

June 25, 2012; Agenda Item No. 9(c)

Resolution No. 12-42

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AUTHORIZING A GRANT  
FROM THE CONSERVANCY FUND FOR REGISTRATION OF MRCA STAFF AND COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS AT THE WORLD RANGER CONGRESS

WHEREAS, The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy may award grants to local agencies pursuant to Sections 33204.2(a) and 33204.27 of the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) is a local public agency pursuant to Government Codes Section 6500 *et seq.* that employs professional park ranger staff that protects Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and other agency parklands; and

WHEREAS, The International Ranger Federation provides a unique educational forum for professional park rangers in the World Ranger Congress; and

WHEREAS, Conservancy and MRCA programs are national and international models for combining preservation efforts with local community involvement; and

WHEREAS, participation in the World Ranger Congress held November 4-9, 2010 in Arusha, Tanzania will allow for the exchange of ideas and facilitate working partnerships between the MRCA and established ranger programs and developing nations that need assistance with the promotion and instigation of programs; and

WHEREAS, MRCA staff has submitted to present on both partnerships with urban partners and on the challenges of being an open space ranger on the urban edge which will increase professional development of staff and contribute to the value of the conference by using examples of MRCA successes as case studies; and

WHEREAS, The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy supports programs to increase protection and appreciation of public open space, trails, and habitat in the greater Los Angeles/Ventura Counties region for the purposes of resource stewardship, public access to parklands, and environmental education; and

WHEREAS, The Conservancy Fund is the depository for donations and bequests to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, The staff report dated June 25, 2012 further describes the project; and

WHEREAS, The proposed action is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); Now

*Therefore Be It Resolved*, That the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy hereby:

1. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Comprehensive Plan, Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Master Plan, and Conservancy Strategic Objectives.
2. FINDS that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. ADOPTS the staff report and recommendation for this item, dated June 25, 2012.
4. AUTHORIZES a grant from the Conservancy Fund to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 to facilitate participation by MRCA staff and community partners in the 7<sup>th</sup> World ranger Congress in Tanzania November 2012.
5. FURTHER AUTHORIZES the Executive Director to execute the agreement and to perform any and all acts necessary to carry out this resolution; without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such authority shall include those provisions that he shall determine in the exclusive exercise of his discretion are necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution and to comply with the policies of the Conservancy, and to otherwise carry out the provisions of state law and regulations.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, duly noticed and held according to law, on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2012, at Pacific Palisades, California.

Dated:

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Executive Director