

MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Ramirez Canyon Park
5810 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, California 90265
Phone (310) 589-3230 Fax (310) 589-2408

May 20, 2009

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, California 90265

Request for Advance of Funds on SMM CF-907 Browns Canyon

Dear Chairperson Schafer and Conservancy Members:

At its March 23, 2009 meeting the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 09-07 to grant the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) funding from the Conservancy Fund for a major riparian restoration project on MRCA parkland in the Gopher Canyon tributary of Browns Canyon. On behalf of the MRCA we express our appreciation. Resolution No. 09-07 includes a clause that authorizes an advance of funds to allow the MRCA to do the necessary design and mobilization to implement the project. The subject 7-acre project is complex and extensive. Because of the solid fill and erosion issues on the site the project also requires substantial up front expenditures for consultants. In addition the \$135,000 per acre funding is far below what a project of this complexity would require normally. There is little, if any, margin for error or delay.

It appears that the agreement for SMM CF-907 is in place and the MRCA staff wants to immediately commence work on the project. For the following reasons, the MRCA respectfully requests that the Conservancy advance \$346,000 to move the project along quickly enough to ensure the ability to do grading prior to any heavy fall rains and to plant during the winter of 2009-10. Without such an advance, the MRCA could not achieve the necessary design, permitting and site preparation milestones necessary for efficient and prudent project implementation. The requested funding would carry the MRCA through approximately the beginning of October 2009. Grading would begin at the earliest possible date in October. Most likely the MRCA will request an additional advance in September to cover the extensive grading operation, to construct the water distribution system, and systematically begin planting as finished grading is completed in select areas. Such funding must be secured in order to be able to have a construction staking and grading bid award in place in October with knowledge that the State can pay the contractors. That advance request would probably be in the neighborhood of \$375,000.

The below costs are our best estimates and to the greatest extent possible mirror the budget prepared by the Conservancy staff for the review of parties included in the four-way mitigation agreement.

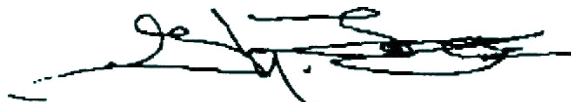
Ronald Schafer
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Advance Request SMM CF-907
May 20, 2009
Page 2

Itemized Cost List

Contract for full site survey for construction topo and plans	\$28,000
Contract with fluvial geomorphologist to design drainage plan and new stream channel	\$28,000
Contract with engineer to design and prepare final grading plan	\$30,000
Remove, separate, and dismantle a minimum of 60 tons of debris	\$60,000
Install temporary water tanks for dust suppression, safety, fire protection, and future irrigation	\$40,000
Complete Army Corps and California Department of Fish and Game permitting process including paying fees	\$15,000
Complete CEQA review and document circulation	\$25,000
Complete bid process to award construction staking and grading contracts.	\$10,000
Contract grow plant materials	\$30,000
Staff project management	\$35,000
<u>Contingency (15%)</u>	<u>\$45,000</u>
Total	\$346,000

Please direct your response to Judi Tamasi our project manager for the subject project. Her mailing address is 5810 Ramirez Canyon Road, Malibu, 90265 and telephone is 310-589-3230 ext. 121.

Sincerely



George Lange
Chairperson