



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: July 11, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of an approximately 0.131-acre property, APN 5207-024-010, Montecito Heights, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of an approximately 0.131-acre property, APN 5207-024-010, Montecito Heights.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has shown an ongoing commitment to open space protection in all of the Northeast Los Angeles hilltop systems. The subject donation parcel is located on the west-facing slope of Mount Olympus above the Arroyo Seco. The non-profit NorthEast Trees acquired the top of Mount Olympus several years ago with critical in kind help from MRCA staff. The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks owns a multi-acre open space parcel that abuts the subject donation. In recent years, wildlife cameras have shown increased mammalian diversity throughout the NELA hilltops including east of the Pasadena 110 Freeway.

The subject donation parcel adds to a block of protected open space is and located a long distance from any existing structures. It includes several California black walnut trees. Funding for NELA hilltop properties has been limited which makes donations and low cost tax defaulted acquisitions the most viable way to expand the amount of permanently protected land.