

Attachment
SMMC Item 16
January 23, 2012



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

Agenda Item 16
SMMC
1/23/12

January 23, 2012

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

Request for Funds for Planning and Design of the Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park Project

Dear Chairperson Gonzalez and Conservancy Members:

At its January 11, 2012 special meeting, the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority adopted a resolution authorizing requesting a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, for Project Planning and Design services for the Caballero Creek and Los Angeles River Confluence Park project, City of Los Angeles. On behalf of the Governing Board, I respectfully submit this proposal for consideration by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Attached is a formal grant application. Please address any questions you may have to our primary project manager for the project Barbara Romero by phone at (323) 221-9944, ext. 188.

Sincerely,

George Lange
Chairperson

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
GRANT APPLICATION**

Project Name: Caballero Creek & Los Angeles River Confluence Park Project Planning and Design	Amount of Request: \$ 250,000 Total Project Cost: \$ 250,000						
	Applicant Name: Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority	Amount of Match: \$ 0 Source of Match:					
Applicant Address: 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 Los Angeles, CA 90065 Phone: 323-221-9944 Fax: 323-221-8937	Project Address: 6353 Lindley Avenue Los Angeles, CA 91335 Lat: 34°11'8.02" Long: -118°31'40.30"						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>County</td> <td>Senate</td> <td>Assembly</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles</td> <td>21</td> <td>40</td> </tr> </table>	County	Senate	Assembly	Los Angeles	21	40
	County	Senate	Assembly				
	Los Angeles	21	40				
Email: Barbara.Romero@mrca.ca.gov							

Grantee's Authorized Representative:

Cara Meyer, Chief of Special Projects/Contracts Officer 323-221-9944 x117
Name and Title *Phone*

Person with day-to-day responsibility for project:

Barbara Romero, Chief of Urban Projects and Watershed Planning 323-221-9944, x188
Name and Title *Phone*

Project Description (75 words maximum):
 Planning, design and engineering for the Caballero Creek & Los Angeles River Confluence Park project.

Objective (150 words maximum):
 The project objective is to increase public access and ecological function to the planned greenway along the Los Angeles River by converting 1.55 acres of underutilized land at the confluence of the Los Angeles River and Caballero Creek into a public natural park. The project will create a publicly accessible riverfront park with water treatment, education and habitat restoration components. The site is connected to significant habitat in the Santa Monica Mountains and the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. The grant will fund MRCA's work to plan, design and develop the park, and coordinate agreements with the parcel owner, City of Los Angeles.

Funding Source Applied for: Proposition 84

Narrative/Project Description:
 The Caballero Creek & Los Angeles River Confluence Park project will restore 1.55 acres of vacant, weedy land into a dynamic landscape comprised of riparian habitat that is both biologically-functional and didactic. The project will provide public access to 1.55 acres of open space and over 670 feet of riverfront. Regional visitors can access the project via nearby public transit, interstate highway 101, and bicycle lanes.

The project concept was developed in partnership with the City of Los Angeles, who has committed to retain ownership, maintenance and operation responsibilities while allowing the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) to oversee design and construction. Two academic institutions will monitor the project and utilize it for hands-on learning and community service. The project will increase regional water quality through an innovative design mixing low-tech mechanical and biological methods to filter and infiltrate storm water. It will preserve open space lands along rivers by restoring native habitat and creating publicly accessible parkland. The project will also create a multi-benefit park that provides ecosystem services as well as cultural services, like social gathering space

and recreation.

