## MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



Los Angeles River Center & Gardens 570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 Phone (323) 221-9944

## MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Governing Board

March 13, 2014

FROM:

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

DATE:

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easements over portions of APNs 2381-031-009 and 010 (8220 Mulholland Terrace), approximately 0.5-acres, adjacent to National Park Service-owned Fryman Canyon Park, City of Los Angeles.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easements over portions of APNs 2381-031-009 and 010 (8220 Mulholland Terrace), a combined area of approximately 0.5-acres, adjacent to National Park Service-owned Fryman Canyon Park, in the City of Los Angeles.

<u>Background</u>: The subject combined 0.5-acre conservation easements would be located on a 1-acre developed residential property located in the inner corridor of the Mulholland Scenic Parkway. The subject property lies adjacent to the eastern boundary of the portion of Fryman Canyon Park that is owned by the National Park Service (NPS) and maintained by the MRCA.

The portion of the subject property to be permanently protected by conservation easements is part of a natural wildlife movement corridor that facilitates wildlife access to Fryman Canyon Park. This property is an integral habitat linkage in the system of linkages that connect Fryman Canyon Park with the Laurel Canyon - Elrita Bowl habitat block to the west. The property owner has reported to MRCA staff that deer are frequently seen on the property.

Existing hardscape from the residence currently encroaches onto the adjacent parkland. The property owner and applicant claim that this encroachment is permitted by the NPS. MRCA staff have referred this project and the encroachment to NPS staff. The property owner understands that the MRCA's acceptance of the subject easement dedications will not affect the status of the encroachment. The presence of the encroaching hardscape does not diminish the value of the property's wildlife movement corridor.

Agenda Item VI(i) March 13, 2014 Page 2

Dedication of this conservation easement is a condition of Los Angeles City project DIR-2013-3045-DRB-SPP-MSP-P. Staff has a verbal agreement with the applicant that the easements will allow for the continued use of an existing satellite dish. The continued presence of the satellite dish will not adversely impact wildlife movement across the property. 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.