MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: January 9, 2013

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(b): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over portions of APNs 5567-006-024 and 025 (including 2234, 2240 and 2244 Stanley Hills Drive), Laurel Canyon watershed, City of Los Angeles.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easements totaling approximately 0.5 acres over portions of APNs 5557-006-024 and 025 (2234, 2240 and 2244 Stanley Hills Drive), Laurel Canyon.

Background: The subject 0.5-acre conservation easements would be located across three residential lots (currently two parcels), currently under development, in the western Laurel Canyon watershed, south of the Elrita Bowl. These proposed conservation easements would permanently protect a wildlife movement corridor that facilitates wildlife movement between large tracts of natural habitat on opposing sides of Stanley Hills Drive.

The dedication of this conservation easement is a condition of Los Angeles City projects ZA-2008-0830(ZAD)-1A, ZA-2008-0832(ZAD)-1A and ZA-2008-0834(ZAD)-1A. The three project approvals are in litigation. The final easement boundaries will be determined soon and approved by the staff of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. They would be recorded at no cost to the MRCA.