



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: January 15, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing assignment of right to purchase APN 5565-003-036 to the City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board authorize assignment of right to purchase APN 5565-003-036 to the City of Los Angeles.

Background:

The subject Laurel Canyon and Mulholland project has been an MRCA acquisition project since December 2007. Since that time the MRCA has acquired one of the six original parcels in fee simple and conservation easements over portions of the remaining five. This protection preserves a narrow but essential wildlife corridor to the western side of Laurel Canyon Boulevard but does not protect the top principal viewshed lot or the many acres of terraced flat areas as the property descends into a canyon bottom anchored by a year-round spring.

In October 3, 2012, the Governing Board authorized the MRCA to enter into an option agreement and make option payments in order to acquire the remaining lots in fee, APNs 5565-003-036, 037, 039, 040, and 041. The MRCA executed an agreement in April 2013 and has been making timely payments according to the schedule set forth in the agreement.

The option agreement contemplated that MRCA could assign its right to acquire APN 5565-003-036 to the City of Los Angeles, which had a pending Proposition K grant application at the time of the 2012 MRCA board action. The City is now in a position to proceed with the acquisition of APN 5565-003-036 and has asked the MRCA to formally assign its right to the City.