence Signature Project

Item 17/Item 17



LADWP Tower

Future Urban Orchard Site

Imperial Equestrian Center

FCD Maintenance Yard

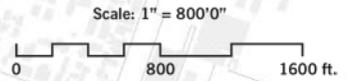
Parque Dos Rios

Hollydale Park

Rubber Dam

CITY OF SOUTH GATE

CITY OF LYNWOOD



Rio Hondo Confluence Illustrative Site Plan



**<Project Site
is development
of 9.5 acre site
on south side of
Imerial Hwy**



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

January 6, 2020

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **SWP-3**

Ms. Polly Escovedo
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Escovedo:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS RIVER RESTORATION PROJECTS BUDGET APPROPRIATION PROPOSAL OF RECOMMENDED PROJECTS

The 2017-18 State Budget appropriated \$10 million to the Natural Resources Agency for Los Angeles County River Restoration Projects. As the intended beneficiary of this appropriation, and as you suggested, we have prepared this proposal for how we would spend this appropriated funding. Los Angeles County Public Works recommends the following two efforts for the identified funding: Puente Creek Greenway Improvement Project, and Rio Hondo Confluence Area Improvements. Both efforts seek to implement transformative change to publicly-owned space by providing public access, active transportation, recreational amenities, and/or other beneficial uses along flood control infrastructure and right of way.

Public Works has been working with your agency over the past several months to allocate \$3 million toward the Puente Creek Greenway Improvement Project, which includes a 2-mile paved multiuse trail along with landscaping, new access gates, decorative fencing, access ramps, and wayfinding signage. We look forward to continuing the required steps to enter into an agreement to fund the project.

Public Works is proposing that the remaining \$7 million of the general fund allocation be applied toward Rio Hondo Confluence Area Improvements. As identified in the April 2018, Lower Los Angeles River Revitalization Plan improvements at the Rio Hondo Confluence aim to maximize public use and enjoyment of the river corridor, and include channel modifications, vegetated open space, river bank terracing, bridge parks, and bike paths. Additionally, the Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Cultural Center is being developed by the Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservatory and will provide educational and recreational opportunities for the surrounding communities as well as the Los Angeles region. The proposed location of

Ms. Polly Escovedo
January 6, 2020
Page 2

the SELA Cultural Center is currently occupied by a Los Angeles County Flood Control District maintenance yard, which would need to be relocated before the property could be considered excess property and sold for an alternate use.

We propose to use the remaining \$7 million towards the District maintenance yard relocation, the implementation of a River Rangers pilot program for the Rio Hondo Confluence area, and any remaining funds would be used toward design and implementation of enhancements at the confluence area.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Daniel Sharp at (626) 458-7153 or dsharp@pw.lacounty.gov.

Very truly yours,

MARK PESTRELLA
Director of Public Works

DANIEL J. LAFFERTY
Deputy Director

RJ:bm

P:\swppub\Secretarial\2019\Letters\20191223 CRN Letter River Restoration Funding.2

April 6, 2020 – Item 17

RESOLUTION 2020-19

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) APPROVING
ACCEPTANCE OF LOCAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS FROM THE
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY FOR LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVER RESTORATION PROJECTS

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 Legislature and Governor of the State of California have approved a grant for the Lower Los Angeles River Restoration project, Southeast Los Angeles Cultural Center and other Rio Hondo Confluence Area Projects; and

WHEREAS, the California Natural Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of the project, setting up necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the California Natural Resources Agency require the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) to certify by resolution the approval of application and/or acceptance of local assistance funds; and

WHEREAS, the RMC will enter into an agreement with the State of California/California Natural Resources Agency for the Southeast Los Angeles Cultural Center and Rio Hondo Projects; 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 actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 3 ADOPTS the staff report dated April 6, 2020.
- 4 APPROVES the acceptance of general fund allocation for local assistance in the amount of \$7,000,000 for the Southeast Los Angeles Cultural Center Project.
- 5 AUTHORIZES the Executive Officer to conduct all negotiations, execute, and submit all documents including, but not limited to agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Project.

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on April 6, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST:

David Edsall
Deputy Attorney General