



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: July 7, 2004

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XXI: Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 1 to acquire APNs 4371-033-012, 4371-041-024, 4379-023-007, 4379-023-008, 4379-023-009, 4379-023-010, 4379-023-011, 4379-023-012, 4379-024-001, 4379-024-002, 4379-024-003, 4379-024-004, and 4379-024-005 in Acquisition Area B (Stone Canyon- Beverly Glen); APNs 2428-003-015, 2429-023-003, 2429-023-004, 2429-023-005 in Acquisition Area C (Runyon Canyon- Outpost); APNs 5556-023-034, 5563-018-001 and 5567-018-051 in Acquisition Area D (Laurel Canyon- Lookout Mountain), and APN 5577-013-006 in Acquisition Area E (Hollywood Reservoir), Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation District No. 1 to acquire APNs 4371-033-012, 4371-041-024, 4379-023-007, 4379-023-008, 4379-023-009, 4379-023-010, 4379-023-011, 4379-023-012, 4379-024-001, 4379-024-002, 4379-024-003, 4379-024-004, and 4379-024-005 in Acquisition Area B (Stone Canyon- Beverly Glen); APNs 2428-003-015, 2429-023-003, 2429-023-004, 2429-023-005 in Acquisition Area C (Runyon Canyon- Outpost); APNs 5556-023-034, 5563-018-001 and 5567-018-051 in Acquisition Area D (Laurel Canyon- Lookout Mountain), and APN 5577-013-006 in Acquisition Area E (Hollywood Reservoir), Los Angeles.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has reserved twenty-one tax defaulted parcels for purchase from the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector. These parcels are included in Chapter 8 Agreement Number 2286. The Citizens Oversight Committee of the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 adopted a resolution recommending that the MRCA add the parcels to the District No. 1 Engineer's Report at its April 14, 2004 meeting. The MRCA adopted a resolution adding the parcels to the District No. 1 Engineer's Report at its June 2, 2004 meeting.

The attached table lists the properties reserved by the MRCA, their respective Chapter 8 agreement number, the cost of each parcel, number of acres, jurisdiction, and a brief note to identify their location. Each parcel is shown in the accompanying set of maps. The maps show the relationship between the parcels and the surrounding land.

APNs 4371-033-012, 4371-041-024, 4379-023-007, 4379-023-008, 4379-023-009, 4379-023-010, 4379-023-011, 4379-023-012, 4379-024-001, 4379-024-002, 4379-024-003, 4379-024-004, and 4379-024-005 are located in Acquisition Area B in the Stone Canyon-Beverly Glen region. The parcels are part of a large, critical habitat block between Beverly Glen and Benedict Canyons. APNs 4379-023-007, 4379-023-008, 4379-023-009, 4379-023-010, 4379-023-011, 4379-023-012, 4379-024-001, 4379-024-002, 4379-024-003, 4379-024-004, and 4379-024-005 lie to the east of the reservoir and are just on the other side of Beverly Glen from Beverly Glen Park. APNs 4371-033-012 and 4371-041-024 lie on the eastern side of Beverly Glen Boulevard. All of the parcels lie adjacent to or in close proximity of City-owned open space. The parcels comprise 0.91 acres for a price of \$16,629 plus minor administrative fees. The parcels do not require brushing.

APNs 2428-003-015, 2429-023-003, 2429-023-004, and 2429-023-005 are located in Acquisition Area C in the Caheunga Pass north of Mulholland Drive and south of Woodrow Wilson Drive. The parcels are part of a habitat patch that follows the slopes in the area and then connects to the recently-acquired Bubalo parcel. This habitat block connects to the Mulholland Drive overcrossing on the 101 Freeway. The parcels comprise 0.23 acres for a price of \$7,527 plus minor administrative fees. Parcels 2429-023-003, 004, and 005 will require limited brushing next to three houses. Parcel 2428-003-015, which is located between Pacific View Drive and Valevista Trail, does not require brushing.

APNs 5556-023-034, 5563-018-001, and 5567-018-051 are located in Acquisition Area D near Lookout Mountain Avenue, Jewett Drive, or Grandview. APN 5556-023-034 is a small parcel that lies in a large habitat patch south of Grandview near Laurel Canyon Boulevard. APN 5563-018-001 is a 0.69-acre parcel that lies in a habitat patch between Wonderland and Lookout Mountain Avenues. APN 5567-018-051 lies between Lookout Mountain Avenue and Laurel Canyon along Jewett Drive. The parcel is part of a habitat patch that follows the slopes in the area and connects to a large habitat block along Laurel Canyon. The parcels comprise 0.91 acres for a price of \$6,159 plus minor administrative fees. The parcels do not require brushing.

APN 5577-013-006 is located in Acquisition Area E just west of the Hollywood Reservoir. The parcel is adjacent to City-owned Lake Hollywood parcels. It directly connects Lake Hollywood to the Mulholland Drive overcrossing. Acquisition of this parcel will preserve this large habitat block, the excellent habitat including walnut woodland on the parcel, and the potential for wildlife to cross the 101 Freeway at Mulholland Drive. The parcel comprises 58.51 acres for a price of \$333,788 plus minor administrative fees. The parcel will require brushing next to approximately 18 homes.

Agenda Item XXI
July 7, 2004
Page 3

It is expected that the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector will send the bill to acquire the parcels as soon as two months from now. The MRCA will then have 14 days to pay the bill once it is received.