

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: January 8, 2020

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VII(d): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of conservation easement, approximately 0.6 acres, over portions of APN 4382-002-008 (3000 Benedict Canyon Drive) in Benedict Canyon, City of Los

Angeles.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of conservation easement of approximately 0.6 acres over portions of APN 4382-002-008 (3000 Benedict Canyon Drive), located in Benedict Canyon and the Mulholland Drive Scenic Corridor, in the City of Los Angeles.

<u>Background</u>: The currently developed 3.2-acre subject property is located on the east side of upper Benedict Canyon Drive. Across the street to the west is the Sheila Agnes Nature Preserve. The subject conservation easement will offer wildlife an off-street refuge from road traffic on Benedict Canyon Drive. The easement will additionally ensure wildlife access to a foraging area on the eastern downslope of the ridge where the subject property is located.

The current owner of the subject property is offering the subject conservation easement as a voluntary condition of their project (case no. DIR-2019-4062-DRB-SPP-MSP) in the City of Los Angeles's Mulholland Specific Plan Area. A similar easement was offered by a different owner in connection with a 2012 project, however, that owner did not follow through with the recording. The current owner had assumed that the easement had been recorded, and included a diagram of it on their project plans submitted to the City. In any case, the current owner has agreed to rectify the situation by recording the easement in connection with their currently proposed project.

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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.

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