

# Memorandum

To : The Conservancy  
The Advisory Committee

Date: June 28, 2010

From :  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 9(a): Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into a memorandum of understanding with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the management, operation, and improvement of the portion of Franklin Canyon Park owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution recommending authorizing entering into a memorandum of understanding with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (“MRCA”) for the management, operation, and improvement of the portion of Franklin Canyon Park owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Legislative Authority: Section 33211 of the California Public Resources Code.

Background: MRCA currently provides daily management and operation of the Conservancy owned portion of Franklin Canyon Park. MRCA intends to apply for a grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation (“State Parks”) for facilities improvements.

Since MRCA does not hold title to the land, State Parks is requiring a formal Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between the Conservancy that clearly outlines the obligations and responsibilities of the MRCA. MRCA has requested that the Conservancy authorize entering into this agreement.

Specifically, according to State Parks’ requirements, the term of the MOU must be thirty (30) years, must contain rights of termination for cause, and must address site control roles and responsibilities. It also must have an optional renewal clause to provide framework for extending the MOU beyond the initial term.

The MRCA has requested the Conservancy’s authorization to proceed with negotiating the MOU. The MRCA Governing Board will consider authorization at its earliest opportunity.