



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 XII: Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a grant agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board for funding for Phase 3 of the Triangle Ranch acquisition project, APNs 2063-006-023 and a portion of 2063-006-022, Medea Creek, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) adopt this resolution authorizing entering into a grant agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) for funding for Phase 3 of the Triangle Ranch acquisition project, APNs 2063-006-023 and a portion of 2063-006-022, Medea Creek, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Background:

The subject property, commonly known as "Triangle Ranch," is comprised of approximately 320.6 acres of open space habitat largely in its natural, undisturbed condition. The property owners have developed plans to build 61 homes on the site and have secured a tentative tract map which would allow them to do so.

This property, located directly adjacent to the City of Agoura Hills in unincorporated Los Angeles County, represents one of the largest remaining privately owned developable holdings in this portion of the Santa Monica Mountains. It has long been identified as a crucial linkage for habitat preservation, watershed protection, and wildlife movement in the area and this acquisition has also been a long-term objective of MRCA staff.

MRCA and the owners of the property have entered into an option purchase agreement for the entire property. Transfer of title for Phase 1 of this project has occurred and the outstanding amount on the promissory note will be satisfied within the next 30 days, which will complete Phase 1. Phase 2 of the project is underway and staff expects to close escrow by August 15, 2018.

Phase 2 encompasses 70 acres and MRCA staff intends to complete this phase with funding from both the WCB, pursuant to the proposed resolution, and a grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. This phase must be completed by the end of September, 2018.

Fiscal Impact

While the MRCA will be responsible for ongoing operation and maintenance of the open space land, the approval of this proposal will not have an immediate fiscal impact since the external grant funding is being utilized for the acquisition.