



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: July 1, 2020

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VI(d): Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a conservation easement (approximately 2 acres) over APN 4355-005-001, 1471 Summit Ridge Drive, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board authorize acceptance of a conservation easement (approximately 2 acres) over APN 4355-005-001, 1471 Summit Ridge Drive, City of Los Angeles.

Background: The subject two-acre parcel is located on the ridgeline between Peavine and Franklin Canyons. It is contiguous with Habitat Block No. 74 on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's *Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat Linkage Planning Map*. The vegetation cover is mostly non-native perennial and annual grassland with scattered shrubs which is mostly beneficial to reptiles, raptors, and ground squirrels. A private party is acquiring the property to preclude its division into four lots to accommodate four 10,000-square-foot houses. The private party would wait a year for tax purposes and then donate a conservation easement over the whole parcel to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The donor desires the assurance that the MRCA is a partner in this generous endeavor to further protect the Santa Monica Mountains. With a conservation easement, the MRCA would no liability or brushing obligations