MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: December 5, 2012

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over an approximately 0.10-acre portion of APN 5569-002-003 (2630 Harlesden Court), Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, Nichols Canyon, City of Los Angeles.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement of approximately 0.10 acres over a portion of APN 5569-002-003 (2630 Harlesden Court), in Nichols Canyon, within the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, City of Los Angeles.

Background: The subject 0.10-acre conservation easement would be located on a 1.34-acre developed residential property located in the outer corridor of the Mulholland Scenic Parkway, in upper Nichols Canyon. North of the subject property exists the best natural open space habitat in Nichols Canyon. South of the property are many undeveloped or partially developed blocks of open space that connect to lower Nichols Canyon and the Sunset Plaza area. This proposed conservation easement would permanently protect a wildlife corridor between these two blocks of habitat.

To protect the privacy of the property’s residents, this easement would allow the owner to construct a wildlife-permeable “post-and-rail” fence at either end of the wildlife corridor, with the provision that such a fence is constructed according to the specifications of MRCA staff.

Dedication of this conservation easement is a condition of Los Angeles City project DIR-2012-2748-DRB-SPP-MSP. The applicant has consulted with our staff regarding this easement and understands that the cost of a legal description and title report are their responsibility.