




MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: July 2, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(h): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of an approximately 2.29-acre conservation easement and processing funds over a portion of APN 4455-011-013 in Stokes Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of an approximately 2.29-acre conservation easement and processing funds over a portion of APN 4455-011-013 in Stokes Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Background: As a condition of approval from the County of Los Angeles, the proposed single-family residential development at 2745 Beacontree Lane is required to dedicate two conservation easements to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).

The applicant is required to dedicate to the MRCA a conservation easement over all portions of the property west of and down slope from the 1,380 elevation contour. In addition, the applicant is also required to dedicate to the MRCA a 45-foot-wide section of property that connects the first easement to the eastern property boundary. The attached figure shows these conservation easements.

The total conservation area is approximately 2.29 acres located mostly in the upper Stokes Canyon watershed, edging a short distance into the Cold Creek watershed. Just to the southeast there is an existing MRCA-owned parcel in Stokes Canyon. A small perennial spring on a private parcel immediately west of the subject property is located less than 250 feet from the proposed single-family development. This unique spring provides a key year-round water source for animals with home ranges covering several hundred acres.

As part of the conditions of approval, the applicant will be paying a one-time processing fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) to the MRCA for recordation of the easements.