



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:   
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

DATE: January 11, 2006

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII(c): Consideration of resolution authorizing the use of in lieu mitigation fees to acquire properties in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreement numbers 2357, 2285, and 2367 in the Topanga Creek and Malibu Creek watersheds of the Santa Monica Mountains.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of in lieu mitigation fees to acquire properties in Los Angeles County Chapter 8 Agreement numbers 2357, 2285, and 2367 in the Topanga Creek and Malibu Creek watersheds of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) commonly enters into Chapter 8 Agreements with Los Angeles County to acquire tax defaulted properties. The acquisition of tax defaulted lands is an effective tool to add to public open space holdings at a minimal cost. The Governing Board took action approving the acquisition of all three subject Chapter 8 agreements at prior meetings. Such action is a prerequisite for the County to process a Chapter 8 agreement. Those two resolutions are attached. The purpose of this subsequent resolution is authorize funding sources to acquire the properties.

Only those parcels that will require in lieu mitigation funding will be referenced. There are two subject parcels in total, both in 2357. The other parcels present in these agreements have already secured funding sources.

The total cost for the 2 parcels is \$67,120 plus fees which could be as great as \$12,000. Hence, the total acquisition cost could be as high as \$80,000.

Staff has already requested permission from Army Corps of Engineers to use this this additional funding from the Southland's Church International in lieu mitigation fund for acquisition of these parcels. Approval is pending but expected.

The table below is a summary of the properties, their general location, and cost. A brief description of each property area follows and aerial photographs with the parcel boundaries are attached.

**Agreement Number 2357**

<b>APN</b>	<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Price</b>
4434-004-018	4.99	Topanga Canyon	\$63,422
4440-012-004	0.16	Topanga Canyon	\$3,698
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.15</b>		<b>\$67,120</b>

**Topanga Canyon**

These parcels are important trailhead buffers and contribute to the Topanga Canyon viewshed. One of these parcels, 4440-012-004, is contiguous with the ongoing Topanga Canyon-Garapito Canyon-Hillside Drive workprogram.