



## 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

June 25, 2012

Ms. Elizabeth Cheadle  
Chairperson  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road,  
Malibu, California 90265

### **Grant Application – Conservancy Fund World Ranger Congress**

Dear Ms. Cheadle:

I am pleased to present the enclosed application for a grant from the Conservancy Fund in the amount of \$10,000 for registration of up to 10 staff and community partner participants at the World Ranger Congress to be held November 4 - 9, 2012 in Arusha, Tanzania.

One of the trends being addressed at the conference is the lack of access to local people to national parks and conservation areas by local people. Given the MRCA's experience with this issue here in the states staff has submitted and been accepted to present to sessions. In the first, Rangers on the Urban Edge - Marketing Through Partnership, MRCA rangers will tell their story about how they meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities found by the proximity of dense urban environments adjacent to protected open space. They will talk about how, by building relationships with other agencies and community groups, they bridge these two worlds, marketing the values of each and often becoming the "go to" contact that brings people and resource protection together

In the second session staff will be joined by the Executive Director of the Compton Junior Posse (CJP), Mayisha Akbar and 5 graduates of the CJP-MRCA Junior Ranger Program. This session will address two global trends which have important implications for the preservation of our natural heritage – the rapid urbanization of the world and the increased separation of people from nature.

MRCA staff and the CJP will speak to best practices working with community partners, and the young people from the CJP will speak to the value of these types of programs for the youth involved and the resources being protected.

In addition to the presentations, the trip will be documented with video and participant

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Journaling by the members of the CJP. This once in a life time experience to present at an international congress on work they are doing in their own community is part of the leadership youth development they began by becoming Junior Rangers. At the end of their trip the CJP participants will make presentations on their trip to other community organization.

The funding requested is for conference registration, which includes lodging, for participants and totals less than 25% of the total budget. Staff will be contributing their own personal funds for flights, park entries, visas, etc and the Compton Posse will raise matching funds for their participation beyon registration.

Please refer to the enclosed application for more information. If you have questions regarding this application please contact Amy Lethbridge at 818-878-0866 extension 233.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Lange". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

George Lange  
Chair