



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: June 3, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District for the acquisition of (a) fee title to APNs 3240-016-001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 3243-018-009, 3240-015-024 and 025, totaling approximately 712 acres, and (b) an option to purchase APNs 3243-013-009, 012, 013, 014, 015, 016, 017, 065, 3243-018-007 and 016, totaling approximately 488 acres, located in the Lake Hughes area.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing entering into a project agreement with the Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District for the acquisition of (a) fee title to APNs 3240-016-001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 3243-018-009, 3240-015-024 and 025, totaling approximately 712 acres, and (b) an option to purchase APNs 3243-013-009, 012, 013, 014, 015, 016, 017, 065, 3243-018-007 and 016, totaling approximately 488 acres, located in the Lake Hughes area.

Background: The subject properties are located in the Lake Hughes area, south of Lancaster Rd./West Avenue D. Mainly comprised of gently sloping hillside open space, the properties provide unobstructed views of the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve to the northeast and borders the Angeles National Forest to the south.

The total acreage of the proposed fee title and option properties is 1200 acres. It is largely undeveloped, but does include a limited number of structures that could be utilized by the MRCA.

Successful acquisition of this property will ensure contiguous protected open space in a north of the national forest in the Antelope Valley. Its historic features, desirable location, and recreational opportunities would make the properties attractive additions to public open space and parkland in the region.

The current owners have considered development of the properties for residential purposes, but have offered to sell to the MRCA at a discounted rate. The proposed acquisition is for 712 acres of fee title property along with a two year option to purchase the remaining 488 acres.

The attached resolution will allow the MRCA to apply for Proposition A grant funds and to enter into a project agreement with the Regional Park and Open Space District for the use of those grant funds to acquire the subject properties as public parkland.

Please see the attached map for location.