MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: September 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(j): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over a portion of APN 5570-019-021 in the upper Laurel Canyon watershed, City of Los Angeles.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over a portion of APN 5570-019-021 in the upper Laurel Canyon watershed, City of Los Angeles.

Background: Subject property is located in the upper Laurel Canyon watershed, also within the Mulholland Scenic Corridor. The property abuts a City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power facility and a pertinent public drainage easement. The DWP property and the rear yard of approximately eight other residences' provide an approximate 2-1/2 acre habitat area. The habitat area is a stepping stone between habitat on the East side of Laurel Canyon Boulevard to the Briar Summit Cor Habitat area.

The landowners have offered to donate an approximately 1/4 acre conservation easement to help protect this stepping stone habitat area. The donors would cover the cost of a legal description. The property supports a combination of native and non-native vegetation and is entirely unfenced.