

- **Board of Directors**
Executive Committee
Communications & Legislation Committee

April 11, 2000 Board Meeting

8-9

Subject

Authorize General Manager to pursue approximately \$14 million in federal grant funding, \$9.5 million on behalf of the Western Center Museum for Archaeology and Paleontology and \$4.5 million for the Trails at the Diamond Valley Lake Recreation Project Area

Description

In July 1999 the Board approved the inclusion of the concept of the Western Center Museum for Archaeology and Paleontology (Museum) in the Diamond Valley Lake Project. Funding for the Museum will be obtained primarily through the Western Center Community Foundation and sources other than Metropolitan. However, Metropolitan may pursue state and federal funding on behalf of the Museum. Currently legislation is being presented in the United States Congress to secure approximately \$14 million. Approximately \$9.5 million of the appropriation will be used in conjunction with other funds to assist in the establishment of an interpretive center in support of Metropolitan's core mission to ensure the protection and interpretation of the paleontology discoveries made at the reservoir site as well as offset curation costs for archeological findings. The remaining \$4.5 million will be used to supplement existing funds to establish trails designed to provide public access to the reserves.

Policy

Metropolitan Policy Issue

Board Options/Fiscal Impacts

Option #1

Authorize General Manager to pursue federal grant funding on behalf of the Western Center Museum for Archaeology and Paleontology and for Trails at the Diamond Valley Lake Recreation Project Area.

Fiscal Impact: Additional travel and incidental costs related to lobbying for efforts that may result in a reduction in expenditures of Metropolitan funds for trail projects.

Option #2

No Action

Fiscal Impact: None, but may result in expenditures of Metropolitan funds for trail projects that could have been funded through outside sources. Avoided costs related to lobbying activities.


Staff Recommendation

Option #1.



Roy L. Wolfe
Acting Manager, Corporate Resources

3/27/2000
Date



Ronald R. Jester
General Manager

3/29/2000
Date