



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: November 5, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(d): Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of mitigation funds to supplement Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy acquisition of four surplus Caltrans-owned parcels in the vicinity of the Valley Circle Boulevard - 101 Freeway interchange.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of up to \$5,000 of mitigation funds to supplement Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy acquisition of four surplus Caltrans-owned parcels in the vicinity of the Valley Circle Boulevard - 101 Freeway interchange.

Background: The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has been in the process of attempting to acquire four surplus Caltrans parcels on the south side of the 101 Freeway at the Valley Circle interchange for several years. All of the paper work and approvals with the State are complete. The Conservancy is contributing a major share of the funding and the cities of Calabasas and Los Angeles are also contributing \$20,000 and \$15,000, respectively. One private donor is contributing \$5,000. The parcels will remain as key viewshed and habitat but also be used for the capture, cleaning and infiltration of stormwater runoff.

Closure of the deal requires only \$5,000 additional funding. Staff can use a couple of eligible mitigation funds to close this gap without reducing the funding for or jeopardizing any project. The permanent public benefit for \$5,000 is significant. A map showing the properties is attached.