



# 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 11, 2006

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII(b): Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of in lieu mitigation fees to acquire properties in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreement numbers 2273, 2361, and 2412 to acquire properties in unincorporated portions of Chatsworth, the upper Santa Clara River watershed, and the north slope of the San Gabriel Mountains.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of in lieu mitigation fees to acquire properties in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreement numbers 2273, 2361, and 2412 to acquire properties in unincorporated portions of Chatsworth, the upper Santa Clara River watershed, and the north slope of the San Gabriel Mountains.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) commonly enters into Chapter 8 Agreements with Los Angeles County to acquire tax defaulted properties. The acquisition of tax defaulted lands is an effective tool to add to public open space holdings at a minimal cost. The Governing Board took action approving the acquisition of all three subject Chapter 8 agreements at prior meetings. Such action is a prerequisite for the County to process a Chapter 8 agreement. Those two resolutions are attached. The purpose of this subsequent resolution is to authorize funding sources to acquire the properties.

Only those parcels that will require in lieu mitigation funding will be referenced. There are two subject parcels in total, one in 2361 and one in 2412. The other parcels present in these agreements have already secured funding sources.

The total cost for the 2 parcels is \$317,522 plus fees which could be as great as \$12,000. Hence, the total acquisition cost could be as high as \$325,000. One of those parcels is the most expensive one from the three agreements and is located in the critical Agua Dulce Canyon wildlife corridor under State Route 14 (3210-002-007 for \$294,287).

Staff has already requested permission from Army Corps of Engineers to use this additional funding from the Cagney Ranch in lieu mitigation fund for acquisition of these parcels. Approval is pending but is expected.

The table below is a summary of the properties, their general location, and cost. A brief description of each property area follows and aerial photographs with the parcel boundaries are attached.

**Agreement Number 2361**

<b>APN</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Price</b>
3223-016-007	20.00	S of Escondido & SR 14, near Youngs Cyn	\$23,235
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.00</b>		<b>\$23,235</b>

**Agreement Number 2412**

<b>APN</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Price</b>
3210-002-007	25.37	Along Aqua Dulce Cyn Rd, S of SR 14	\$294,287
<b>Total</b>	<b>25.37</b>		<b>\$294,287</b>

**North Slope of San Gabriel Mountains**

These parcels along the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains add to the ongoing acquisitions of open space and wildlife corridors south of SR 14.