



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: July 8, 2015

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement(s) over portions of APNs 2427-005-022, 032, 033, and 034 (7521 Mulholland Drive), approximately 0.6 acres total, in the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, adjacent to Oakshire Open Space, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement(s) over portions of APNs 2427-005-022, 032, 033, and 034 (7521 Mulholland Drive), approximately 0.6 acres total, in the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, adjacent to Oakshire Open Space, City of Los Angeles.

Background: The subject combined 0.6-acre conservation easements would be located on an approximately 3.3-acre residential property located in the inner corridor of the Mulholland Scenic Parkway. The subject property lies adjacent to the western boundary of Oakshire Open Space, which is owned and maintained by the MRCA.

The subject contains high-quality oak woodland habitat, and natural draws which allow for stormwater drainage into the wetland system within Oakshire Open Space. The subject conservation easements will permanently preserve a portion of this habitat, protect the eastern portion of the subject property from future development, and provide a degree of permanent protection for wildlife moving between the Briar Summit and Oakshire habitat blocks. The single-family residence to be constructed on the southwest portion of the property is not expected to impact the easement area after construction.

To better facilitate wildlife movement through the easement area, the property owner will remove the existing chain link fencing along the common boundary with Oakshire Open Space, and along the north and south side of the property where possible without creating conflict with the residential neighbors. The southwest end of the easement area will terminate at a three-foot high retaining wall that should not be an obstacle to wildlife movement.

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Dedication of this conservation easement is a condition of Los Angeles City project DIR-2014-840-DRB-SPP-MSP. 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.