

Grant Application

Print Form

SMMC
Attachment
June 3 ,2013
Agenda Item 23



The Natural Resources Agency

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

5750 Ramirez Canyon Road

Malibu, California 90265

Phone: 310-589-3200

Fax: 310-589-3207

www.smmc.ca.gov

Project Title:	L.A. River Greenway Trail & Habitat Restoration, Coldwater Canyon to Whitsett	Date:	May 21, 2013
Funds:	Proposition 50	Amount:	300,000
Applicant Name:	Community Conservation Solutions	Match amount:	\$1,796,531
Address:	2554 Lincoln Blvd., Ste 223, Los Angeles	Match source:	See attached pages
State/Province:	California	Total Project Cost:	2,096,531
Zip/Postal code:	90291	Brief Project Description:	Restore native habitat in an ecosystem-based design and create a half-mile scenic walking trail to provide public access to a closed section of the Los Angeles
Phone:	310-398-8584		
Fax:	310-398-8564		

Grantee's Authorized Representative:	Esther Feldman	310-398-8584, x. 1	eldman@conservationsolutions.org
	<i>Name and Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

Person with day-to-day responsibility:	Chun Lu	310-398-8584, x. 2	clu@conservationsolutions.org
	<i>Name and Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

Project Objective: See attached pages

*Attach additional pages as necessary

Project Address: North bank of L.A. River, from Coldwater Canyon Avenue to Whitsett Avenue, Studio City, CA

Latitude:	34.14	Acreage:	3.156 acres	Trail Length:	One half mile
Longitude:	118.4	APN's:	see attached pages	Stream Miles:	.5348
Congressional District:	30	State Senate District:	20	Assembly District:	46

Tasks / Milestones:	Budget:	Completion Date:
See attached pages		

*Attach additional pages as necessary

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.	
	5/23/21013
<i>Signature of Authorized Representative</i>	<i>Date</i>

**L.A. River Greenway Trail and Habitat Restoration Project
Coldwater Canyon to Whitsett Avenue, San Fernando Valley**

Match source:

CalTrans-EEMP, CA Resources Agency-River Parkways, City of Los Angeles, L.A. County Prop. A(pending), Studio City Residents Association, Community Conservation Solutions, Mia Lehrer and Associates and other

Brief Project Description

The L.A. River Greenway Trail and Habitat Restoration Project will restore native habitat, plant 4,000 native trees, shrubs and plants in an ecosystem-based design, and provide public access to a closed section of the Los Angeles River by constructing a half-mile scenic walking trail to bridge the gap between existing river trail segments. The project will create over 5 miles of continuous river trail in the park-poor and densely-populated San Fernando Valley, and includes a natural bioswale, ADA-compliant access ramp, entry gate, safety fencing, natural seating and L.A. River interpretive elements.

APN's:

22375-010-902, 2375-018-903, 2375-021-903

L.A. River Greenway Trail and Habitat Restoration Project Coldwater Canyon to Whitsett Avenue, San Fernando Valley

Project Objective

The L.A. River Greenway Trail and Habitat Restoration Project will restore native habitat along the L.A. River between Coldwater Canyon and Whitsett Avenues in the San Fernando Valley, and will create a trail to bridge the gap between existing trail segments, providing public access to a closed section of the L.A. River. This project will create over five miles of continuous L.A. River trail in the Valley, and will help provide regional public access to the L.A. River by connecting to a river-adjacent public parking garage and pedestrian and bicycle bridge.

The grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy will help match public and private funds and in-kind services committed to the project by the California Department of Transportation's Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program, the California Natural Resources Agency's River Parkway grant program, City of Los Angeles, Studio City Residents Association, Community Conservation Solutions, and Mia Lehrer and Associates. The project will create an easily-accessible and attractive natural public open space, restore native habitat in an ecosystem-based design, enhance drainage and provide natural stormwater capture, improve air quality and provide important river-themed interpretation. The project includes the following elements:

- One-half mile of ADA-compliant decomposed granite walking trail
- ADA-compliant public access ramp
- River-themed entry gate
- Safety fencing along the river channel
- Restoration of native oak woodland, mixed scrub and chaparral communities using indigenous plants in an ecosystem-based design
- Plant 4,000 native trees, shrubs, grasses and flowering plants
- Natural bioswale to capture stormwater runoff and enhance infiltration
- Incorporate river-themed interpretive elements that tell the river's natural, hydrologic and human stories
- Create a natural bioswale to improve site drainage and infiltration
- Construct a shaded river viewing area with natural seating, interpretive signage and a signed native habitat walk
- Install a smart irrigation system to establish new plantings

The L.A. River Greenway Trail and Habitat Restoration Project will a) increase the function of the L.A. River as a regional recreational destination; b) showcase ecosystem-based habitat restoration design focused on re-establishing natural plant communities for long-term sustainability and creation of viable native invertebrate and bird habitat; c) provide vital habitat for resident and migratory bird species; and install smart irrigation; d) help improve water quality in the L.A. River by reducing sedimentation and increasing infiltration; e) create a quiet and natural location as a respite from the pressures of surrounding urban congestion; and f) improve public health by promoting walking and jogging along the L.A. River.

This project is located in the park-poor, heavily urbanized and ethnically diverse San Fernando Valley in the City of Los Angeles, with nearly two million residents, heavy traffic and a serious lack of both open space and walking trails. There is less than one acre of accessible parkland per 1,000 people within three miles of the project site - far below the National Recreation and Park Association recommended average of four to ten acres. Within a three-mile radius of the project site, 55% of the population is non-white: 42% is Latino; 6% is Asian/Pacific Islander and 4% is African American. Youth make up 26% of the population and there are 3,500 youth per square mile.

By restoring native habitat in an ecosystem-based design, restoring soil fertility and installing a natural bioswale, the project will help improve the overall water quality of the Los Angeles River by increasing water uptake and natural filtration of pollutants and site infiltration of runoff. The extensive and deep root structures of native trees, shrubs and plants will increase both the uptake and infiltration of water on the site and will increase the natural biological uptake processes in the soil, providing increased natural filtration of on-site stormwater runoff.

The project will help reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions consistent with the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 by using a native ecosystem model to maximize carbon sequestration. Replacing non-native trees and plants with a complex of overstory and understory native trees, shrubs, grasses and other plants that are adapted to the region's drought cycles will maximize canopy coverage and ensure longevity, so carbon sequestration can continue for many decades to come. This will help California to reach both 2020 and 2050 targets for GHG emission reductions, while also reducing local heat island impacts, which will increase with climate change. Increasing shade cover through strategic use of long-lived, drought-adapted native trees and plants that are tolerant of temperature and moisture swings will help adaptability to the climate change impacts of both higher and lower temperatures for longer periods of time.

The L.A. River Greenway Trail and Habitat Restoration Project is an important piece of the entire 51-mile long L.A. River Greenway being established in 15 cities, and provides a vital addition to the L.A. River Greenway in the densely-populated San Fernando Valley. The site location provides easy regional public access to the L.A. River by both public transit and car, with a bus stop a few yards from the planned entrance, two freeway off-ramps within one mile, and a nearby 391-car public parking garage adjacent to the L.A. River trail.

Community Conservation Solutions

Project Title: L.A. River Greenway Trail & Habitat Restoration, Coldwater Canyon to Whitsett Avenue

Task#	Tasks/Milestones	Budget	Completion Date
1	Planning & Site Design prepare draft trail design; incorporate engineering, landscape architecture, trail elements & habitat restoration; planning; site survey; community meetings; develop documents	30,000	September, 2014
2	Permitting Obtain permit & use agreement from Los Angeles County Flood Control District & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; meetings; coordinate with Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy/MRCA	60,000	September, 2015
3	Construction, Labor & Materials	182,000	June, 2016
4	Project Administration & Direction coordinate subcontractors, grant management, document management, documentation, correspondence, meetings	5,000	June, 2016
	Expense & Contingency	23,000	June, 2016
	Total	300,000	