MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: September 7, 2016

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(b): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement over approximately 0.3 acre portion of APN 4370-010-007 in the Stone Canyon Reservoir area, City of Los Angeles.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement over approximately 0.3-0.7 acre portion of APN 4370-010-007 in the Stone Canyon Reservoir area, City of Los Angeles.

Background: The owner of the subject vacant lot below the Stone Canyon Reservoir Dam desires to donate a conservation easement over a large portion of the property to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The property supports good quality chaparral and is clearly accessible to all forms of wildlife via the west side of the DWP-owned Stone Canyon Reservoir core habitat area. The property also contributes to the connectivity of habitat on both sides of the reservoir via a habitat linkage below the dam. This generous offer is an ecologically important opportunity that benefits the entire portion of the Santa Monica Mountains east of the 405 freeway. The exact boundary will be determined during the preparation of a legal description.

There are no maintenance or liability issues related to the future possession of this proposed conservation easement. All acquisition costs can be paid for with Benefit Assessment District funding.