



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

August 6, 2004

Ms. Rorie Skei
Acting Executive Director
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
5750 Ramirez Canyon
Malibu, California 90265

Grant Application - Proposition 50 Funds

Dear Rorie:

I am pleased to present the enclosed application for grant funding for the Soka University Acquisition-Project Planning and Design for Proposition 50. The MRCA requests a grant in the sum of \$200,000 from the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50) Chapter 10, Section 79570(c).

The proposed grant would fund activities directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources and associated planning, permitting, and administrative costs for the proposed 588-acre Soka University property fee simple acquisition, located in a major coastal watershed of Santa Monica Bay. The MRCA will provide direct services related to the expeditious acquisition of this property, and will implement post-acquisition improvements to ensure adequate and safe public access, physical improvements to protect sensitive natural and cultural resources, and habitat restoration to maximize the value of the property for downstream Southern steelhead trout and all indigenous wildlife.

The MRCA's efforts will include concerted coordination with other government agencies including the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Wildlife Conservation Board, the National Park Service, and the California Coastal Conservancy. The proposed Soka University acquisition and initial public access and resource protection improvements are consistent with the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact our project manager, Paul Edelman, at 310-589-3230, extension 128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Berger".

Michael D. Berger
Chairperson

Attachments: Application

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
GRANT APPLICATION – PROPOSITION 50 FUNDS**

Project Name: Soka University Acquisition – PP&D	Amount of Request: \$200,000.00 Total Project Cost: \$200,000.00						
Applicant Name: Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority	Amount of Match: Source of Match:						
Applicant Address: 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 Los Angeles, CA 90065 Phone: 323-221-9944 Fax: 323-221-9934	Project Address: 26000 Mulholland Hwy						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>County</td> <td>Senate District</td> <td>Assembly District</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles</td> <td>23</td> <td>41</td> </tr> </table>	County	Senate District	Assembly District	Los Angeles	23	41
	County	Senate District	Assembly District				
Los Angeles	23	41					
Email: Paul.Edelman@mrca.ca.gov							

Grantee's Representative Authorized in Resolution:
 Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer 323-221-9944, x109

Name and Title *Phone*

Person with day-to-day responsibility for project (if different from Authorized Representative):
 Paul Edelman, Chief of Natural Resources and Planning 310-589-3230, x128

Name and Title *Phone*

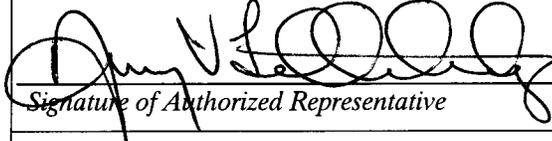
Project Description:

Project planning and design activities for the Soka University acquisition, leading directly to the protection of land and water resources within a major coastal watershed of Santa Monica Bay pursuant to Division 23 (commencing with Section 33000) of the Public Resources Code. The grant would fund activities directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources and associated planning, permitting, and administrative costs for the proposed Soka University acquisition, and providing public access to the property. Refer to Exhibit A, Project Description and Budget.

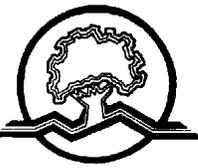
Tasks / Milestones:	Budget:	Completion Date
1 Pre-acquisition activities	\$ 119,500.00	December 31, 2004
2 Post-acquisition activities	\$ 80,500.00	December 31, 2005

For Acquisition Projects: APN(s): N/A
 Acreage: N/A

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.


8-23-2004

Signature of Authorized Representative *Date*



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EXHIBIT A - PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BUDGET SOKA UNIVERSITY ACQUISITION PP&D – PROPOSITION 50

8/12/04

The requested funding would be used for the MRCA's project planning and design activities that will lead directly to the fee simple acquisition of the 588-acre Soka University property, and for initial site improvements for public access to the property.

The Soka University property is located in the ecologically significant Malibu Creek watershed of the Santa Monica Mountains. All of the 588 acres currently offered for purchase are located within the Coastal Zone, and the property is contiguous with Malibu Creek State Park. Wildlife resources are significant, as the property is a critical component of the central Santa Monica Mountains habitat linkage hub that contributes to both inter- and intra-mountain range wildlife movement. The southernmost documented population of the genetically unique Southern steelhead trout resides just downstream from the subject property.

Acquisition of the Soka property would protect regionally significant land and water resources within a major coastal watershed of the Santa Monica Bay pursuant to Division 23 (commencing with Section 33000) of the Public Resources Code. The MRCA has already obtained an appraisal of the property and has had initial communications with the seller. However, a great deal of work remains to finalize the transaction and open the property to the public.

Pre-acquisition activities (\$119,500) will include preparation of a purchase agreement, filing necessary documents with the state and county as required, securing funding for the acquisition, setting up escrow, review of title reports and appraisals, obtaining environmental assessments, and property mapping and graphics to support the acquisition. Funding for the acquisition is expected to come from multiple sources, and will likely require many in-person meetings at various agency offices in Sacramento and Los Angeles. The acquisition is expected to be completed by December 31, 2004. This portion of the grant will also pay for closing costs.

Post-acquisition activities (\$80,500) will focus on implementation of initial site improvements to ensure adequate and safe public access, physical improvements to protect sensitive natural and cultural resources, and habitat restoration to maximize the value of the property for downstream Southern steelhead trout and all indigenous wildlife. Post-acquisition activities will commence immediately following the purchase, and will be completed by December 31, 2005.

All funded activities will be directly related to the acquisition, protection and restoration of land and water resources and associated planning, permitting and administrative costs for the proposed Soka University acquisition and enhancement as described above. Acquisition of the property will protect land and water resources resulting in the reduction of pollution, capture of additional storm water runoff, protection and management of ground water, and the provision of habitat for fish and wildlife.

The MRCA's efforts will include concerted coordination with other government agencies including the California Department for Parks and Recreation, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Wildlife Conservation Board, the National Park Service and the California Coastal Conservancy. The proposed Soka University acquisition and initial public access and resource protection improvements are consistent with the Santa Monica Mountains Comprehensive Plan. A proposed budget is attached.

**PROJECT BUDGET
SOKA UNIVERSITY ACQUISITION PP&D**

Task 1 – Pre-Acquisition Activities

Personnel (including benefits)	\$ 51,000
Legal Expenses	\$ 20,000
Transportation	\$ 4,500
Appraisal Review	\$ 12,000
Closing Costs	\$ 14,000
Environmental Assessments	\$ 15,000
Mapping/Graphics	\$ 3,000
Task 1 Total	\$ 119,500

Task 2 – Post-Acquisition Activities

Personnel (including benefits)	\$ 28,300
Plants and planting materials	\$ 21,000
Trash bins and dumping fees	\$ 6,500
Transportation	\$ 3,000
Signage and fencing	\$ 11,000
Equipment rental	\$ 6,500
Water	\$ 1,200
Mapping/Graphics	\$ 3,000
Task 2 Total	\$ 80,500

Total Budget: \$ 200,000