



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Ramirez Canyon Park
5810 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, California 90265
Phone (310) 589-3230 Fax (310) 589-3237

Agenda Item 12(e)
SMMC
4/29/13

April 12, 2013

Irma Muñoz
Chairperson
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065

**Request for Project Planning and Design Grant for
Upper Topanga Watershed Project**

Dear Chairperson Muñoz and Conservancy Members:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) expresses its appreciation to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) for the opportunity to work collaboratively on project development through Project Planning and Design grants. To continue this collaboration, the MRCA is submitting the attached grant application for project planning and design services for the upper Topanga watershed project. Combining the trajectories of current available capital funding, acquisition momentum, Conservancy staff feedback, and long time priorities, this application requests \$15,000 for work and expenditures to secure public capital resources in this project area.

The northeastern sector of the Topanga Canyon watershed is a parkland and trail rich area in need of some final acquisitions to close both unprotected habitat and trail gaps. Many longstanding Conservancy acquisition priorities should be acquired in part or in whole while funding is still available. This area provides a key habitat and trail hub between Topanga State Park, Marvin Braude Mulholland Gateway Park, and Summit Valley-Ed Edelman Park.

The proposed project area included under this grant would encompass approximately three miles of blue line stream including Santa Maria and Garapito Creeks. Within the project area are approximately 78 undeveloped private parcels, totaling approximately 1,000 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains.

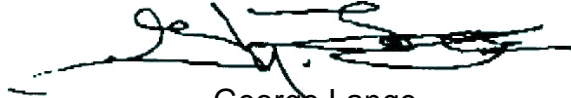
We look forward to your response and continuing to secure land, easements, and public access improvements in the Santa Monica Mountains and Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor zones.

Irma Muñoz, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

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If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Judi Tamasi at 310-589-3230, ext. 121.

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
Chairperson