The project site is covered by numerous plans recommending the implementation of a contiguous Los Angeles River parkway: Los Angeles River Master Plan (1996); Common Ground from the Mountains to the Sea: Watershed and Open Space Plan for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River, (October 2001); Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (May 2007); and, 2010 Bicycle Plan (March 2010). In 2001, *Common Ground from the Mountains to the Sea: Watershed and Open Space Plan for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River* – a plan prepared in part by the SMMC –identified the site as one with potential for open space and habitat restoration to increase biodiversity and recreation opportunities. In 2007, the City Council adopted the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan, including the project site in one of its fifteen “Additional Opportunity Areas.” The opportunity area was recommended for the development of publicly-accessible open space that has a synergy with Reseda High School and nearby Reseda Boulevard’s mixed uses. The project site was also included as a recommended location for flood attenuation and water quality treatment terraces. A habitat connectivity site analysis diagram from the plan illustrates how the project site is part of a regional habitat connection between the Santa Monica Mountains, a significant ecological area and the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Preserve, a nearby habitat patch.

Funding from this grant would allow MRCA staff to continue to plan and develop the project. Staff time for this grant would include the following activities: Conduct stakeholder meetings, oversee and coordinate with consultants, present site plans to respond to governmental agencies’ requests for information, prepare graphic materials for presentations, respond to current and future requests for more information from the City’s various departments, coordinate with other permitting agencies, manage project budget and timeline, and coordinate agreements with the City. Consultant time for this grant would produce the following deliverables: Site analyses reports, concept design renderings, schematic design renderings, public outreach presentations, and design development renderings. The MRCA is currently working with our project partners to apply for matching funds from the City and County of Los Angeles. The MRCA has also submitted a grant application to the California River Parkways Grant Program, which will notify applicants in Spring 2012.

Key Public Agencies

To date, planning for the Caballero Creek & Los Angeles River Confluence Park project has included participation from the Los Angeles River Cooperation Committee, City of Los Angeles departments, City of LA Council District 3, LA County Flood Control District, Army Corps of Engineers, University of Southern California and Reseda High School.

Tasks / Milestones:	Budget Estimate:	Completion Estimate:
1 Site Analyses & Design Consultants	\$195,000.00	June 15, 2013
1A Site Analyses Reports and Concept Design Renderings		
1A.1 Kickoff Meeting		
1A.2 Site Analysis		
1A.3 Geotechnical Analysis		
1A.4 Soils Analysis		
1A.5 Engineering Survey		
1A.6 Topographical Survey		
1B Finalize Schematic Design Renderings and Public Outreach		
1C Design Development Renderings		
1C.1 Landscape Architectural Services		
1C.2 Water treatment & Habitat Design		
1C.3 Architectural Work		
1C.4 Civil/Structural Engineering		

2 Planning & Project Management

September 15, 2013

MRCA Staff

\$55,000.00

- 2.1 Conduct stakeholder meetings
- 2.2 Oversee/coordinate with consultants
- 2.3 Present site plans to respond to governmental agencies' requests for information
- 2.4 Prepare graphic materials for presentations
- 2.5 Respond to current and future requests for more information from the City's various departments
- 2.6 Coordinate with other permitting agencies
- 2.7 Manage project budget and timeline
- 2.8 Coordinate agreements with City
- 2.9 Reimbursables (mileage, printing, etc.)

