



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: June 1, 2011

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(c) : Consideration of resolution granting an easement to the City of Los Angeles over a portion of Confluence Plaza (APN 5415-001-900) for street improvements.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution granting an easement to the City of Los Angeles over a portion of Confluence Plaza (APN 5415-001-900) for street improvements.

The City of Los Angeles is proposing to demolish an existing bridge and construct a new bridge over the Los Angeles River. The bridge is east of the intersection of Riverside Drive and San Fernando Road in the City of Los Angeles. The project will include construction of a traffic circle at the intersection of San Fernando Road, Riverside Drive, and Figueroa Street. The proposed traffic circle will abut Confluence Plaza. To enable construction of the project as planned, the City must acquire a permanent street easement over a portion of Confluence Plaza at the corner of San Fernando Road and Figueroa Street.

Demolition of the subject section of the Plaza will occur and once the project is complete, the new street level will be up to 5 +/- from the existing grade. Due to this dramatic change, MRCA staff has worked closely with the City to ensure that the Plaza will retain its street accessibility and aesthetics. The City sub-contracted with the same landscape architects, Mia Lehrer and Associates, that designed the Plaza for the MRCA. They are designing the entrance to the Plaza from the new, higher, street level, which will entail steps down into the Plaza. By using the original landscape architects, the City and MRCA staff hope to retain continuity between the existing areas of the Plaza and the newly constructed area.

The City will pay for all costs associated with this project and is liable for any damages to the Plaza that are a direct result of the construction.