



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: December 14, 2011

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over a portion of APN 2275-025-001 (14545 Mulholland Drive), for wildlife movement purposes, in Sherman Oaks, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement of approximately 0.8 acres over a portion of APN 2275-025-001 (14545 Mulholland Drive), for wildlife movement purposes, in Sherman Oaks, City of Los Angeles.

Background: The subject 1.99-acre property is located in the inner corridor of the Mulholland Scenic Parkway, on the north side of Mulholland Drive, between Mulholland Drive and Beverly Glen Boulevard. The subject conservation easement of approximately 0.8 acres would permanently preserve a habitat linkage that allows north-south wildlife movement between the Beverly Glen Canyon core habitat area and the Stone Canyon Reservoir core habitat area. The property supports a combination of native and non-native vegetation.

Dedication of this conservation easement is a condition of Los Angeles City project DIR-2008-1972-DRB-SPP. The applicant consulted with our staff regarding this easement and understands that the cost of a legal description and title report are their responsibility. The project design has been altered to accommodate the easement. The easement would allow for a "fire stairway" to be constructed within the easement at the property's southern boundary. This stairway would be constructed in a manner so as to not obstruct wildlife movement. This easement would also allow for an earthen or decomposing granite footpath leading from the residence to the native planting area on the northern side of the property.