



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM: 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: June 7, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 1 funding for the acquisition of APNs 4460-014-008, 010, and 011 totaling approximately 2.83 acres and authorizing the acquisition of said parcels in Escondido Canyon, City of Malibu.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing a grant application to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for Proposition 1 funding for the acquisition of APNs 4460-014-008, 010, and 011 totaling approximately 2.83 acres in an amount not to exceed \$999,000, and authorizing the acquisition of said parcels in Escondido Canyon, City of Malibu .

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) is proposing to acquire APNs 4460-014-008, 010, and 011 totaling approximately 2.83 acres in Escondido Canyon within the City of Malibu. A Coastal Development Permit (CDP) was approved for the construction of a 4,184 square foot single-family residence and associated development on the subject property in August 2014. In April 2015, the City Council denied an appeal of the proposed development project and upheld the CDP approval. The property has been listed for sale with the CDP approval in tact. Acquisition of the property by the MRCA would prevent the proposed development from taking place and permanently protect the property from future development threats.

The subject property is located at the northern terminus of Via Escondido Drive just east of Escondido Canyon Park (owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the MRCA). The proposed acquisition would protect approximately 120 linear feet of Escondido Creek running through the property. The creek and adjacent area supports a well-developed riparian habitat that can serve as one of the pathways for east-west wildlife movement into and out of Escondido Canyon Park. Additionally, the property contains a portion of the City-designated environmentally sensitive habitat area adjacent to the north and east of the subject property.

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The property also provides key trail linkages for the regionally significant Coastal Slope Trail and the Haunted House Connector Trail as shown on the Parkland and Trails Dedication Incentive Program Map of the City's Local Coastal Program , adopted by the City Council on April 11, 2016.