



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: May 6, 2020

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(h): Consideration of resolution authorizing reimbursement to Friends of Griffith Park for funds advanced to escrow for MRCA to acquire APNs 5580-020-012 and 013 adjacent to Griffith Park as such funds are provided by the City of Los Angeles to the MRCA post-acquisition closing.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board authorize reimbursement to Friends of Griffith Park for funds advanced to escrow for MRCA to acquire APNs 5580-020-012 and 013 adjacent to Griffith Park as such funds are provided by the City of Los Angeles to the MRCA post-acquisition closing.

Background: At its April 1, 2020 meeting, the Governing Board adopted a resolution authorizing the acquisition of approximately 1.35 acres adjacent to Griffith Park at the Canyon Drive park entrance. That acquisition is proceeding with one hundred percent private funding. The two parcels are under private contract and the escrow is soon to be assigned to the MRCA. Approximately half the donated money will flow through the MRCA into escrow and the remainder through Friends of Griffith Park into escrow.

Council District 4 has pledged \$15,000 towards land acquisition in the general Griffith Park area to the local community. Most likely City policy restrictions would make the MRCA the recipient of such a grant because it is a government agency. In anticipation of these City funds becoming available a considerable time after escrow closes, the Friends of Griffith Park is providing an extra \$15,000 to the total \$500,000 property purchase. The proposed action would authorize the MRCA to accept eastern Santa Monica Mountains acquisition funds from the City and to subsequently grant those funds to the Friends of Griffith Park.