# SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION

SMMC 2/27/2012 Agenda Item 14

| Project N                     | ame:                                  | <b>Amount of Request:</b>         | \$ 200,000             |          |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Pacoima                       | Wash Greenway- El Dorado Park         | <b>Total Project Cost:</b>        | \$ 200,000             |          |
| Project P                     | lanning and Design                    | -                                 |                        |          |
| Applicant Name:               |                                       | Amount of Match:                  | \$ 0                   |          |
| Mountain                      | s Recreation & Conservation Authority | Source of Match:                  |                        |          |
| Applicant Address:            |                                       | Project Address:                  | 11349 El Dorado Avenue |          |
| 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 |                                       |                                   | Los Angeles, CA 91340  |          |
| Los Angeles, CA 90065         |                                       |                                   | Lat: 34.2751           |          |
| •                             |                                       | Long: -118.436                    |                        |          |
|                               |                                       | County                            | Senate                 | Assembly |
|                               |                                       | Los Angeles                       | 20                     | 39       |
| Phone:                        | 323-221-9944                          |                                   |                        |          |
| Fax:                          | 323-221-8937                          | 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, engineering, and community outreach for the Pacoima Wash Greenway- El Dorado Park project.

#### **Objective** (150 words maximum):

The project objective is to create new public access and wildlife habitat to the planned greenway along the Pacoima Wash by converting a City of Los Angeles-acquired 1.21 acre vacant parcel into a public natural park. The project will create a park with stormwater treatment, education, recreation, and habitat restoration components. The site is connected to ecologically significant habitat in the San Gabriel Mountains. The grant will fund MRCA's work to plan, design, and develop the park, community outreach, and coordination of agreements with the parcel owner, the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks.

Funding Source Applied for: Proposition 84

# **Narrative/Project Description:**

The Pacoima Wash Greenway–El Dorado Street Park project is the conversion of an approximately 1.2 acre vacant parcel into a natural open space public park, with new recreational, educational, and water-quality improvement features, including landscaped walking and fitness trails, free-play meadows, education station, stormwater arroyo, and picnic and community gathering spaces that are supported by new entry plazas and site security. The site is a linear parcel in the San Fernando Valley community of Pacoima adjacent to Pacoima Wash. The vacant parcel was purchased by the City of Los Angeles in 2009 for the purpose of creating a public park in a community where park space was lacking. The site is an empty lot with bare soil and invasive weeds.

The project supports the regional effort to create a continuous greenway along Pacoima Wash from the Angeles National Forest to Ritchie Valens Park and Recreation center. This project will create public access and new recreational opportunities in an underserved community where little opportunity for recreation exists. The area suffers from some of the worst rates of obesity and diabetes in the County and it is expected that increased access to recreation opportunities in the community will help

ameliorate these health issues. The passive natural park with native drought tolerant landscaping will feature a one quarter mile fitness loop/walking trail of decomposed granite and shade trees that provide a pleasant environment throughout the year. The park will initially support residents but the future Pacoima Wash Greenway trail will allow users from all over the region to access the site.

The site will serve as the first park in the area with conservation, interpretive elements, and an education station. A series of themed panels will inspire the community with information about local flora and fauna, hydrology and the watershed, and information about the local environment. An education station will provide updates on events and interpretive programs in the park as well as a changeable interpretive content. The park will also host two artistic gates at the main entrances providing artistic inspiration and connection to the adjacent Pacoima Wash.

An attractive natural treatment arroyo (BMP) and basin will treat, detain, and infiltrate some of the neighborhood's stormwater that crosses the site. The treatment activity will be visible and serve as an interpretive opportunity. Currently water enters the Pacoima Wash untreated carrying trash, sediment, oils, bacteria, and nutrients.

The project is a partnership between the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Pacoima Beautiful a local 501(C)3 environmental community organization. The MRCA will design and construct the park using extensive experience with native landscaped park projects, the Department of Recreation and Parks is the property owner and will provide long term stewardship and maintenance. Pacoima Beautiful has provided support for over 15 community meetings and will assist with additional meetings, community outreach, and community events such as earth day events and tree plantings.

The project site is covered by numerous plans including:

- County of Los Angeles River Master Plan (1996)
- The California Resources Agency, San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's Common Ground from the Mountains to the Sea: Watershed and Open Space Plan for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles River (2001)
- The City of Los Angeles' Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan (May 2007), City of Los Angeles.
- The City of Los Angeles Bicycle Master Plan (2010)
- County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health- Vision Plan for the Pacoima Wash [Draft Released] (2011)

