



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065
Phone (323) 221-9944

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: October 3, 2018

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII(p): Consideration of resolution authorizing sale of an approximately 770-square-foot portion of 2826-025-905 and a 5,600-square-foot temporary construction easement to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for I-5 HOV and Truck Lane Project, Gavin Canyon, unincorporated Santa Clarita area.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing sale of an approximately 770-square-foot portion of APN 2826-025-905 and a 5,600-square-foot temporary construction easement to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for I-5 HOV and Truck Lane Project.

Background: The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and Caltrans are working together to widen Interstate 5 for 13.6 miles between the State Route 14 Interchange and the Parker Road Interchange. The widening is for HOV and truck lanes. In order to widen the I-5 Gavin Canyon bridge over the Old Road by the MRCA's Santa Clarita Woodland Park, Metro has requested a permanent 770-square-foot portion of APN 2826-025-905 and a 5,600-square-foot temporary (four plus years) construction easement over the said parcel. Staff has been in contract with Metro's appraiser several times over the past six months. A map showing the side-by-side take areas is attached. The value of the 11.26 acre parcel was appraised at \$8,000 per acre. The nominal value offered by Metro is \$2,500 total for both easements.

In a separate correspondence with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy regarding this land transfer and environmental impact, Caltrans has proposed compensation for 4f impacts. That compensation would help address restoration for temporary construction easement impacts and fund land acquisition. The funding would most likely be memorialized in an agreement and be provided via and in lieu fee payment to the MRCA.

Agenda Item VII(p)
October 3, 2018
Page 2

Staff has not determined that the bridge widening would substantially diminish the ability for wildlife to use the area under the Gavin Canyon (Old Road) bridge to move between the San Gabriel and Santa Susana Mountains. Staff will make every effort to shape the project to maximize wildlife movement potential.