TO: The Governing Board
FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer
DATE: November 7, 2012
SUBJECT: Agenda Item VII: Consideration of resolution authorizing realignment of a publicly owned easement for ingress and egress over a portion of APN 4457-013-073, Corral Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing realignment of a publicly owned easement for ingress and egress over a portion of APN 4457-013-073, Corral Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County, subject to the conditions outlined herein.

Background: Over the course of several months in 2007 and 2008, the MRCA completed the acquisition of roughly 630 acres of coastal slope property in Corral Canyon in unincorporated Los Angeles County, directly north of Corral Canyon Park which is owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

The majority of the parcels acquired benefit from an access easement that traverses a portion of now-APN 4457-013-073, a privately owned parcel adjacent to Corral Canyon Road and the MRCA owned properties. These easements provide legal access to the MRCA owned properties and will be utilized in the completion of the Coastal Slope Trail.

Representatives for the owner of the property burdened by the MRCA’s access easement recently approached staff and requested that the easement over the subject property be relocated to a portion of the property that would not directly impact the planned construction of a single family home.

Staff has analyzed the proposal and has determined that, subject to certain conditions, it could be a net benefit to the public by realigning the easement into an area better suited for trail purposes while clarifying the MRCA and public’s rights to said easement. Staff has made initial inquiries of the various state and local agencies that provided funding for the acquisition to obtain their consent for the
proposed realignment. The grantor agencies were initially receptive to the proposal, but will require a final review before any realignment is final.

Staff recommends adopting the attached resolution under the following conditions, which will be communicated to the property owner: a) resulting easement must preserve all existing access rights held by the MRCA on behalf of the public for access to MRCA properties and must explicitly authorize the use of the easement for recreational multi-use trail purposes; b) formal consent of the grantor agencies must be obtained prior to realignment of easement; and c) requesting property owner must compensate MRCA for all costs associated with processing the easement realignment, including, but not limited to personnel costs, filing/recording fees, and costs associated with incorporating new alignment into all planning documents.

Please see attached map for location of property and easement.