MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: December 2, 2020

SUBJECT: Agenda Item VI(i): Consideration of resolution authorizing expenditure of Community Facilities District funding to contribute to the acquisition of APNs 5567-018-039, 5567-018-040 and 5567-018-050 in Laurel Canyon (0.29 acres) with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority receiving conservation easements over all or some of said APNs, City of Los Angeles.

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing expenditure of up to $20,000 Community Facilities District funding to contribute to the acquisition of APNs 5567-018-039, 5567-018-040 and 5567-018-050 in Laurel Canyon (0.29 acres) with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority receiving conservation easements over all or some of said APNs.

Background: The Laurel Canyon Land Trust (LCLT) has a superb record of acquiring properties in the Laurel Canyon watershed. LCLT has the three above referenced parcels under contract to close in mid-December 2020. The parcels are in the upper Kirkwood Bowl area. One parcel ties together an MRCA lot with a LCLT lot. All of the parcels abut dirt paper streets that are used a local trails. Those paper streets are Jewett Drive and West Elusive Drive. All three parcels are part of Habitat Block 53 on the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy’s 2020 Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Habitat Linkage Planning Map.

LCLT needs funding to complete the transaction. The proposed action would authorize the expenditure of up to $20,000 of Community Facilities District No. 1 funding towards the acquisitions. In return the MRCA would receive conservation easements over all three parcels. LCLT would retain fee simple ownership and all of it associated liabilities.