MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: January 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VII(f): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over an approximately 63-acre portion of APN 3209-011-006, Soledad Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement over a portion of APN 3209-011-006 in Soledad Canyon.

Background: Staff was contacted in November 2015 requesting that a portion of a private parcel in Soledad Canyon be placed under conservation easement.

This property, known as Air Designs-Middleton Movie Ranch, received a grading and drainage violation in 2009. In addition, a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application was submitted to the County of Los Angeles for it to operate as a filming location.

As a condition of approval from the County of Los Angeles, the applicant of the proposed CUP at 6201 Soledad Canyon Road is required to dedicate 90 percent of the property as a conservation easement to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). (See attached map and figure).

California Department of Fish and Wildlife dictated the need for the conservation easement as mitigation. No fencing, lighting or hardscape shall be allowed in the easement area.