



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9933

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: March 3, 2010

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V (c): Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 Area E funds to acquire parcels in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreements 2619 and 2646, Cahuenga Pass, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 Area E funds to acquire parcels in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreements 2619 and 2646, in the Lake Hollywood area.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) commonly enters into Chapter 8 Agreements with Los Angeles County to acquire tax defaulted properties. The MRCA has acquired over 1,500 acres through this process.

The tables below for Chapter 8 Agreements 2619, and 2646 include the parcels, sizes, general location, and current cost to the MRCA. The cost estimate is projected through July 2011. Unfortunately, the cost of the parcels increases substantially every year as penalties and back taxes increase. That rate of increase is approximately 1.5 percent per month, for a total of 18 percent annually. A brief description of the parcel follows along with attached aerial photograph with the parcel boundaries.

The acquisition of all parcels were approved by the Citizen's Oversight Committee at their meeting in July of 2009.

Agreement Number 2619

APN	Acreage	Location	Price
5577-030-009	0.10	East side of Cahuenga Pass, adjacent to County Open Space	\$11,500
TOTALS	0.10		\$11,500

Agreement Number 2646

APN	Acreage	Location	Price
5582-005-026	0.19	East of Lake Hollywood, adjacent to Mulholland hiking trail.	\$14,000
5585-012-006	0.13	East of Lake Hollywood.	\$16,000
TOTALS	0.32		\$30,000

Lake Hollywood/Cahuenga Pass area

APN 5577-030-009 is adjacent to a Los Angeles County Open Space parcel surrounding the John Anson Ford theater, just south of Lake Hollywood. The parcel contains high quality chaparral habitat. Acquisition of the parcel reduces the probability of future lot line adjustments and the associated ecological and viewshed impacts.

APN 5582-005-026 is adjacent to a drive right of way assemblage of MRCA property which runs along side of the heavily used Mulholland hiking trail. The west side of the parcel borders Griffith Park. Acquisition of the parcel ensures the continuity of the viewshed in this area.

APN 5585-012-006 contains quality chaparral habitat and disturbed habitat within the Hollywood Dell neighborhood. Preservation of this parcel will add to a growing collection of MRCA parcels in an accessible bowl of open space used by many residents for walks.