



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

March 18, 2003

The Honorable Board of Directors
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors

**AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO REIMBURSE THE
MOUNTAINS RESTORATION TRUST FOR COSTS INCURRED UNDER
SECTION (3), SUBSECTION (a), PARAGRAPH (2)
OF THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITION OF 1996
(THIRD DISTRICT - 3 -VOTE MATTER)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District), to reimburse the Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) for costs incurred prior to the execution of the grant project agreement for the Cold Creek Preserve Land Acquisition Project funded under Section (3), Subsection (a), Paragraph (2) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition).

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended action would allow the MRT to be reimbursed for its Cold Creek Preserve Land Acquisition Project funded under Section (3), Subsection (a), Paragraph (2) of the 1996 Proposition in the Fourth Cycle of the Competitive Grant Program of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District).

The Procedural Guide for the Fourth Cycle of the Competitive Grant Program, approved by your Board on August 11, 1998, delegates to the Director of Parks and Recreation the authority to reimburse eligible project costs if those costs are incurred subsequent to execution of a grant Project Agreement. The funds for this project were originally granted to the County, which intended to provide the funds to the MRT for its acquisition of the Cold Creek Preserve property. The County subsequently determined that the grant should be made directly to the MRT. Because the MRT had incurred costs prior to execution of its grant Project Agreement, the Director of Parks and Recreation is recommending your Board's approval to allow the District to reimburse the MRT for these costs.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendation furthers the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal 1.1.1 (Service Excellence), Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility) and Goal 6 (Community Service) by enabling the preservation of open space land in the County of Los Angeles. Your Board's approval of the recommendation would allow the MRT to be reimbursed for eligible costs incurred in its Cold Creek Preserve Land Acquisition Project, part of the District's Competitive Grant Program.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient funds for the project, totaling \$100,000, is budgeted in the District's Assessment Fund (HB4). Section (3), Subsection (a), Paragraph (2) of the 1996 Proposition designated \$7,000,000 for grants to be awarded on a competitive basis.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Section (3), Subsection (a), Paragraph (2) of the 1996 Proposition designated \$7,000,000 funds for grants to public agencies and nonprofit organizations throughout the District to be awarded on a competitive basis for trails, senior citizen facilities, urban tree planting, graffiti prevention, rivers and streams, and acquisition and/or restoration of natural lands. On May 18, 1999, your Board, acting as governing body of the District, awarded \$100,000 to the County in the Rivers and Streams category for the Cold Creek Preserve Land Acquisition Project. In your Board's action of December 17, 2002, your Board approved the County's request to allow the MRT to assume the project and to submit a grant application for the project to the District.

County Counsel has reviewed this action as to form.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Your Board's approval of this recommendation would allow the MRT to be reimbursed for costs incurred on its Cold Creek Preserve Land Acquisition Project.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Office-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and to return three conformed copies to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,


for

Tim Gallagher
Director, Parks and Recreation

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel
