




MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: June 1, 2016

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a fee simple dedication of an approximately 66.91-acre parcel (APN 3244-031-079) and of annual payment from related homeowner's association for parcel monitoring, Haskell Canyon, Santa Clara River watershed.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of an approximately 66.91-acre parcel (APN 3244-031-079) and \$1,150 in annual payment from related homeowner's association for parcel monitoring.

Background: The subject 66.91-acre parcel (APN 3244-031-079) is adjacent to the Haskell Canyon open space property owned by the City of Santa Clarita and managed by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The parcel is Lot 35 of an approved subdivision in the City of Santa Clarita (Vesting Tract No. 66561). The owner of the subdivision is dedicating the open space property to the MRCA in fee, and intends to dedicate a conservation easement over the property to the Desert and Mountains Conservation Authority to satisfy special conditions imposed on the subdivision project by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The subject parcel consists of mostly undisturbed hillsides occupied by grassland and sage scrub habitat. Several north-south drainage channels run throughout the property, including a major drainage that into the adjacent Haskell Canyon open space to the east. A significant ridgeline in the middle of the property runs from the west property line to the east property line.

The homeowner's association of the subdivision will provide an annual payment to the MRCA in the amount of \$1,150 per year for biannual monitoring and spot maintenance. Such inspections will ensure the presence of a rules sign. The annual payment would be incorporated into the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and would continue indefinitely, which will provide appropriate resources for the described maintenance and monitoring operations.