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

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

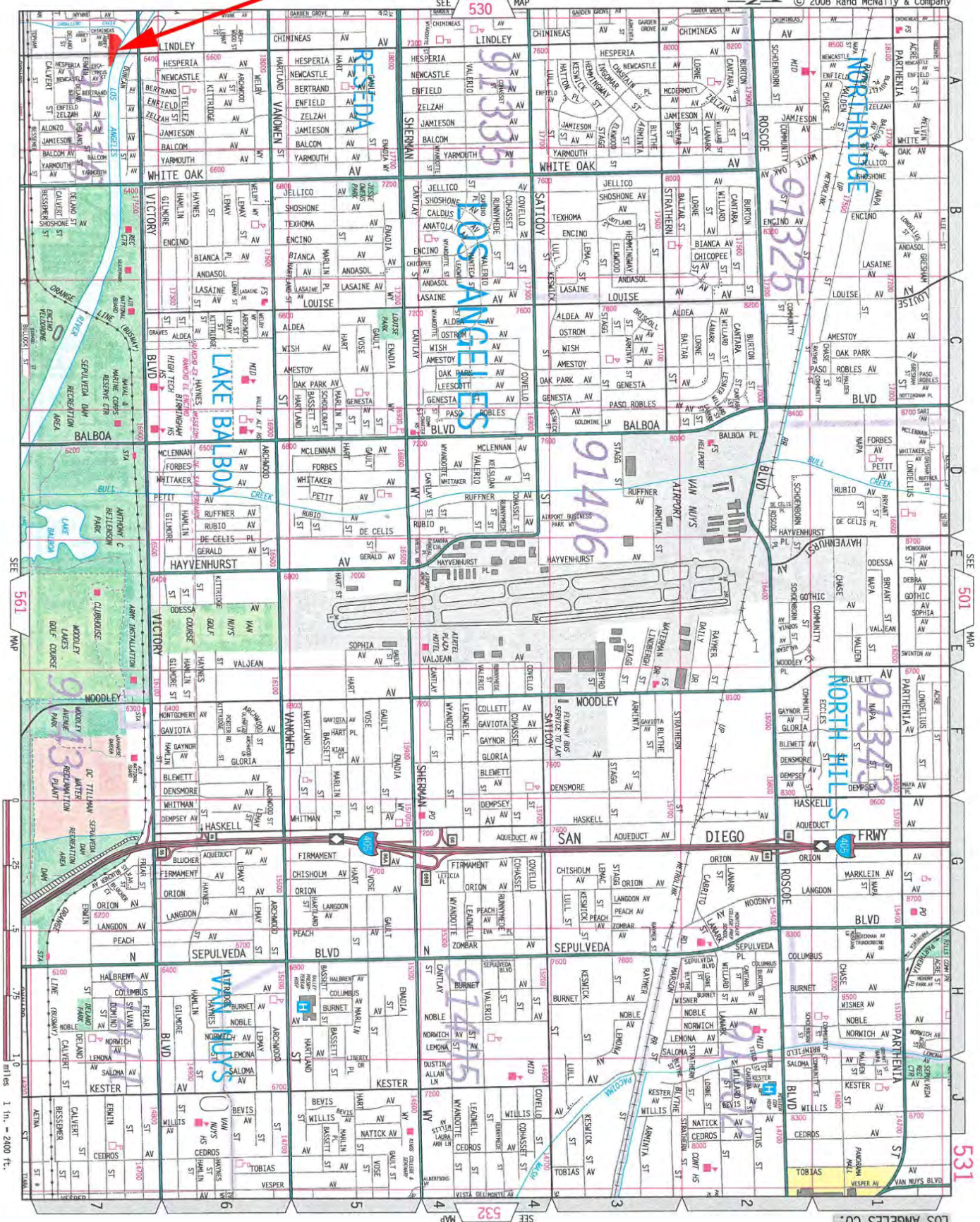
Form SMM-001

STATE OF CALIFORNIA ♦ THE RESOURCES AGENCY

Project Site

SEE 530 MAP

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SEE 561 MAP

SEE 501 MAP

SEE 532 MAP

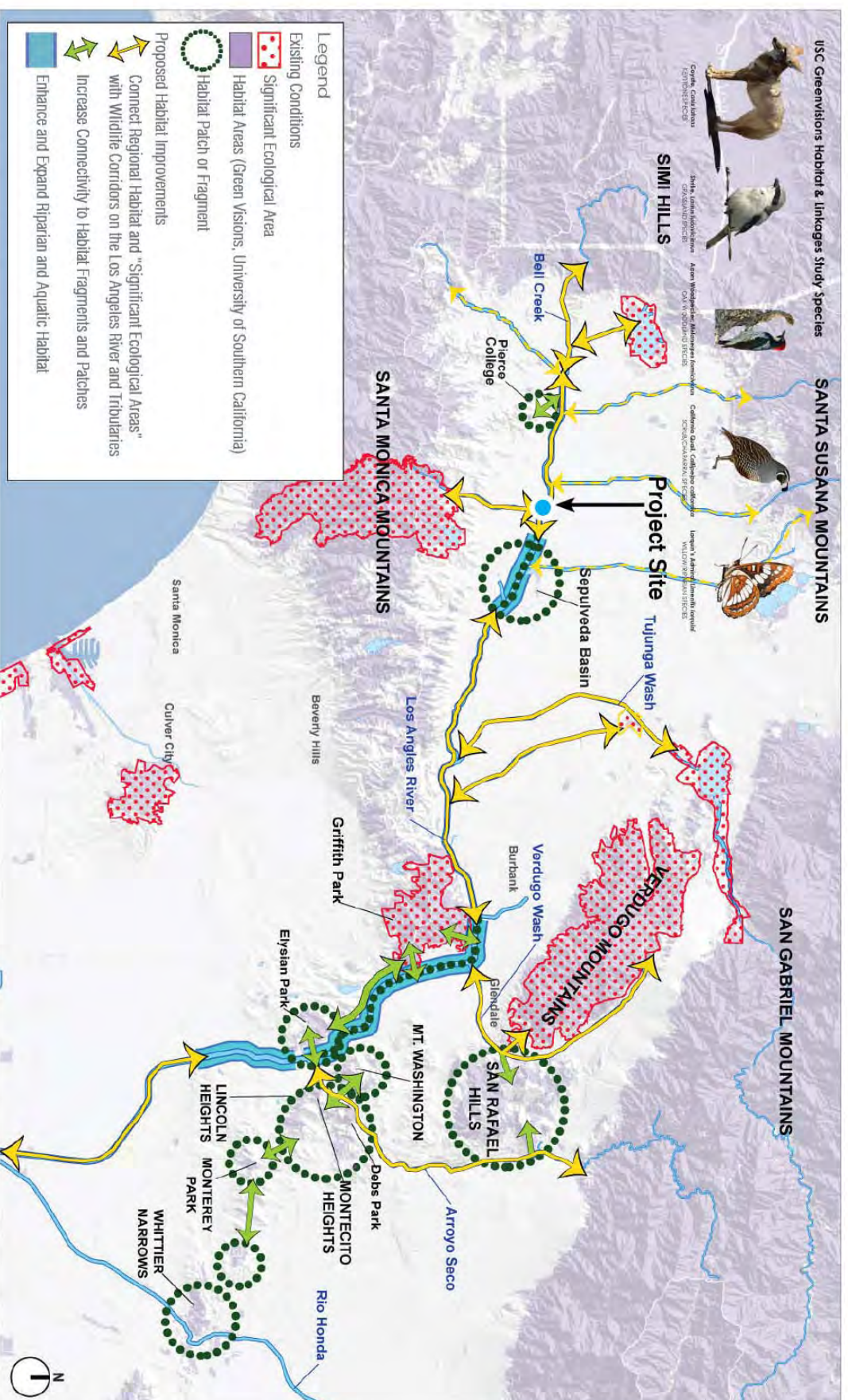
1 0 1/2 miles
1 in. = 2400 ft.

LOS ANGELES CO.

Los Angeles River & Caballero Creek Confluence Park

Context

Habitat Connectivity



Areas where improved habitat connectivity are desirable.



Existing locked entrance to project from Lindley Avenue.



Existing locked entrance along north side of the project where it borders with the County Access Road.



View of confluence of Los Angeles River and Caballero Creek photographed during the height of the dry season. Note the presence of algae and water.



View of confluence of Los Angeles River and Caballero Creek photographed during the height of the dry season. Note the presence of algae and water.



View of expansiveness of the site and its residential neighbors.



View looking towards the southwest illustrating current use of minor storage use.