



San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

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DATE: February 18th, 2010

TO: Governing Board Delegates and Alternates

FROM: Nicholas T. Conway, Executive Director

RE: Revised Watershed Coordinator Memorandum of Understanding

Recommended Action

Approve revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, and the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) for implementation of the Watershed Coordinator grant.

Background

In 2008, SGVCOG was awarded a grant from the California Department of Conservation to hire a Watershed Coordinator to implement goals established in prior regional planning processes for the Upper San Gabriel Valley and Rio Hondo Watersheds. In September 2008, the Governing Board approved a MOU between SGVCOG, RMC, and the Watershed Council to implement this grant and specifically to identify a hiring entity for the Watershed Coordinator employee. Subsequent to this agreement, the State Bond Freeze resulted in a stop work order for the grant in December 2008. Six months later, July 2009, SGVCOG was notified that work on the grant could resume. To accommodate staffing losses and reassignments borne as a result of the grant suspension period, SGVCOG, the Watershed Council and RMC adopted a revised MOU in September 2009 that identified RMC as the employing entity for the Watershed Coordinator rather than Watershed Council as originally designated.

At the November RMC Board meeting it was approved that the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA), a joint-powers authority between RMC and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, become established as an employer entity. As such the WCA will directly implement a portfolio of projects that includes: RMC granted programs, WCA property management functions and other grant awarded projects and programs. As a result, the Watershed Coordinator will be employed by the WCA and will serve through this amended MOU to maintain the seamless continuity of implementing the Watershed Coordination Program. The relationship between all MOU parties will remain clear and distinct with accountability of staffing and implementing the program transferring to the WCA. The MOU amendment is included as Attachment 1.

Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding

Effective January __, 2010

THE UPPER SAN GABRIEL AND RIO HONDO WATERSHED PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, THE RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY, WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND THE LOS ANGELES AND SAN GABRIEL RIVERS WATERSHED COUNCIL

WHEREAS, The Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA) has been established as a joint powers agency between the RMC and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to implement projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed and to focus on projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects and has been identified as a key partner for the implementation of the Upper San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Watershed Program.

NOW THEREFORE; The Parties agree to the following amended memorandum of understanding:

The above recital is hereby incorporated into the Memorandum of Understanding by this reference.

I. General Conditions

- A. The Watershed Conservation Authority is added as a party to the Memorandum of Understanding.
- B. The term of agreement is extended through June 30, 2011. The term may be further extended through December 31, 2011 by mutual agreement of all Parties and contingent upon an authorized six-month extension by the Department of Conservation.

II. Responsibilities of each of the Parties

- A. SGVCOG (No change)
- B. RMC (Remove sections 1 through 9 and substitute the following)
 - 1. Provides cash flow and program gap funding to the WCA in support of the Watershed Coordinator Program.
 - 2. Provides program match funding to LASGRWC for the implementation of select program deliverables of the Agreement.
 - 3. Provides additional program funding to WCA for the implementation of expanded program deliverables in support of Agreement.
- C. WCA (Adds the following new provisions)

1. Provides for staffing and direct supervision of the Watershed Coordinator.
2. Provides in kind operating costs, printing, postage, office supplies, rent and telephone services.
3. Provides for all WCA reports, billing documentation and back-up to SGVCOG in support of quarterly DOC reporting and reimbursement invoicing.
4. Provides staff and/or contracted labor payroll and benefits and billing thereof to the SGVCOG with documentation of these salary/benefit expenses separate from any associated overhead expenses that are otherwise funded by other.
5. Reimburses staff for operating costs, specifically mileage, parking, and conference travel, per diem, and registration not directly paid by the SGVCOG as provided for in DOC grant agreement budget.
6. Provides staff and/or contracted labor and thereby provides for all insurance and benefits.
7. Provides for the implementation of expanded program deliverables funded by supplemental RMC grant funds.

D. LASGRWC (Adds the following new provision)

1. Provides for the implementation of select program deliverables utilizing matching RMC grant funds.

All the other terms and conditions remain the same.

For the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For the Rivers & Mountains Conservancy

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For the Watershed Conservation Authority

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council

Signed: _____

Date: _____