

# Grant Application

Print Form

Attachment  
SMMC 6/27/16  
Agenda Item 16



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:** Project Planning and Design - LAR  
*Greenway Ecosystem Restoration Area*

**Date:** 6/21/2016

**Funds:** Proposition 84

**Amount:** 150,000

**Applicant Name:** Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

**Match amount:** 0.00

**Address:** 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100

**Match source:** n/a

**State/Province:** Los Angeles, CA

**Total Project Cost:** 150,000

**Zip/Postal code:** 90065

**Phone:** 323-221-9944

**Brief Project Description:** Project planning and design activities for the Los Angeles River Greenway Ecosystem Restoration Area, Burbank to Boyle Heights

**Fax:** 323-221-9934

**Grantee's Authorized Representative:** Lisa Soghor, Deputy Executive Officer 323-221-9944, x105 lisa.soghor@mrca.ca.gov

*Name and Title Phone Number Email*

**Person with day-to-day responsibility:** Cara Meyer, Chief of Special Projects 323-221-9944, x107 cara.meyer@mrca.ca.gov

*Name and Title Phone Number Email*

**Project Objectives:** Objectives of the project planning and design grant are to plan land acquisitions and improvement projects to protect, restore, preserve, interpret and develop the land and water resources of the Upper Los Angeles River watershed, specifically in the area defined on the attached maps and narrative. Please see attached pages for additional information.  
  
\*Attach additional pages as necessary

**Project Address:** Various locations (lat/long below represents approximate center of area)

**Latitude:** 34.108359 **Acreage:** n/a **Trail Length:** n/a

**Longitude:** -118.248786 **APN's:** n/a **Stream Miles:** n/a

**Congressional District:** various **State Senate District:** various **Assembly District:** various

**Tasks / Milestones:** Project Planning and Design **Budget:** \$150,000.00 **Completion Date:** June 30, 2019

\*Attach additional pages as necessary

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.

*Lisa Soghor*  
Signature of Authorized Representative

6/21/2016  
Date

## **Project Planning and Design – Los Angeles River Greenway, Ecosystem Restoration Area (Burbank to Boyle Heights)**

### **Project Narrative and Additional Information**

The MRCA develops and implements a wide range of projects including through project planning and design grants. To continue this effort to secure and develop park lands, public access, and public recreation resources, MRCA is submitting a project planning and design grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The proposed grant would provide planning related to a stretch of the Los Angeles River Greenway from Burbank to Boyle Heights. This area includes the full extent of the Army Corps of Engineers' Ecosystem Restoration Area in Elysian Valley (11 miles). The corridor contains multiple opportunities for environmental restoration of an aquatic riparian ecosystem, public access and parkland improvements, and a documented need for flood risk management. That corridor, expanded to include additional nearby project opportunities, is the subject area for this proposed grant, extending from the City of Burbank on the northwestern end, through the City of Glendale, and to Boyle Heights in the City of Los Angeles, on the southeastern end.

Within this study area, many opportunities exist in addition to the Corps project (also known as "ARBOR"). Nearby schools that could be connected to the river in some way include John Marshall High School, Ivanhoe Elementary School, and the Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academies (including the Los Angeles River High School). Additional schools in the vicinity that have previously been identified as greening and connection opportunities include Irving Middle School and Hollenbeck Middle School. The Taylor Yard-G-2 parcel is within the study area, along with Rio de Los Angeles State Park, Los Angeles State Historic Park, the State-owned "Bow-tie" parcel, and the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument.

Bikeway and recreational trail projects in the study area include extensions of the Los Angeles River Bikeway both north of Griffith Park and south of the Arroyo Seco/River confluence. A study of an in-channel bikeway is underway in this area and there is an ongoing effort to extend the Arroyo Seco Bike Path downstream from South Pasadena to the confluence. The open waterways and confluences of the Arroyo Seco and Verdugo Wash also provide opportunities for water-related projects and public access to the river. The popularity of kayaking and fishing in the Los Angeles River Recreation Zone during the past five summers has created a need for additional access points for these activities.

Land along this stretch of the Los Angeles River was subdivided in such a way that hundreds of APNs extend into the riverbed today. Many of these parcels offer acquisition and public access opportunities. The study area contains approximately 9.5 miles of the soft-bottom section of the Los Angeles River that serves as habitat and houses a large population of wildlife within the River. Creating open space directly adjacent to these areas is vital in sustaining the wildlife and creating an additional buffer between them and dense urban Los Angeles. Not only would additional open space be a benefit to local

wildlife, it would be a benefit to human populations in need of respite from urban grit and exercise.

Additional sites that have been identified as greening, access, and restoration opportunities include Corralitas/Red Car Park, Piggyback Yard, the Boyle Heights Green Corridors project along 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and numerous other items from the City of Los Angeles' *Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan*. Additional connections for people and wildlife to the massive urban parklands of Griffith Park and Elysian Park are also needed, as identified in the *Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Master Plan* and other documents. Additional planning efforts in the area include an integrated study of water flow, potentially an update to Los Angeles County's *Los Angeles River Master Plan*, and several bridges and pedestrian connections.

In summary, the proposed study area provides countless opportunities to connect publicly- and privately-owned areas of both vacant and developed land to each other while creating new habitat linkages and recreational possibilities within established communities. Highly dense, yet park poor, neighborhoods hug this section of the Los Angeles River. In recent years these areas have become increasingly attractive to developers, and it is imperative that new development proposals be analyzed for impacts to the river and sustainability. An ongoing effort is needed within this targeted study area to create cleaner and greener communities and waterways, increase climate change resiliency, and at the same time expand public access to the area's land and water resources.

**Budget for SMMC Grant Application**  
**Project Planning and Design - Los Angeles River Greenway Ecosystem Restoration Area**

Requested Grant Amount: \$ 150,000.00 as of: 6/21/2016

Required for All Bond Funded Grants			Required for Prop 84 Grants Only	
G/L Acct.	G/L Name	Total Budget	LAR Watershed	SMB Watershed
<b>(A) PAYROLL Related Expenses:</b>				
Enter TOTAL Payroll Related Expenses Here →→→→		\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ -
[Note: No need to fill out the individual payroll line items below]				
Several	Direct Salaries, Payroll Taxes, Benefits	\$ 84,000.00	\$ 116,400.00	\$ -
9998, 9999	Administrative Cost	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ -
<b>(B) NON-PAYROLL Expenses:</b>				
4001	Grants-MRCA			
5001	Land Purchase - Land			
5002	Land Purchase - Appraisals/CEQA	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	
5003	Land Purchase - Escrow, Title & Closing Fees	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
5111	Land & Building Improvement - Roads			
5112	Land & Building Improvement - Materials			
5113	Land & Building Improvement - Equipment			
5114	Land & Building Improvement - Sub Contractors			
5115	Land & Building Improvement - Design/Pre-Construction	\$ 12,500.00	\$ 12,500.00	
5116	Land & Building Improvement - Other			
7777	Equipment Allocation			
<b>Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>