TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: April 5, 2017

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of resolution authorizing (1) acceptance of an approximately 3-acre conservation easement over a portion of APN 3137-007-020, (2) entering into a management and monitoring agreement, and (3) acceptance of management and monitoring fees, City of Lancaster.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement and entering into a monitoring agreement which includes acceptance of fees.

Background: Staff was contacted by Solar Electric Solutions, LLC in March 2017 requesting that a portion of a private parcel in Lancaster be placed under conservation easement. Solar Electric Solutions, LLC is proposing to construct a single axis tracking solar generation facility. There will be minimal grading, limited to access roads and equipment pads. See attached map and figure.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife stipulated the need for a third party to hold the conservation easement, as part of the project mitigation.

There is no liability to MRCA with acceptance of this easement. There will be no required ongoing maintenance duties required of the MRCA.

MRCA staff will negotiate adequate compensation for any agency required management and/or monitoring.