

DATE: June 15, 2020

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 13: Consideration of a resolution ratifying a grant amendment to the City of Santa Clarita for the Development of the Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project (RMC 19003)

PROGRAM AREA: River and Tributary Parkways

PROJECT TYPE: Implementation

JURISDICTION: City of Santa Clarita

PROJECT MANAGER: Sally Gee

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC Board ratify a grant amendment to the City of Santa Clarita for the Development of the Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project (RMC 19003).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Exhibit A – Budget amendment and extension request letter
Exhibit B – Updated budget

The City of Santa Clarita requested an amendment to the budget and an extension for the Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project (RMC 19003). In review of the project line items, changes were made to ensure project elements qualified within the performance period of the grant and that budget items are in line with RMC guidelines for eligible project costs (Exhibit B). This clarification to the infiltration project budget does not change the scope of the originally approved project (RMC Board Resolution 19-42). Additionally, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City requested an extension from June 30, 2020 to June 30, 2021 to complete the interpretive signage task. The City is experiencing difficulty in obtaining the proper materials and a contractor for this task.

A ratification is being brought to the board today due to the timing on when a reimbursement on eligible costs was received. This board meeting is occurring after the Fiscal Year 19/20 state payment request deadline, and the RMC was at risk of losing a significant amount of reverting Proposition 1 bond funds at the end of this fiscal year. Recovery of reverting bond funds are not likely in face of the state deficit; thus the amendment was executed to avoid significant loss of revenue.

BACKGROUND: The Development of the Santa Clarita Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project (Project) will redevelop a blighted space in Canyon Country and transform it to an environmentally sustainable community space and gathering location. Included in the overall project is to establish a riverfront greenway stormwater treatment and infiltration project that is the focus of the grant request. The Project will improve the Santa Clara River (SCR) watershed within the City of Santa Clarita and will increase regional self-reliance through

improved local ground water recharge and result in integrated, multi-benefit solutions of ensuring sustainable water resources.

The project is located in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed, in the north-western most corner of the RMC territory, covering the head waters of the approximately 84-mile-long SCR. The SCR is the largest river watershed in Southern California and flows from the San Gabriel Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. The project sits 700 feet upstream from the SCR, connected by the concrete-lined Mint Channel tributary. The site is relatively flat, with a native sandy loam soil which is conducive for infiltrating storm water into the underlying alluvial aquifer. The Project is envisioned and supported by the Upper Santa Clara River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP), on which RMC is a participant. Overall, this will protect the beneficial uses of the SCR through infiltration of urban runoff into groundwater, consistent with the Stormwater Resources Plan of the region.

The funding covers Phase 1, which will construct stormwater infiltration systems underneath two of three parking lots on the property that will have the capacity to treat and infiltrate 7.5-acre feet, about 2.5 million gallons, of polluted stormwater during most rain events. The polluted stormwater will come from sub-drainage areas of over 18,000 acres, including Sierra Highway, surrounding neighborhoods, and commercial areas. In addition to water quality and groundwater improvements, the Project will enhance existing flood protection, diverting flood waters to the underground infiltration zone. These improvements will benefit SCR habitat downstream of the project.

To further enhance the habitat of the SCR watershed, Phase 2 of the project will replace a currently degraded non-native landscape with native tree and shrub plantings, providing habitat for wildlife where none currently exists. This Project will result in 8 acres of new park and open space, establishing a riverfront greenway that will cleanse stormwater, hold floodwaters, and extend open space in the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed.

The City has dedicated funding for stormwater infrastructure maintenance in the City, which allows for maintenance of new stormwater projects. The City will be responsible for the continued maintenance of this Project. Two stakeholder meetings were held by the City regarding the project with local organizations, and the City received support for the submission of this grant application from 20 local organizations.

FISCAL INFORMATION: This amendment does not change the total amount of Proposition 1 grant funds awarded to the City of Santa Clarita. A total of \$1,076,921 was approved through RMC Board Resolution 19-42. The City has matching funds of \$1,632,758 provided by the City of Santa Clarita for Phase 1. Phase 2 of the project will also be financed by the City of Santa Clarita.

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 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.

RMC Resolution 19-42 Approving a Proposition 1 grant to the City of Santa Clarita for the development of the Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project (RMC 19003)



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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June 9, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Stanley:

Subject: Grant Amendment and Time Extension Grant Number RMC 19003

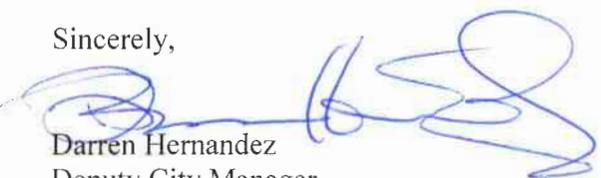
Thank you to you and the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) Board members for supporting the City of Santa Clarita (City) Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Facility project. The City is requesting a grant amendment to the budget and timeline for the project.

