SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
GRANT APPLICATION

Project Name: Green Solution Project, Phase III	**Amount of Request:** **Total Project Cost:** $298,902
Applicant Name: Community Conservation Solutions	**Amount of Match:** **SMMC Fund Source(s):**
	Source of Match:

Applicant Address:	**Project Address:**		
2554 Lincoln Blvd. Suite 223 Venice, CA 90291	**County**	**Senate District**	**Assembly District**
	Los Angeles		
Phone: 310-398-8584 **Fax:** 310-398-8564	**Email:** efeldman@conservationsolutions.org		

Grantee's Authorized Representative:

Chun Lu, Fiscal and Operations Manager — 310-398-8584 x2

Name and Title — *Phone*

Person with day-to-day responsibility for project:

Esther Feldman, President — 310-398-8584 x1

Name and Title — *Phone*

Brief Scope of Work (60 words maximum):
Develop four site concept designs on highest priority school and vacant lands to integrate water quality improvements with creation of native habitat and green open space in under-served communities, with hydrologic, hydraulic, urban runoff treatment components. Identify technical and environmental analyses needed for pre-design. Conduct technical analysis and evaluation of 300 parcels from Phase II to identify highest priority sites meeting hydrologic, land conservation and community demographic criteria.

Funding Source Applied for:

Narrative/Detailed Project Description:

Green Solution Projects Study, Phase III:
Upper Los Angeles River Watershed-Project Site Concept Design

Summary

CCS' Green Solution approach provides a quantified, strategic road map to improving water quality, ensures wise investment of public funds, maximizes cleanup of polluted runoff and addresses conservation and community needs.

Community Conservation Solutions' **Green Solution Project Study, Phase II,** identified and evaluated over 300 potential water quality improvement project sites totaling 5,000 acres on existing public lands in the Upper L.A. River Watershed. These parcels met rigorous screening and evaluation criteria for "Green Solution" projects that combine natural treatment of stormwater and urban runoff with native habitat restoration and creation of new parks and open space in under-served communities. The Phase II analysis focused on four specific public land uses: elementary, middle and high schools; colleges; and vacant lands. If implemented as Green Solution projects, these opportunity public parcels could treat polluted runoff from up to 15,000 acres of the Upper

L.A. River Watershed while creating over 2,500 acres of new parks.

To identify these potential projects, CCS evaluated and quantified hydrology, pollutant loading, conservation and community needs, and applied these factors to all potential parcels. Maps were developed showing the location of the evaluated parcels, by size and land use.

Phase III of the Green Solution Project Study will identify, quantify and rank the highest priority of these over 300 projects for implementation, so that the SMMC and MRCA can move forward in implementing projects that can provide the greatest possible water quality improvement, conservation/open space and community benefits in the Upper L.A. River Watershed and that will meet the requirements established by Propositions 50 and 84.

The Phase III work includes integrating watershed hydrology, storm drain information, pollutant loading, community needs and conservation priorities to score and prioritize the 300 suitable project sties. The highest pollutant loading areas of the Upper L.A. River Watershed will be identified and ranked and to further assist in project selection. Each parcel will meet strict hydrologic, land conservation, community demographic and open space deficit criteria. This prioritization will provide a road map to ensure the most efficient investment of public funds when projects are implemented, and to ensure that selected projects can maximize cleanup of polluted runoff, meet conservation priorities, and are located where community needs are greatest.

The Phase III analysis will develop Green Solution concept designs for four of the highest priority school and vacant land opportunity sites. Each site will feature a design that integrates park and open space creation or native habitat restoration with water quality improvements aimed at naturally capturing and cleaning polluted runoff in the Upper L.A. River Watershed. The site concept designs will include hydrologic, hydraulic and urban runoff treatment elements, and natural habitat or other public use, education, or green open space features, as appropriate. The volume of off-site polluted runoff that can be cleaned by each site will be estimated, as will the acres of watershed area potentially treated. Meetings will be held with community, civic and other organizations, and with interested cities to ensure appropriate input from the public and public agencies.

What is a Green Solution?

"Green Solution" Projects improve water quality by using soil and plants to capture and clean polluted urban and stormwater runoff, while creating new parks, natural habitat, recreation and other open space lands, particularly in under-served areas. **Green Solution Projects** include conversion of impervious concrete and asphalt areas and retrofitting of existing pervious areas, as well as storage of runoff for re-use.

Why are Green Solution Projects so Critical?

All of the 51-mile length of the Los Angeles River, most of its tributaries and San Pedro Bay are in violation of the U.S. Clean Water Act, which sets water quality standards intended to protect human health and marine and aquatic life. There are nearly 100 different pollutants found in various combinations throughout the Upper L.A. River Watershed, along all of the county's beaches and in its bays and ocean, and the impacts of this polluted water on beaches, the ocean, aquatic and marine life and human health have been well documented.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board and other water quality experts believe that much of the toxins, bacteria and other pollutants carried by stormwater and daily urban runoff could be permanently addressed by directing these polluted waters to a network of new and well-designed "green" areas throughout L.A. County: restored habitat, parks, recreation lands and other natural open space that would allow soil and plants to naturally filter and clean water and pollutants as well as providing a wide range of badly needed recreation and other benefits.

Green Solution Projects are proving to be one of the most effective and cost-efficient ways to make lasting water quality improvements consistent with the requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. While providing park and recreation opportunities in heavily urbanized and park-poor areas and restoring important natural habitat, Green Solution Projects can also be effective "water recyclers", and can reduce the effects of drought caused by global warming by catching, storing and re-using stormwater to water parks and landscaping or to sustain restored natural habitat lands.

Attachments:
Maps of quantified Opportunity Public Parcels from Phase II, Not Prioritized

All dates are from execution of grant by both parties.

	Tasks / Milestones:	**Budget:**	**Start Date**	**Completion Date**
1	Development of ranking matrices	9,270	Month 2	Month 3
2	Identify water quality improvement potential of Phase II opportunity parcels	6,965	Month 2	Month 3
3	Green Solution Project prioritization	23,000	Month 3	Month 4
4	Select & develop concept designs for site-specific Green Solution Projects; conduct technical analyses	132,950	Month 4	Month 8
5	Meetings with cities, organizations & communities	19,875	Month 3	Month 10
6	Produce concept designs & final report	34,000	Month 9	Month 12
7	Produce digital materials, PowerPoint and presentation to SMMC	16,130	Month 11	Month 13
8	Project direction, data management, meetings, webex, correspondence	35,775	Month 1	End of project
	Project Expenses & Contingency	20,937	Month 1	End of project
	Total	298,902		13 months

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

Acreage:

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

Esther Feld

Signature of Authorized Representative

May 16, 2011

Date