



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: February 1, 2006

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of funding to acquire resource property in the Santa Monica Mountains pursuant to Pepperdine University Graduate Campus Project Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3), unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of funding to acquire resource property in the Santa Monica Mountains pursuant to Pepperdine University Graduate Campus Project Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3), unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Background: One condition of Pepperdine University's Conditional Use Permit No. 97-191-(3) for the development of a new graduate school campus at its Malibu campus is to donate \$75,000 as a contribution for the acquisition by a public resource agency of resource property in the Santa Monica Mountains containing valley needlegrass suitable for park management and preservation. According to the Conditions of Approval, this mitigation measure is intended to compensate for the loss of valley needlegrass on the project site. One of the concerns raised in comment letters on this project from park agencies in the Santa Monica Mountains related to the significant loss of native grassland that would result from the project. This is one of several conditions required of the University for this project.

If Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) were to accept the money, MRCA staff would consult and cooperate with the other park agencies in the Santa Monica Mountains, including California Department of Parks and Recreation and National Park Service, regarding for which property the money would be used.