MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: August 8, 2018

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(f): Consideration of resolution authorizing the acquisition of APNs 2581-013-005 and 2581-012-006 (approximately 7.7 acres) in Lopez and Pacoima Canyons using mitigation funds, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acquisition of APNs 2581-013-005 and 2581-012-006 (approximately 7.7 acres) in Lopez and Pacoima Canyons using mitigation funds, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Background: The two subject properties--under the same ownership--abut both Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority-owned 125-acre Lopez Canyon Park and the Angeles National Forest. APN 2581-013-005 includes a portion of the main Lopez Canyon Creek channel with alluvial fan scrub vegetation. APN 2581-012-006 includes a portion of a USGS-designated blueline stream that flows westward into Pacoima Wash. This second northerly parcel is also an essential component for a new conceptual alignment for the Rim of the Valley Trail between the Kagel Canyon Truck Trail and the Pacoima Motorway to the west. Both are inholdings within large San Gabriel Mountains public holdings (see attached figures). APN 2581-013-005 adds additional area to the MRCA’s large-scale stream restoration project located immediately upstream on Lopez Creek and one tributary.

At its April 3, 2013 meeting, the Governing Board adopted a resolution authorizing the acquisition of APN 2581-013-005 in Lopez Creek. The proposed action confirms that authorization and adds APN 2581-012-006. The deal on APN 2581-013-005 could not be closed in that past time period because of a combination title issues and the presence of well-entrenched recreational vehicle squatters. Both issues have been cleared up. The proposed mitigation funding sources are for blueline stream properties and those with alluvial fan scrub vegetation in the Los Angeles River watershed. The Seller has signed the MRCA’s offer and desires to close escrow as quickly as possible. The total purchase price is $62,500.