

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: February 25, 2019

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 15: Consideration of resolution authorizing an augmentation to grant 3810-P01-1775 for Upper Los Angeles River Project Planning and Design, County of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing an augmentation to grant 3810-P01-1775 for Upper Los Angeles River Project Planning and Design, County of Los Angeles, in the amount of \$1,000,000 of Proposition 1 and Proposition 84 funds.

Legislative Authority: Sections 33204.2 and 33204.27 of the Public Resources Code.

Background: On December 11, 2017, the Conservancy authorized a grant of Proposition 1 and Proposition 84 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for Upper Los Angeles River Project Planning and Design, to achieve a Revitalization Plan as mandated by Assembly Bill 466 (AB 466), Chapter 347 of the Statutes of 2017. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has submitted the attached application for additional funds in the amount of \$1,000,000. The proposed augmentation is to cover unanticipated complexity in the plan process and for additional project management needed as a result of the extended legislative deadline granted in SB 1126.

MRCA has begun work on the plan, but have encountered unanticipated situations that have increased the complexity of work and as a result the cost of the plan. Legislation that introduced the addition of the Arroyo Seco to the Plan (SB 1126) was approved on September 28, 2018. SB 1126 also granted an extension of fifteen months to the legislative deadline, with the report now due June 30, 2020. Subsequently the Working Group approved the addition of two tributaries to the Plan, Aliso Canyon Wash and Burbank Western Channel. The Working Group has recommended a robust community engagement and outreach process, utilizing six different non-governmental organizations to provide extensive services.

Due to these changes and additions to the Plan, the current funding will be exhausted by approximately March 2019, or when phase 1 of the planning process is completed. Phase 2 efforts include: extended plan development, further refine project concept development, implementation activities, an extended amount of community engagement and outreach (up to eight community meetings), additional public communication support, and the development

of a watershed education plan.

The existing grant was determined to be consistent with the General Obligation Bond Law, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1), and the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84). The original application met all requirements of the Conservancy's Proposition 1 Competitive Grant Program Guidelines and scored a total of 86 points (out of possible 115). The proposed grant augmentation is for additional work under the same project description.

Consideration: The augmentation request from the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority is for \$1,000,000 of Proposition 1 and Proposition 84 funds.