



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: August 6, 2014

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easements totaling approximately 42 acres over portions of Tract Numbers 52824-1, 52824-2, 52824-3 and 52824-4, and acceptance of processing funds, in San Gabriel Canyon, City of Azusa, Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of processing funds and conservation easements totaling approximately 42 acres in San Gabriel Canyon, by the San Gabriel River.

Background: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) contacted MRCA staff in Spring 2014, inquiring as to whether or not the MRCA was willing to accept conservation easements over open space properties adjacent to an existing housing development. CDFW is eager for the MRCA accept the easement.

Conditions for the MRCA to accept the easements are based on the Homeowners Association providing new Preliminary Title Reports for each relevant parcel, and perfect recordable legal descriptions.

Staff has not negotiated directly with the Homeowners Association, but has calculated that the necessary processing payment would be approximately \$18,000 broken down in the following manner:

Staff time, Natural Resources and Planning: \$2,000
Staff time, Legal: \$2,000
Easement Legal Defense Fund: \$2,500
Long-term Monitoring Fund: \$11,500