

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: January 26, 2015

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 16: Consideration of resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund to partially fund one or more parcels of the donation of APNs 4448-029-026, 027, and 028 in Las Flores Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution approving the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority's use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund to partially fund one or more parcels of the donation of APNs 4448-029-026, 027 and 028 in Las Flores Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Legislative Authority: Section 33211(c) of the Public Resources Code.

Background: The subject parcels, totaling 5.85 acres, abut Las Flores Canyon Road and are across from and south of Tuna Canyon Park owned by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The subject parcels provide a key part of the Las Flores Canyon viewshed and are part of the east-west habitat linkage that links Las Flores Canyon to Carbon Canyon.

The MRCA recently closed a bargain sale of the northern 8.05-acre parcel of the same ownership that abuts subject APNs 4448-029-026 and 028 for the Coastal Slope Trail alignment. The subject parcels are being acquired in relation to this recent acquisition. The subject parcels can provide contingency alignment alternatives for the Coastal Slope Trail, if necessary. As a condition of the bargain sale of the northerly 8.05-acre parcel and this subject acquisition, the parcels will collectively be known as the Tom and Giselle Hennessy Nature Preserve in honor of the family's contributions to the Malibu community over their residency in the area.

On November 5, 2014, the MRCA Governing Board adopted a resolution authorizing the use of up to \$50,000 of the Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund (CHIMF) to partially fund the acquisition of the subject parcels. The acquisition of the subject parcels closed in December, 2014 along with the acquisition of the northerly 8.05-acre parcel. However, each CHIMF expenditure by the MRCA must be approved by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Thus, the proposed action would retroactively provide the Conservancy's approval of this CHIMF expenditure. The MRCA holds and expends these mitigation funds, which can only be

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spent within the Coastal Zone boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains.