

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
GRANT APPLICATION**

Project Name: L.A. River Open Space Project Hydrologic Design	<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Amount of Request:</td> <td style="width: 50%;">\$ 25,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Project Cost:</td> <td>\$ 65,000</td> </tr> </table>	Amount of Request:	\$ 25,000	Total Project Cost:	\$ 65,000								
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Applicant Name: Community Conservancy International	<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Amount of Match:</td> <td style="width: 50%;">\$</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SMMC Fund Source(s):</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Source of Match:</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Amount of Match:	\$	SMMC Fund Source(s):		Source of Match:							
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Applicant Address: 2554 Lincoln Blvd. Suite 223 Los Angeles, CA 90291 Phone: 310-398-8584 Fax: 310-398-8564	<table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="3">Project Address:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">County</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Senate District</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Assembly District</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Los Angeles</td> <td style="text-align: center;">23</td> <td style="text-align: center;">42</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Email: Info@ccint.org</td> </tr> </table>	Project Address:			County	Senate District	Assembly District	Los Angeles	23	42	Email: Info@ccint.org		
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Email: Info@ccint.org													
Grantee's Authorized Representative: Esther Feldman, President													
<hr/>	310-398-8584 x1												
<i>Name and Title</i>	<i>Phone</i>												
Person with day-to-day responsibility for project: Esther Feldman, President													
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<i>Name and Title</i>	<i>Phone</i>												
Brief Scope of Work (60 words maximum): Complete study of water quality improvement elements of initial Concept Design for L.A. River Natural Park-Studio City, including hydrologic, hydraulic, urban runoff treatment, solar and regional LA River public access. Estimate rough-order-of-magnitude costs for water quality improvement components; recommend additional technical analyses necessary. Develop schematic hydrologic concept diagram for runoff capture & treatment and regional public access concept illustrations. This is the last remaining unprotected open space for 22 miles along the L.A. River in the San Fernando Valley.													
Funding Source Applied for:													
Narrative/Detailed Project Description:													
<p>L.A. River Open Space & Public Access Protection & Water Quality Improvement: Complete Technical Study and Report on Hydrologic, Hydraulic & Runoff Treatment Concept Components and Develop Concept Design for Regional LA River Public Access & Staging Area</p> <p>This work will: 1) complete the technical study on the hydrology, hydraulic and urban runoff (stormwater and dry weather) elements of the initial Site Concept Design developed for this last remaining unprotected open space along a 22-mile stretch of the L.A. River in the San Fernando Valley; 2) and develop concept illustrations for design of regional L.A. River public access and trailhead staging elements, including connection via existing L.A. River trail to the L.A. City public parking garage located five hundred yards downstream; and 3) produce the full technical report, Executive Summary, graphic diagrams and illustrations, printed copies and digital web-compatible files.</p>													

This 16-acre L.A. Riverfront site is the last remaining unprotected open space along 22 miles of the

L.A. River in the San Fernando Valley. The technical studies and concept design are based on the initial Vision and Site Concept Design, completed in October 2008. With appropriate technical studies and design, the site can become a showcase L.A. River park with multiple environmental, water quality, public access, recreational and community benefits, with emphasis on pedestrian and bicycle access.

Funding is needed to complete the Hydrology and Hydrologic Technical Study and produce the final report technical report. This study determined that, if an engineered, “treatment train” focused on natural wetlands habitat is constructed, this 16-acre riverfront site in Studio City could make an important contribution to improving water quality in the L.A. River by capturing and naturally treating runoff from over 200 acres of surrounding paved, urban area, treating over 11 acre-feet of runoff at a time, including above and underground storage for water reuse, and incorporating solar panels to become energy “grid-neutral.” The site could become a natural, river-oriented park that integrates the L.A. River, habitat restoration, regional L.A. River public access, open space and natural runoff treatment to improve water quality. This L.A. River-front property could be an important part of the “Green Solution” critical to address the serious water pollution problems affecting the L.A. River, coast and beaches – and provide the water necessary for maintaining the created habitat and other landscaping.

Due to the site’s capacity for treating and storing urban runoff from surrounding areas, additional technical analysis is necessary to complete the assessment of the hydrologic, hydraulic and runoff capture and treatment components of the initial site concept design, including evaluating underground storage capacity, stored runoff re-use potential, and solar energy potential. Based on publicly-available data, the work includes completing the following:

- Review and refine determination of size of underground storage potential area and potentially available treated volume for reuse for habitat maintenance
- Research storm drain locations, sizes via publically available records (Navigate LA/Vault). Assess at a concept level the opportunity to capture, divert and deliver stormwater to site
- Evaluate dry weather flow potential based on publically available data
- Discuss estimated sizes and concept level design criteria for anticipated water quality catchment, conveyance, treatment and storage components in initial site concept design and refine as necessary at conceptual level
- Estimate solar energy production potential to offset site energy consumption needs
- Estimate components size and rough-order-of-magnitude (ROM) costs for potential implementation and pre-design phase
- Recommend necessary areas for further study/field investigation/testing where appropriate
- Develop an Executive Summary, and produce print and digital versions of full Technical Report, Executive Summary, diagrams and illustrations

L.A. River Regional Public Access Connection Hub

Additional funding is necessary to develop concepts for the L.A. River Regional Public Access components of the initial Site Concept Design and connections to the nearby LA City-owned public parking garage, and to estimate costs for pre-design work. The initial Site Concept Design shows that this privately-owned golf and tennis facility could be transformed into a cutting-edge, regionally-serving public Los Angeles River Park, providing a vital “**L.A. River Regional Public Access Connection Hub.**” The site provides a unique opportunity to serve as a regional staging area to the L.A. River trail system due to its strategic location 500 yards from a city-owned public parking garage off Ventura Blvd. This would allow the site to provide easy access to the Los Angeles River greenway and regional trail system, as well as to other river greenways, trails, parks and mountain parks, including:

Pacoima Wash
Tujunga Wash
Arroyo Seco
Sepulveda Basin, Griffith Park, Elysian Park
Santa Monica Mountains, Verdugo Mountains

These nearby parking facilities would make it possible to locate parking and staging areas off-site, preserving the vast majority of this last-remaining open space in the heart of a densely-populated urban area. The new L.A. River Natural Park could serve both adjacent neighborhoods and communities throughout the region.

