

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: June 1, 2020

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 15: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant of Proposition 68 funds to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks for the Los Angeles River Greenway Habitat Restoration Project, Studio City.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant of \$150,000 from Proposition 68 urban creek funds to the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, which will be matched with \$533,015 from other funding sources.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code Sections 33204 (a) and 80110(a)(1)(A).

Background: Please see the attached grant application materials from the City Department of Recreation and Parks requesting a grant of \$150,000 from the Conservancy's Proposition 68 Los Angeles River urban creeks projects allocation.

The project entails restoration and enhancement of a segment of the southern bank of the Los Angeles River in Studio City between Whitsett Avenue and Laurel Canyon Boulevard, to remove weedy non native species, re-establish irrigation, stabilize slopes to minimize erosion, and plant native riparian species. The project is needed to restore the greenway for habitat values and beauty, and to improve its recreational value for the community.

The State Budget two years ago contained language with direction to the Conservancy that it provide the grant to the City of Los Angeles for this Los Angeles River project. The Department consulted with staff on best approaches, and prepared the subject grant application.

Using the Conservancy's Proposition 68 Guidelines for Resource Protection and Restoration, the Department's application scores a total of 142 points out of total possible 170 (140 minimum), but also has 3 to 1 matching funding, for a more than sufficient score to award the grant.