The grant amendment to the budget is due to a misunderstanding. City staff asked for clarification on when costs could be considered eligible for grant reimbursement and was told when costs were incurred. For the City, when costs are incurred means a check is written for payment. However, for the RMC and Proposition 1, that is defined as when the invoice is received. Therefore, the costs that the City is requesting for reimbursement are in the same cost categories, but are different amounts from a later invoice. That adjustment is what is being requested for the amendment.

The timeline extension has to do with the remaining \$31,091, which will primarily fund the signage portion of the project. The signage will be decorative, water themed manhole covers that are part of the public art on the project. Due to COVID-19, finding companies that can make molds for the manhole covers has been very difficult. Therefore, the City needs through FY 20-21 to complete the project and acquire the needed molds to create the manhole cover signage.

Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions, please contact Heather Merenda of my staff at (661) 286-4098 or hmerenda@santa-clarita.com.

Sincerely,


Darren Hernandez
Deputy City Manager

HM:sj

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cc: Darin Seegmiller, Environmental Services Manager
Heather Merenda, Grant Manager



6. City of Santa Clarita Budget - CANYON COUNTRY COMMUNITY CENTER REGIONAL INFILTRATION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE PROJECT R3007 FOR WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Project Elements	Unit Price	Units	Quantity	Total Project Costs	RMC Grant Request	Match City GF/SWU Fee
Direct Project Management & Administration						
Staff Time - Env Program Coor	\$48	Hours	520	\$24,799		\$24,799
Staff Time - Senior Engineer	\$60	Hours	1600	\$95,280		\$95,280
Subtotal – Direct Management				\$120,079		

SUB-TOTAL Non-Construction Costs				\$120,079		\$120,079
(not to exceed 25% of grant)						

Construction Costs (Implemented/Construction - Contracted)

Installed cost (labor & materials) – Stormwater Treatment and Groundwater Recharge Project						
Mobilization	\$1	LS	\$20,000	\$20,000		\$20,000
60" RCP Grant	\$340	LF	303	\$103,020	\$103,020	\$103,020
12" CMP	\$165	LF	34	\$5,610	\$5,610	
CDS 5678-10 Total Costs	\$1	LS	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$513,850	\$1,186,150
120" CMP BMP Basin A (1,716 LF)	\$1	LS	\$435,000	\$435,000	\$26,000	\$409,000
120" CMP BMP Basin B (1,446 LF)	\$1	LS	\$323,000	\$323,000		\$323,000
CMP Basin Installation	\$3,162	LF	30.00	\$94,860		\$94,860
3/4" Clean Gravel Backfill	\$9,900	CY	60.00	\$594,000	\$270,000	\$324,000
Excavation for Basin(s) installation - shoring	\$1	LF	300000.00	\$300,000	\$125,000	\$175,000
Backfill	\$29,200	CY	13.00	\$379,600		\$379,600
<i>Stormwater Treatment subtotal</i>				<i>\$3,955,090</i>	<i>\$1,043,480</i>	<i>\$3,014,630</i>

Installed cost (labor & materials) – Sierra Highway Bike Lane						
Class 2 Bike Lane Striping (1000 ft X 2 sides)	\$2,000	LF	\$2	\$4,000		\$4,000
Street Signage and marking	\$20	sign	\$225	\$4,500		\$4,500
Traffic Control	\$1	LS	\$2,000	\$2,000		\$2,000
<i>Bike Lane subtotal</i>				<i>\$10,500</i>		<i>\$10,500</i>

Community Access Interpretive Signs Manhole Covers (not to exceed 5% of grant)				\$33,441	\$33,441	
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PROJECT GRAND TOTAL:				\$3,999,031	\$1,076,921	\$3,025,130
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June 15, 2020 – Item 13

RESOLUTION 2020-26

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) RATIFYING A
GRANT AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE CANYON COUNTRY COMMUNITY CENTER
REGIONAL INFILTRATION PROJECT (RMC19003)

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) or Section 79735 (a) of the Water Code; and

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

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

- 1 FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
- 2 FINDS that the 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 June 15, 2020.
- 8 RATIFYS a grant amendment to the City of Santa Clarita for the Development of the Canyon Country Community Center Regional Infiltration Project (RMC 19003).

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on June 15, 2020.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General