Deliverables

Schematic concept-level hydrologic plan diagram illustrating hydrologic and hydraulic functions of potential runoff capture, diversion, treatment and infiltration

Technical memorandum including estimated components size and ROM costs for potential implementation and pre-design phase

Recommendation of additional technical studies and analyses necessary for pre-design phase and for integration of hydrologic elements with habitat restoration and public access concept design goals

Identify potential opportunities and constraints based on initial concept site design

The work does not include site surveys, geotechnical investigations or evaluations or water quality or flow rate monitoring, or assessment of habitat or public access applicability.

Estimated solar energy production potential

Concept-level illustrations of L.A. River Regional Public Access elements, connection to existing L.A. River trail and to city parking garage

Public Access Memorandum including estimated components size and ROM costs for potential implementation and pre-design phase

Executive Summary

Printed and digital web-compatible versions of full technical report, Executive Summary, diagrams and illustrations

Background: Why this L.A. riverfront property is unique.

This site is uniquely located along the L.A. River in the San Fernando Valley, and is a rare opportunity to develop a showcase multiple-benefit “Green Solution” approach to cleaning polluted runoff while addressing other pressing needs. It is an irreplaceable link in the 51-mile L.A. River Greenway, and is the only opportunity to provide an easily-accessible, pedestrian and bicycle-focused public trailhead and staging area in the densely-populated San Fernando Valley. With construction of an engineered “treatment train”, including significant wetlands habitat, the site could treat runoff from over 200 surrounding paved acres, naturally treating polluted runoff that otherwise flows directly to the L.A. River with no treatment of any kind. Public parking is available on the L.A. River within 500 yards of the project site. Public transportation to the site is readily available within less than 1/10 of a mile, connecting to both the Metro Rail and Metro Bus systems; this easy regional transit connectivity makes this site even more important and unusual.

The initial Site Concept Design process (completed October 2008) included the following goals:

- Implementing critical water quality improvement projects by capturing & naturally filtering polluted urban runoff
- Assisting in improving water quality in the L.A. River and at beaches & coastal waters to which the river drains

- Creating a key public staging area, trailhead and regional connection node for the regional L.A. River Greenway
- Providing badly-needed L.A. River recreational access to under-served populations in the San Fernando Valley and surrounding region
- Creating a riverfront park and extending the L.A. River bike and pedestrian trail
- Protecting and developing connections to upstream and downstream L.A. River parks and trails, both implemented and planned
- Restoring a complex of riparian and other habitats for native birds and plants

Broad Support for Project

There is wide-spread support for preserving this San Fernando Valley riverfront land for river trail, river park, public access, recreation and water quality improvement purposes, including the following elected officials and organizations:

The Honorable Howard Berman, U.S. Congress
 The Honorable Fran Pavley, California State Senate
 The Honorable Mike Feuer, California State Assembly
 The Honorable Paul Krekorian, Los Angeles City Council
 Friends of the Los Angeles River
 Audubon California
 Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
 Los Angeles Conservation Corps
 Studio City Residents Association
 Urban Semillas
 Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition
 North East Trees

Community Conservancy International (CCI) will continue to direct the work, and will continue to work with Psomas Engineering on the hydrologic, hydraulic and urban runoff conceptual design elements, and with a landscape architectural firm on the regional L.A. River public access conceptual design illustrations.

Site Needed for LA River Revitalization

This work is particularly important because of proposed development plans for this property. The proposed 200-unit development would build nine four-story buildings, destroying this last remaining L.A. riverfront open space and preventing future public access to the river and river trails. Sites in the San Fernando Valley are urgently needed for multiple-benefit, Green Solution projects to address polluted runoff and improve water quality in the LA River, beaches and ocean waters. Regional and city plans call for revitalizing the L.A. River as a major green and recreational resource serving the entire region, and significant public funds have already been invested along the river downstream. The City of Los Angeles has built a mile-long, native landscaped L.A. River trail and pedestrian bridge along the L.A. River from Whitsett Boulevard to Radford Boulevard at CBS Studios; this trail connects to the city-owned parking garage and to this site.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority has purchased and developed several river-front parks further downstream, which would link to this site via the L.A. River Greenway trail. This land has been used as recreational open space for more than fifty years, providing a popular and regionally-used small golf course, putting green and tennis courts. Los Angeles County Flood Control District owns and maintains the wide and unpaved right-of-way along the river's edge along the property, including a portion of the property itself; the County Flood

Control District also owns the right-of-way immediately across the river.

Tasks / Milestones:	Budget:	Start Date	Completion Date
1 Complete hydrology & hydraulic conceptual assessment with underground water storage; assess solar potential	\$6,000	Month 1	Month 2
2 Conduct regional LA River public access & trailhead staging concept assessment; Prepare regional public access concept illustrations	\$10,360	Month 1	Month 3
3 Produce Full Technical Report & Executive Summary; produce digital web-compatible files and printed, report and graphic illustrations	\$ 8,640	Month 2	Month 4
Total	\$25,000		

Acquisition Projects: **APN(s):**
Acreage:

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



Signature of Authorized Representative

May 18, 2010

Date