



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 1, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(e): Consideration of resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a Proposition 1 grant to acquire APN 2052-013-040, approximately 5 acres, Liberty Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for a Proposition 1 grant to acquire APN 2052-013-040, approximately 5 acres, Liberty Canyon.

Background: The subject approximately five-acre property is located in the heart of the Liberty Canyon wildlife corridor just north of the 101 freeway. For over a decade, owner outreach to address public acquisition of the parcel was met with silence. A development group acquired the property approximately 18 months ago and contacted staff about potential acquisition. The owners subsequently received a ministerial plot plan approval from Los Angeles County. No public notice was required and hence there was no public input on the plot plan approval. Staff is in negotiations with the owners. The property has an access easement through the private property to the east. This is a regionally significant property that requires every effort to fully protect. A house on the property in the middle of the wildlife corridor would be extremely detrimental to its function.

The proposed action authorizes staff's submission of a Proposition 1 grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Applications are due February 28<sup>th</sup>. The grant application would not exceed \$500,000. Staff had communicated with the Third Supervisorial District and has come to an understanding to share the cost of the acquisition.