



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: January 3, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(e): Consideration of resolution affirming and appointing new member of oversight committee for Community Facilities District No. 1.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution affirming and appointing new member of oversight committee for Community Facilities District No. 1.

Background: On August 7, 2012 the Governing Board established Community Facilities District No. 1 (CFD No. 1) for the purpose of funding open space protection and fire prevention by imposing a special tax on all taxable developed real property within the East Santa Monica Mountains/Hollywood Hills Area. Also on August 7, 2012, the Governing Board ordered a special tax election (Measure HH) for November 6, 2012 to receive voter-approval of the CFD No. 1 and levy of the special tax.

On November 6, 2012 Measure HH was approved by the qualified registered voters within the boundaries of CFD No. 1 by receiving 76.18 percent support.

The special tax proceeds are used for the purpose of open space, parkland and wildlife corridor maintenance and preservation, fire prevention and park ranger safety and security services in the East Santa Monica Mountains/Hollywood Hills Area and to fund the acquisition of additional open space in this area and incidental costs. The special tax was approved for ten years and will generate approximately \$681,000 per year for ten years .

Pursuant to the special tax report, which governs the administration of CFD No. 1, the Governing Board is charged with appointing a citizens' oversight committee which will review and report annually on the expenditure of revenues from the CFD. The addition of a fourth member to the currently three-member committee will provide for more robust discussion and increase the opportunity to obtain a quorum for the meetings.

Agenda Item VI(e)
January 3, 2018
Page 2

Staff recommends the appointment of Andrew Lasken, an active member of the Laurel Canyon and Dixie Canyon habitat preservation community, international wildlife photographer and outspoken advocate of local wildlife. As an educator, Andrew lectures on topics such as the California Grizzly and leads nature hikes for children in the San Gabriel Mountains. Andrew also provides behavioral enrichment for mountain lions at a local sanctuary. In addition, Lasken has a professional background in finance.