



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100
Los Angeles, CA 90065
Phone (323) 221-8900 Fax (323) 221-9001

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: August 3, 2004

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item X: Consideration of resolution authorizing transfer of an approximately 20-acre portion of Rancho Portrero Open Space (former Huck property/Broome Ranch) to the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency, Thousand Oaks, consistent with Resolution No. 93-52.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing transfer of an approximately 20-acre portion of Rancho Portrero Open Space (former Huck property/Broome Ranch) to the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency, Thousand Oaks, consistent with Resolution No. 93-52.

Legislative Authority: Government Code section 6500 *et seq.*

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has owned the Rancho Portrero Open Space in unincorporated land near Thousand Oaks since 1993. The original 640-acre property was formerly known as the Huck property or as Broome Ranch; MRCA sold a portion to the National Park Service and currently owns 326 acres. Resolution No. 93-52, passed in September 1993, authorized transfer of at least a portion of the remaining property to the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (COSCA) at any such time that COSCA was ready to accept the land (see attached resolution and minutes from September 1993).

Over the past decade MRCA has facilitated a series of actions in order to address the desires of the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency (COSCA), the City of Thousand Oaks, and the Conejo Recreation and Park District to provide what was originally planned to be a *temporary* equestrian facility on a 20-acre portion of the parkland. MRCA leased the site originally to the City of Thousand Oaks then to COSCA, which subleased to a private stable operator. Although the plans for the type and location of a permanent equestrian facility have greatly changed over time as differing ideas from the community have evolved, the City's desire is now that the current temporary site be upgraded to be a permanent equestrian facility.

COSCA, the Park District, and the City apparently are now in consensus that COSCA should own in fee the equestrian facility area, with the City to undertake permanent upgrades after securing funding, completion of planning, and completion of environmental compliance. In fact, COSCA authorized at its July 13 meeting the acceptance of the property portion, and the City of Thousand Oaks took a

MRCA Agenda Item X
August 3, 2005
Page 2

supporting action at its July 26 meeting. Conejo Recreation and Park District is expected to hear the matter on August 4.

Conveying this 20-acre portion of the Rancho Portrero Open Space to COSCA at this time is consistent with the longstanding intent of MRCA and Resolution 93-52, and this recommended action is simply a more current reification of that intent.