



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: August 3, 2016

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V: Consideration of resolution of formation establishing Community Facilities District No. 2016-1 (Fire Prevention, Wildlife Corridor and Open Space Protection).**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board of the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority ("MRCA") adopt the attached Resolution of Formation for the purpose of forming Community Facilities District No. 2016-1 (Fire Prevention, Wildlife Corridor and Open Space Protection) (the "CFD").

Background: On June 29, 2016, the Governing Board of the MRCA adopted a resolution declaring its intention to establish CFD No. 2016-1 to provide funding to maintain, improve, acquire, protect and preserve open space, wildlife corridors, natural habitats, lands, waters, and facilities owned or managed by the MRCA in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains.

The proposed boundaries for CFD No. 2016-1 are within the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Zone in the City of Los Angeles and generally within the Santa Monica Mountains west of Griffith Park and east of Interstate 405 (the "East Santa Monica Mountains / Hollywood Hills Area"). CFD No. 2016-1 includes a total of approximately 22,692 acres that include public lands that provide open space recreation, viewshed, watershed, and animal habitat resources. The proposed boundary map has been recorded with the Los Angeles County Recorder, is on file with the Board Clerk, and is attached to the Resolution of Formation as Exhibit A.

The public facilities and services proposed to be financed by the CFD and the rate and method of apportionment of special tax are on file with the Board Clerk and attached to the Resolution of Formation as Exhibit B and Exhibit C. The types of services and facilities to be financed by the CFD ("Services and Facilities") shall include maintenance, acquisition, improvement, servicing, protection, and preservation of open space, parkland, wildlife corridors, natural habitats, lands, waters, and facilities owned or managed by the MRCA within the CFD, and

administrative or incidental expenses thereto. The Services and Facilities include, but are not limited to, the protection of water quality, the reduction of the risk of wildfires, park ranger safety and security services, and the collection and accumulation of reserves for the aforementioned purposes.

The MRCA published a notice of a public hearing to be held on August 3, 2016 regarding the establishing the proposed formation of the CFD, and this public hearing was held by the Board, and the proposed special tax to be levied within the CFD has not been precluded by majority protest.

If the Board proceeds with formation of the CFD, the special tax would be submitted to a vote of the registered voters within the proposed CFD in the November 8, 2016 general election. Each voter will have one vote.

The Rate and Method of Apportionment, as set forth in Exhibit C of the Resolution of Intention, provided for a 10-year maximum special tax of \$35.00 per developed parcel. The Rate and Method of Apportionment is included as Exhibit C in the Resolution of Formation.

If the CFD is approved by two-thirds or more of voters in the CFD who vote on the proposition in the November 2016 general election, the CFD would generate approximately \$995,000 per year.

Staff has been working with legal counsel to ensure that all proceedings undertaken thus far by MCRA in connection with the establishment of the CFD and the levy of the special tax have been valid and in conformity with the applicable provisions of Government Code § 53311 et seq.