



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: September 4, 2013

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(I): Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of conservation easements over portions of APNS 2069-065-001, 002, and 003 totaling approximately 10.5 acres along Mulholland Highway, City of Calabasas.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of conservation easements on APNS 2069-065-001, 002, and 003 totaling approximately 10.5 acres along Mulholland Highway, City of Calabasas.

Background: This summer the City of Calabasas approved a three-lot project on an approximately 17-acre property along Mulholland Highway. The conditions of approval required the applicant to dedicate conservation easements on each of the three lots prior to grading certification of each building pad. The attached March 2013 letter from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to the City set the parameters of the easement restrictions. The Conservancy letter includes additional background information.

Two detailed maps of the easements are attached. Grading commenced approximately two weeks ago.

The easements will permanently protect high quality purple sage coastal sage scrub with scattered coast live oaks and native California black walnut trees. They also will protect a narrow section of an east-west habitat linkage that permits animals to travel 2.5 miles from Valmar Road-Old Topanga Canyon Road (Headwaters Corner) to Stokes Canyon core habitat all on the north side of Mulholland Highway.

There is no maintenance requirements or costs associated with these conservation easements.