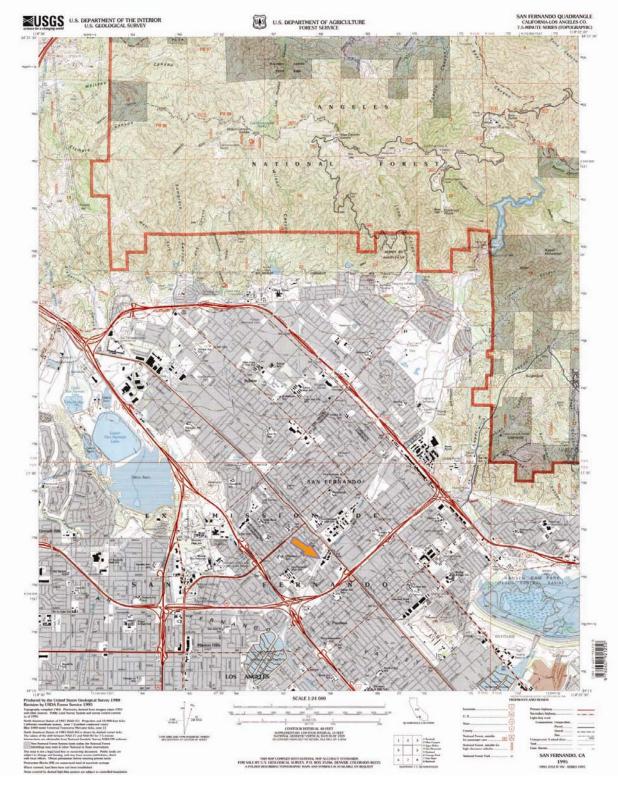
Funding from this grant would allow MRCA staff to continue to plan and develop the project. Staff time for this grant would include the following activities: Conduct stakeholder meetings, oversee and coordinate with consultants, present site plans to respond to governmental agencies' requests for information, prepare graphic materials for presentations, respond to current and future requests for more information from the City's and County'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.

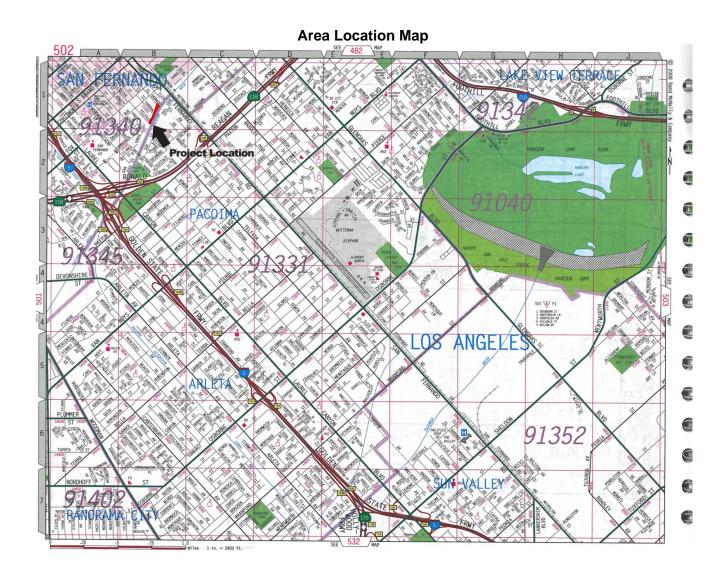
#### **Key Public Agencies**

The MRCA has developed relationships with key staff at various agencies regarding this project. MRCA has been in on-going discussion with: Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Watershed Division, Flood Maintenance Division, Construction Division), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Fire Department- Swift Water Rescue Group, City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, Community Redevelopment Agency-Los Angeles, and others. Efforts have also included local and state elected officials including: State Senate District 20, Assembly Office District Office 39, Los

| Ang   | eles County Supervisor District 2, and Los Angeles (  | City Council District 7       | 7.   |
|-------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Tasl  | ss / Milestones: Site Analyses & Design Consultants   | Budget Estimate:<br>\$100,000 | Completion Estimate:<br>June 15, 2015        |
| Α.    | Site Analyses Reports and Concept Design  1. Kickoff Meeting  2. Site Analysis  3. Geotechnical Analysis  4. Soils Analysis  5. Engineering Survey  6. Topographical Survey   |                               |  |
| В     | Finalize Schematic Design Renderings and Public Outreach Design Development Renderings 1. Landscape Architectural Services 2. Hydrology and Water Treatment/Infiltration 3. Habitat Design 4. Preliminary Engineering   |                               |  |
| 2.    | Planning & Project Management MRCA Staff  1. Conduct stakeholder meetings 2. Oversee/coordinate with consultants 3. Present site plans to respond to governmental agencies' requests for information 4. Prepare graphic materials for presentations 5. Respond to current and future requests for more information from the various City's and County departments 6. Coordinate with other permitting agencies 7. Manage project budget and timeline 8. Coordinate agreements with City 9. Reimburseables (mileage, printing, etc.) | \$100,000                     | September 15, 2015                           |
|       | ify that the information contained in this Grant Application for  |                               | tachments, is accurate. $\frac{2434/2012}{}$ |
| Signa | ture of Authorized Representative   | Date                          | Form SMM-001                                 |
|       |   |                               |  |

# **Regional Location Map**







**Photographs** 



View of Site Looking North



El Dorado Park at Tamarack Avenue



El Dorado Park- View Looking South



El Dorado Park at El Dorado Avenue (Stormwater Arroyo Opportunity Area)