



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: June 5, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIV: Consideration of resolution (a) authorizing acceptance of State Coastal Conservancy's (SCC) Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant as recommended by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, (b) entering into a grant agreement with SCC, (c) authorizing acceptance of Los Angeles County's Calabasas Landfill Economic Recovery Account funds, (d) entering into a grant agreement with Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and (e) authorizing acceptance of a private donation to acquire approximately 91 acres (APNs 4453-005-081, -082, -083, -084, -085, -086 and -087) in Carbon Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of State Coastal Conservancy's Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant as recommended by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, entering into a grant agreement with SCC, authorizing acceptance of Los Angeles County's Calabasas Landfill Economic Recovery Account funds, entering into a grant agreement with Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and authorizing the acceptance of a private donation to acquire approximately 91 acres in Carbon Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Background: This action will authorize the acceptance of matching funds from SCC's Santa Monica Bay Restoration Grant funds (up to \$350,000), Los Angeles County's Calabasas Landfill Economic Recovery Account funds (up to \$1,000,000), and a private donor (up to \$350,000).

Prior Resolution No. 18-47 authorized applying to, and entering into a grant agreement with, the California Natural Resources Agency's Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) for the Carbon Canyon 91 Acres Acquisition Project (Project). In April, MRCA was notified that the Project was awarded \$500,000 from the EEMP.

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The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is facilitating the acquisition and has submitted the appraisal to the Department of General Services for appraisal review. All indications are the Project is on track to close escrow by November 2019.

The subject 91 acres composed of seven parcels (APNs 4453-005-081, -082, -083, -084, -085, -086 and -087) lie in the heart of the Carbon Canyon watershed adjacent to MRCA's Mellone Preserve property. The property includes a blueline tributary of Carbon Creek and two sections of the Carbon Canyon Road trail. The land is in the zone of the future Coastal Slope Trail for which a final alignment has not yet been determined; however, acquisition of the subject property would secure a vital connection into/out of western Carbon Canyon.

The property will not require any brushing and the maintenance of the unpaved Carbon Canyon Road as both a vehicle and foot trail is conducted by the up-canyon owners (including MRCA) with nearly all having a 15-foot wide easement through the subject property. The MRCA has field staff who live in a house on the adjacent Mellone Preserve property.