

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: December 10, 2018

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing amending the agreement with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the implementation of Chapter 452, Statutes of 2017 (Assembly Bill 1558 and Senate Bill 1126).**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the implementation of Chapter 452, Statutes of 2017 (Assembly Bill 1558 and Senate Bill 1126) to complete Phase Two of River Rangers Program Planning, including and extension to the term of agreement.

Legislative Authority: Sections 33220 and 33211(c) of the Public Resources Code.

Background: On December 11, 2017, the Conservancy authorized an agreement with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the implementation of Chapter 452, Statutes of 2017 Assembly Bill 1558 (AB 1558). AB 1558 requires the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) and the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Conservancy (RMC) to collaborate with the Department of Parks and Recreation, the California Conservation Corps, and the State Lands Commission to develop a river ranger program to provide a network of river rangers who assist the public at sites along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, as prescribed. Phase One of the River Rangers program plan was completed on June 30, 2018. Subsequently, Senate Bill 1126 (SB 1126) granted an extension for a second phase of work. At this time an extension to the original agreement between the SMMC and the RMC is required to complete Phase Two.

In addition to the entities mentioned above, AB 1558 also directs the Conservancies to develop the river ranger program in coordination with the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group, which is administered by RMC. AB 1558 has required extensive and time-consuming coordination, and the proposed extension will allow additional time for the Conservancies to work together on implementation, planning, design and delivery of the AB 1558 River Rangers program. In accordance with SB 1126, the plan for Phase Two shall be developed by the Conservancies and provided to the legislative committees by March 30, 2019.