



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: October 6, 2010

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item V(p): Consideration of resolution affirming Resolution 09-113 authorizing the acquisition of 77 surplus properties in Beverly Glen Canyon and amending said resolution to add said parcels to the Final Engineers Report for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution affirming Resolution 09-113 authorizing the acquisition of 77 surplus properties in Beverly Glen and Benedict Canyons and amending said resolution to add said parcels to the Final Engineers Report for Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 in the City of Los Angeles.

Background: In 2006 the City of Los Angeles moved to surplus over a 100 properties in Beverly Glen and Benedict Canyons. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy exercised its first right of refusal. To reach a resolution, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has been working with City on a land sale since November 2007.

At its November 2007 meeting, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. 07-155 that authorized the use of up to \$1.5 million of Santa Monica Mountains Open Space Preservation Assessment District No. 1 funds to acquire up to 125 of these City properties. Prior to that meeting the District's Citizens Oversight Committee (October 2007) recommended that the MRCA acquire some set of the 125 parcels. The agenda language for the MRCA's November 2007 meeting authorized adding the subject properties as necessary to the Final Engineer's report, however that clause did not make it into the resolution.

Resolution No. 09-113 amended Resolution 07-155 to further refine the list of 125 properties down to 86 properties and to authorize entering into an agreement with the City of Los Angeles to acquire the properties that assures that \$750,000 of the proceeds be used for the acquisition of six acres at the corner of Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Mulholland Drive.

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The City released a report addressing the sale for a City Council Committee meeting on October 4, 2010 and hopefully a City Council vote no later than October 8th. To the keep the Laurel Canyon and Mulholland acquisition alive, the deal with City must close by October 29th.

The proposed resolution affirms all actions to date authorizing the MRCA's acquisition of the subject properties, calls out the 77 specific parcels in the City report, and officially adds those 77 parcels to the Final Engineer's Report.

The staff report of agenda item V(p) provides additional background information on the status of the Laurel Canyon and Mulholland acquisition.