



**MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**  
Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065  
Phone (323) 221-8900 Fax (323) 221-9934

SMMC  
Attachment  
Sept 23, 2019  
Agenda Item 12

September 17, 2019

Chairperson Irma Muñoz  
c/o Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Executive Director  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100  
Los Angeles, California 90065

### **Request for Grant Augmentation Los Angeles River Community Access Planning**

Dear Chairperson Muñoz and Conservancy Members:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) respectfully requests a grant augmentation for Community Access Planning for the Los Angeles River in the amount of \$25,000, which would bring the total grant amount to \$75,000. The MRCA's Governing Board approved submittal of this augmentation request on September 4, 2019.

#### **Project Update**

Since the grant was awarded in September 2017, the project partners have been committed to its implementation for the past two years. This commenced with the two-day conference in October 2017 and was followed by the development of a research paper exploring innovative solutions and identifying best practices for displacement avoidance paired with public investments. The Los Angeles Regional Open Space & Affordable Housing Collaborative (LA ROSAH) has worked to formalize its operational structure by engaging in several visioning sessions and planning retreats to further align their collective vision and goals.

In 2018, the Collaborative began developing a three-year strategic plan to help build on the group's existing work and further sharpen its focus on advancing equitable development in the Los Angeles region. In conjunction with the development of the Strategic Plan, the Collaborative has created a Governance Policy to provide LA ROSAH with a democratic decision-making process that enables the active participation of all members and the effective completion of work towards the Collaborative's goals.

The Collaborative has widely publicized every event to date and has conducted focus groups with industry experts, community leaders and held strategic planning workshops for the development of the Three-year Strategic Plan to be implemented from 2019-2022. Publicity for the 2019 Fall Event has already begun, and each of the partner organizations

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is targeting their supporters and constituents. The wide diversity of partners ensures that members of the affected communities will continue to be included.

The 100% match of the previous grant amount (\$50,000) was provided by NRDC and Enterprise Community Partners funded the development of the Strategic Plan, the Collaborative's Governance Policy, and future research. NRDC will be dedicating 30% staff time of a newly hired Fellow to the Collaborative's ongoing logistical and event needs.

### **Need for Additional Funding**

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) is requesting an augmentation to fund additional planning activities that go beyond the original scope of work. With the LA ROSAH collaborative, MRCA co-hosted a two-day forum in Fall 2017 for the discussion of these issues with a wide range of community representatives, commissioned a research paper, and participated in the development of LA ROSAH's Strategic Plan and Governance Policy.

Since the original grant, Los Angeles County has passed Measures W, H, A, and M to fund initiatives that are relevant to these community access issues on the Los Angeles River. While these are welcome efforts, each of these new measures created a need for new analysis and research, resulting in LA ROSAH strategic planning efforts taking an extended period of time to complete. Each of these measures incorporates some type of anti-displacement policy and/or requirements for projects, but these were not all created with a significant understanding how they related to green space and recreational projects. The need for more planning is clear.

In conjunction with the continued research and activities conducted by the Collaborative, new planning activities would include the development of an Anti-Displacement Policy to be considered by the Conservancy. A follow-up conference is planned for autumn 2019, and it is important that the Conservancy's objectives be represented in that discussion, as well as during the ongoing meetings of LA ROSAH. Pre-acquisition and pre-improvement planning to identify potential joint-development projects along the Los Angeles River is also needed at this time. The augmentation could fund some basic property research, such as land appraisals or a Phase I environmental report on a prospective site.

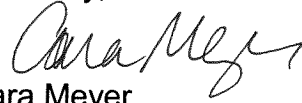
### **Budget and Timeline**

A revised budget for the augmentation is enclosed. The additional work will be completed approximately 12 months after approval. The planned annual event for LA ROSAH members and stakeholders will occur in November 2019. This will be preceded by a group forum to discuss the potential for the development of a land bank on the Los Angeles River.

Chairperson Irma Muñoz  
September 17, 2019

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact me at (323) 221-9944, extension 117.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cara Meyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cara" being more prominent than the last name "Meyer".

Cara Meyer  
Deputy Executive Officer

**Augmentation Request for SMMC Grant No. 3810-P01-1811  
Los Angeles River Community Access Planning**

**Approved Grant Amount: \$ 50,000**  
**Augmentation Request Amount: \$ 25,000**  
**Total Requested Amount: \$ 75,000**

Budget Item	Approved Amount	Change Amount	New Total Budget
<b>A. MRCA Staff</b>			
various Direct Salaries, Payroll Tax, Benefits & Allocation	\$ 7,500	\$ 30,000	\$ 37,500
9998, 9999 Administrative Cost	\$ 2,500	\$ 22,500	\$ 25,000
<b>SUBTOTAL A, MRCA Staff:</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>\$ 52,500</b>	<b>\$ 62,500</b>
<b>B. Materials and Supplies</b>			
5115 Land & Building Improvement - Pre-Construction	\$ 18,000	\$ (15,000)	\$ 3,000
3157 Meeting Expenses	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
3165 Travel and Per Diem	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500
7777 Equipment Allocation	\$ 2,000	\$ (1,500)	\$ 500
<b>SUBTOTAL B, Materials and Supplies:</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>\$ (13,500)</b>	<b>\$ 6,500</b>
<b>C. Consultants and Contractors</b>			
4001 Grants	\$ 20,000	\$ (20,000)	\$ -
5115 Land & Building Improvement - Pre-Construction		\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
<b>SUBTOTAL C, Consultants and Contractors:</b>	<b>\$ 20,000</b>	<b>\$ (18,000)</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>
<b>D. Land Acquisition</b>			
5002 Appraisals	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
<b>SUBTOTAL D, Land Acquisition:</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
<b>Grand Total (A+B+C+D):</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>