

September 23, 2019; Agenda Item No. 16

Resolution No. 19-61

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY AUTHORIZING A GRANT OF PROPOSITION 1 AND PROPOSITION 68 FUNDS FOR RIVER GREEN PROJECT PLANNING AND DESIGN, UPPER LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is authorized to award grants to joint powers authorities pursuant to Sections 33204.2 and 33204.27 of the Public Resources Code;

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of funds from Proposition 1, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for capital outlay and local assistance multi-benefit grants for ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects;

WHEREAS, the State of California has authorized an expenditure of funds from Proposition 68, the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for grants pursuant to the California River Parkways Act of 2004 and the Urban Streams Restoration Program pursuant to Section 7048 of the Water Code, and for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's specified purposes;

WHEREAS, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority has requested a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000, jointly funded from Proposition 1, Section 79735(a) of the Water Code in the amount of \$500,000, and from Proposition 68, Section 80110(b)(8) of the Public Resources Code in the amount of \$500,000.00 ;

WHEREAS, the proposed project is within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Zone;

WHEREAS, the proposed project complies with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Workprogram;

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives to implement the *Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan*, implement the *Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Master Plan*, implement the *Los Angeles County River Master Plan* implement the *San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan*; further cooperation with local governments in the region to secure open space and parkland, expand efforts to integrate nature into the urban environment, and expand education, public access, and resource stewardship components in a manner that best serves the public, protects habitat, and provides recreational opportunities, and develop long term capital improvement and maintenance plans;

WHEREAS, the proposed action is consistent with the *Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan*, the *Rim of the Valley Corridor Plan* and *San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan*;

WHEREAS, the proposed project contributes to the State's goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the Conservancy's Climate Change Policy and Program and AB 32;

WHEREAS, the proposed project meets one or more of the purposes of Proposition 68 ,and one or more of the purposes of Proposition 1;

WHEREAS, the proposed project received at least the minimum score required for consideration in accordance with the Conservancy's Proposition 68 and Proposition 1 grant guidelines;

WHEREAS, the proposed project meets objectives of the California Water Action Plan for restoration of important species and habitat;

WHEREAS, the proposed action is being taken subject to approval of the grant for compliance with the General Obligation Bond Law;

WHEREAS, the proposed project protects land and water resources; and

WHEREAS, The proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Now

*Therefore Be It Resolved*, That the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy hereby:

1. FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the purposes of Propositions 1 and 68;
2. FINDS the proposed project meets at least one of the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan;
3. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the *Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan*, the *Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor Master Plan*, and the *San Gabriel and Los Angeles River Watershed and Open Space Plan* as adopted by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy;
4. FINDS that the proposed action is consistent with the Conservancy's Strategic Objectives;

5. FINDS that the proposed project implements the goals stated in Propositions 1 and 68;
6. FINDS that the proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);
7. ADOPTS the staff report and recommendations dated September 23, 2019 for this item;
8. ADOPTS all of the preceding whereas clauses;
9. AUTHORIZES a grant of Proposition 1 and 68 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the River Green Pre-Improvement Planning, within the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed; and
10. FURTHER AUTHORIZES the Executive Director to execute the grant agreement and to perform any and all acts necessary to carry out this resolution; without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such authority shall include those provisions that he shall determine in the exclusive exercise of his discretion are necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution and to comply with the policies of the Conservancy, and to otherwise carry out the provisions of state law and regulations.

*~ End of Resolution ~*

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, duly noticed and held according to law, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2019 at Thousand Oaks, California.

Dated:

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Executive Director