



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 4, 2011

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIV: Consideration of resolution authorizing granting a utility easement to the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District for a fire protection water line serving the Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing granting a utility easement to the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District for a fire protection water line serving the Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch.

Background: As part of the construction of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Visitor Center at King Gillette Ranch, the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) has required that a new water line be installed for fire protection purposes. A requirement of LVMWD for the line is that a new detector check valve be installed for LVMWD maintenance use, and that the valve be located within a 10' x 20' area to which LVMWD needs an easement.

The area proposed for the easement is located behind the westernmost wall of the main entrance gate for King Gillette Ranch along Mulholland. Staff has selected this location to make sure that the valve equipment does not detract from the entry experience for visitors. Since the equipment will be placed behind the property's fence lines, LVMWD will also need an easement giving them the right to enter the property to access their equipment.

The easement area is near the boundary separating MRCA land from the portion transferred to the National Park Service in 2010. In order to meet the quick schedule necessary to complete the construction of the Visitor Center, the easement area will be kept on MRCA property.

Approval of this resolution will authorize staff to negotiate specific terms and execute the easement document.