

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

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

DATE: November 5, 2014

Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of donation of 13 properties, with a combined acreage of approximately 1.73 acres, APNs 4371-016-024; 4371-017-013; 4371-032-020; 4371-033-008, 010, 014; 4371-039-002; 4371-040-015; 4371-046-004; 4379-032-005; 4380-017-009, 022, and 032 in the Beverly Glen Canyon watershed, acceptance of donation of an approximately 0.15-acre property, APN 5407-002-022, in central City, and payment of property taxes due in the current year for said properties partially

using Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 funds, City of Los Angeles.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of 13 properties in the Beverly Glen Canyon watershed, APNs 4371-016-024; 4371-017-013; 4371-032-020; 4371-033-008, 010, 014; 4371-039-002; 4371-040-015; 4371-046-004; 4379-032-005; 4380-017-009, 022, 032; and 5407-002-022 in the central City, along with payment of property taxes due in the current year for said properties, in an amount not to exceed \$9,000, partially using Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 funds, City of Los Angeles.

<u>Background</u>: The subject 13 undeveloped properties are located throughout Beverly Glen Canyon south of Mulholland Drive. All but one of these parcels are situated either adjacent to, or close to existing MRCA-owned open space properties. Three parcels are near the ridge line overlooking Stone Canyon Reservoir. Three other parcels are currently listed on the Engineer's Report for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1.

The northernmost parcel is located by a ridgeline, in the overlapping fuel modification zones of several residences and a water tank. Although in a fuel modification zone, that parcel has considerable habitat linkage value.

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The property owner's donation of each of the subject properties is conditional on the MRCA's acceptance of all said properties by the end of 2014, and the MRCA taking responsibility for the payment of the property taxes due in the current year. There are adequate funds available to cover these costs in the Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 Area B fund.

The property owner's donation of the 13 Beverly Glen properties is also conditional on the MRCA's acceptance of one urban parcel, APN 5407-002-022. This parcel contains the paved driveway to a building complex owned by the Palmer Group, located on Figueroa Street, adjacent to the property abutting the intersection of the US-101 and State Route 110 freeways. Staff is in ongoing discussions with the Palmer Group's representative, and they have shown interest in purchasing this urban parcel from the MRCA.