

10-0338
CD 5

MOTION

FEB 24 2010

In late 2006, the City announced its intent to declare as surplus various undeveloped City parcels in the hills of Council District Five. Under state law, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) has the first right to purchase these parcels at a price essentially based on the City's investments in and carrying costs of these parcels. See Public Resources Code 33207.


These disparate parcels are situated along Beverly Glen Boulevard in an area known as Beverly Glen Canyon. The parcels have limited market value because they would be difficult if not impossible to develop. Still, they are important parcels as open space, and the Conservancy has indicated that it would like to exercise its option to purchase them. For some time, Council District 5, the Mayor's Office and various City departments have worked on a direct sale to the Conservancy of up to 80 disconnected properties within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone.

While investigating these Beverly Glen Canyon parcels, the Conservancy learned that a private owner would be willing to sell a large parcel east of the Beverly Glen parcels near the intersection of Mulholland and Laurel Canyon. This Mulholland parcel, which is close to the City's dog park, would be an important addition to the City's landscape of open space and has been a very high priority for purchase by the Conservancy and the community. The Conservancy has indicated that it will not proceed with the Beverly Glen transaction unless a portion of the proceeds from the Beverly Glen transaction is dedicated towards the Mulholland purchase price – an amount sufficient for the Conservancy to place an option on the property while the Conservancy develops the remainder of the funding.

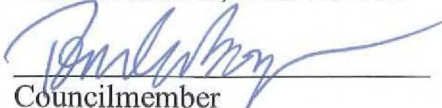
Together, these two transactions create a win-win for the City, for the Conservancy and for our residents. Invaluable open space will be preserved in the Santa Monica Mountains for future generations; the City will save significantly in no longer having to address the liability, maintenance and upkeep of these parcels; and the City will obtain a one time immediate payment to the general fund to help in addressing the City's ongoing fiscal crisis.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council request the City Administrative Office and the General Services Department complete this fiscal year a direct sale of these surplus properties in Beverly Glen Canyon to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for \$1.5 million and to dedicate \$750,000 in proceeds from the sale to the Conservancy's purchase of the Laurel Canyon parcel.

Presented by:


PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, Fifth District

Seconded by:


Councilmember



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ORIGINAL