

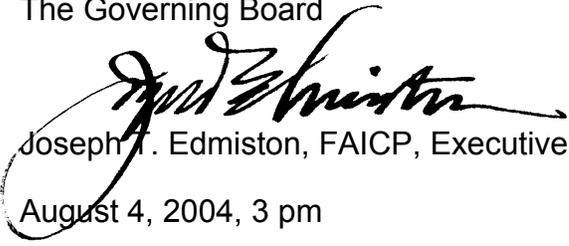


# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:   
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: August 4, 2004, 3 pm

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement of approximately 0.3304 acre from Shea Homes Limited Partnership for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit No. 199915679-JPL for the Big Sky Ranch Project, Sand Canyon drainage, Simi Valley.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement of approximately 0.3304 acre from Shea Homes Limited Partnership for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit No. 199915679-JPL for the Big Sky Ranch Project, Sand Canyon drainage, Simi Valley.

Background: Pursuant to actions taken by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) at their February 25, 2002 meetings, the MRCA accepted a conservation easement from Sand Canyon Partnership, comprising approximately 8.0568 acres. The conservation easement provided mitigation for impacts to "waters of the United States" from the construction of the Big Sky Ranch project per U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit No. 199915679-JPL. The Conservancy February 25, 2002 staff report for agenda item 10(c) (attached) provides background regarding that transaction.

Shea Homes Limited Partnership is now offering 0.3304 acre of a conservation easement to MRCA, also required of the above-mentioned permit. Staff is currently reviewing the exact language in the proposed conservation easement. If the board authorizes today's action, staff will complete the transaction subject to staff's approval of the legal documents.

