



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: December 5, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V: Consideration of resolution authorizing the addition of APNs 5565-003-036, 037, 038, 039, 040, and 041 to the Engineer's Report for the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Laurel Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the addition of APNs 5565-003-036, 037, 038, 039, 040, and 041 to the Engineer's Report for the Santa Monica Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, Laurel Canyon, City of Los Angeles.

Background: On August 6, 2003, the District No. 1 Citizens' Oversight Committee adopted a standard resolution determining that the use of Assessment District funds to acquire APNs 5565-003-036, 037, 038, 039, 040, and 041, in Area D on the southwest corner of Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Mulholland Drive, is consistent with the criteria and requirements established in the Final Engineer's Report. Over the past four years staff negotiated a deal with the owner.

On May 2, 2007 (please see attached staff report), the Governing Board adopted a resolution authorizing the use of Assessment District funds to acquire an option on the subject parcels. That option agreement has been signed by both parties. As staff was making the request for funds to exercise the option, it was discovered that none of the subject APNs were on any available version of the Engineer's Report. However, all of the maps and materials regarding the district, both pre- and post-vote, represented the subject parcels as a potential acquisition. Although the step of adding the subject parcels to the Engineer's Report normally occurs much earlier in the process, as long as the step is taken there is no reason for the option not to fund.