



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: January 18, 2005

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of a grant of Proposition 50 Section 79572 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy or in the alternative acceptance of an assignment of a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the acquisition of approximately 340 acres (APNs 4455-015-002, 4455-016-032 and 033, 4455-035-001, 4455-033-005, 006 and 021, 4455-028-043, and portions of 4455-033-003 and 026) of the approximate 588-acre Soka University property, unincorporated Calabasas area, and authorizing the execution of all documents required by the Wildlife Conservation Board pursuant to the conditions of the grant.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of a grant of Proposition 50 Section 79572 funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy or in the alternative acceptance of an assignment of a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the acquisition of approximately 340 acres (APNs 4455-015-002, 4455-016-032 and 033, 4455-035-001, 4455-033-005, 006 and 021, 4455-028-043, and portions of 4455-033-003 and 026) of the approximate 578 acre Soka University property, unincorporated Los Angeles County, and authorizing the execution of all documents required by the Wildlife Conservation Board pursuant to the conditions of the grant.

Background: The MRCA has entered into an option agreement to acquire the Soka property. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has applied for a grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board for the purpose of acquiring Soka. The applicable provision of Prop. 50 from which the funds will be granted requires that the grantee be the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Staff of the WCB acknowledges that the WCB grant funds will be part of the consideration that the MRCA pays to close the transaction. Staff of the WCB has not made a final decision as to whether the funds should be re-granted by the SMMC to the MRCA or if the MRCA will be assigned the funds under the terms of the WCB grant to the SMMC. The MRCA will be required to comply with the conditions of the WCB grant to the SMMC.

