



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: November 6, 2019

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement, approximately 0.10 acres, over portions of APN 2386-001-001 (13441 Mulholland Drive) in the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, Dixie Canyon, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of conservation easement of approximately 0.10 acres over portions of APN 2386-001-001 (13441 Lakeridge Drive), located in the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor and in Dixie Canyon, in the City of Los Angeles.

Background: The currently undeveloped 0.25-acre subject property, which fronts Mulholland Drive, sits approximately 150 feet to the southwest of the MRCA's Dixie Canyon Park. Both fall within Habitat Block No. 13 on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's "Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat Linkage Planning Map". That habitat block also includes Longridge Park to the east. The current owner of the subject property has agreed to provide a conservation easement on a portion of the property as a voluntary condition of their proposed project (Case No. DIR-2016-3132-DRB-SPP-MSP) under the City's Mulholland Specific Plan.

The property currently supports Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and California Black Walnut (*Juglans californica*) trees. The conservation easement will provide a measure of permanent protection for existing trees onsite, as well as replacement trees that are required under the City's Protected Tree Ordinance due to the proposed development.

Staff is currently studying the potential for enabling wildlife access to the water in Dixie Canyon Creek under a Proposition 1 grant. In the event that development on surrounding private properties obstructs wildlife movement, particularly on properties to the west of Dixie Canyon Park, the subject conservation easement would ensure

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some degree of protected access for wildlife between Mulholland Drive and Dixie Canyon Creek.

The property owner understands that it is their responsibility to provide staff with a current title report, and a metes-and-bounds legal description of the conservation easement area.

Fiscal Impact: The only costs associated with acceptance of the subject conservation easement would be staff time, and nominal administrative costs associated with recording.