



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

510 S. Vermont Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975. (213) 738-2981. <http://openspacedistrict.lacounty.info>

September 18, 2012

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**AMEND THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S PROJECT LIST PURSUANT TO
SECTION (3), SUBSECTION (d) OF THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITION OF
1996, COMBINE SPECIFIED EXCESS GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT PREVIOUSLY ALLOCATED TO THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION
AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND IN THE ANTELOPE
VALLEY
(FIFTH DISTRICT - 3 - VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of these actions will combine two previously-executed grants funded with Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District, awarded to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the acquisition of 20 parcels of land in the Agua Dulce Canyon.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed Acquisition of Land in the Antelope Valley Project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, because the project involves acquisition of land to preserve open space for the reasons stated herein and reflected in the record of the Project.
2. Amend the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's project list, most recently amended on May 11, 2010 to add the acquisition of 20 parcels of land in Agua Dulce Canyon in the Fifth Supervisorial District.
3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, acting in his capacity as Director of the Regional Park and Open Space District, to combine two existing grants for the acquisition of land in the Antelope Valley previously awarded to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority.

4. Authorize the Director to add the acquisition of the 20 parcels of land in Agua Dulce Canyon to the combined grant and to administer the grant pursuant to the procedures in the Procedural Guide for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the acquisition of 20 parcels of land (1,017.75 acres) in Agua Dulce Canyon to be added to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's (Conservancy) project list, as well as provide funding for the acquisition of these parcels for preservation of open space. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) is acting as grantee on behalf of the Conservancy.

On June 13, 2006, your Board allocated \$300,000 to the Conservancy for a grant to the MRCA to acquire tax-defaulted parcels of land in the Fifth Supervisorial District. On March 3, 2009, your Board allocated an additional \$1,020,000 to the Conservancy to acquire more tax-defaulted parcels in the Fifth District. The MRCA was not able to purchase all of the parcels with either of the allocations because some of the owners of the tax-defaulted parcels had paid their delinquent taxes before the parcels could be auctioned by the Treasurer/Tax Collector. Of the \$300,000 allocation, a residual balance of \$116,528.40 remains in the grant and of the \$1,020,000 allocation, a residual balance of \$625,427.07 remains. The MRCA requests that the two grants be combined and that the total of \$741,955.47 in residual funds from the two previous allocations be made available for the acquisition of the 20 parcels in Agua Dulce Canyon identified in Attachment A.

The total cost of the acquisition of the 20 parcels is \$4.47 million. In addition to the available \$741,955.47 of Specified Excess Funds, \$2.47 million in State Wildlife Conservation Board funding will fund the acquisition. The City of Santa Clarita is contributing \$1.285 million plus closing costs toward the acquisition.

It is also recommended that the Director be authorized to combine the two previously awarded grants, to add the acquisition of the 20 parcels identified in Attachment A, and to administer the one remaining grant for grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, as well as grantee agreement with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, and to administer the grant under procedures previously approved by your Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) by funding the acquisition of additional protected open space land in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in the amount of \$1,320,000 is budgeted in the Fifth Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space Districts' Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that funds provided to the Conservancy be expended “solely for projects approved by the Board, pursuant to such criteria as the Board may, in its discretion, adopt,” provided that those projects are identified in the Conservancy’s annual work program transmitted to the Governor and State Legislature and as may be amended from time to time, after noticed public hearings held in November of 2003 and August of 2004.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 have encumbered all such funds before they may receive grants of Excess Funds. The MRCA meets this requirement.

The proposed acquisition project meets the procedural requirements of the 1996 Proposition and has been reviewed in accordance with the Conservancy’s revised Procedural Guide, adopted by your Board on June 17, 1997.

The 1996 Proposition further provides that your Board may disapprove a project within the boundaries of a city only upon a finding that the acquisition or improvement may impact access to or use of a site identified or proposed for present or future sanitary landfill purposes. In addition, your Board previously has adopted procedural requirements requiring a review of proposed Conservancy projects relative to their impact on existing or proposed highways, and their consistency with General or Area Plans.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has found that the proposed acquisition of the properties would not involve nor affect any existing or potential landfill sites or accesses thereto. DPW did, however, find in its review of the impact on any planned County roads or highways that one parcel submitted for its review impacted a secondary highway. APN 3210-002-007 fronts Agua Dulce Road and DPW recommends reserving 10 feet of additional right-of-way dedication plus additional slope easement along the property frontage on Agua Dulce Road (Attachment B). MRCA will comply with the recommended right-of-way dedication and slope easements.

The Department of Regional Planning (DRP) researched the list of proposed parcels for acquisition, consulted with County Counsel and noted no inconsistencies or lack of conformity between the parcels and their status relative to the applicable County planning documents (Attachment C.)

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended acquisitions would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District from Excess Funds available for specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to combine the two previously-awarded grants when all applicable conditions have been met.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District are required to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The MRCA is the lead agency for the Acquisition of Land in the Antelope Valley Project.

The proposed Acquisition of Land in the Antelope Valley Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Section 15325 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 25 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because it consists of acquisition of land to preserve open space.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Project Agreement Amendment combining the two previously-awarded grants will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Conservancy's Procedural Guide approved by your Board in 1997 and used since then for the administration of similar grant projects. Prior to execution, the Grant Project Agreement Amendment will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Your Board's approval of these recommendations will authorize the Director to award a grant amendment to the MRCA for the acquisition of the parcels in Agua Dulce Canyon. It will have no impact on any other District-funded project.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", is written over a horizontal line.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:IV:LB

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

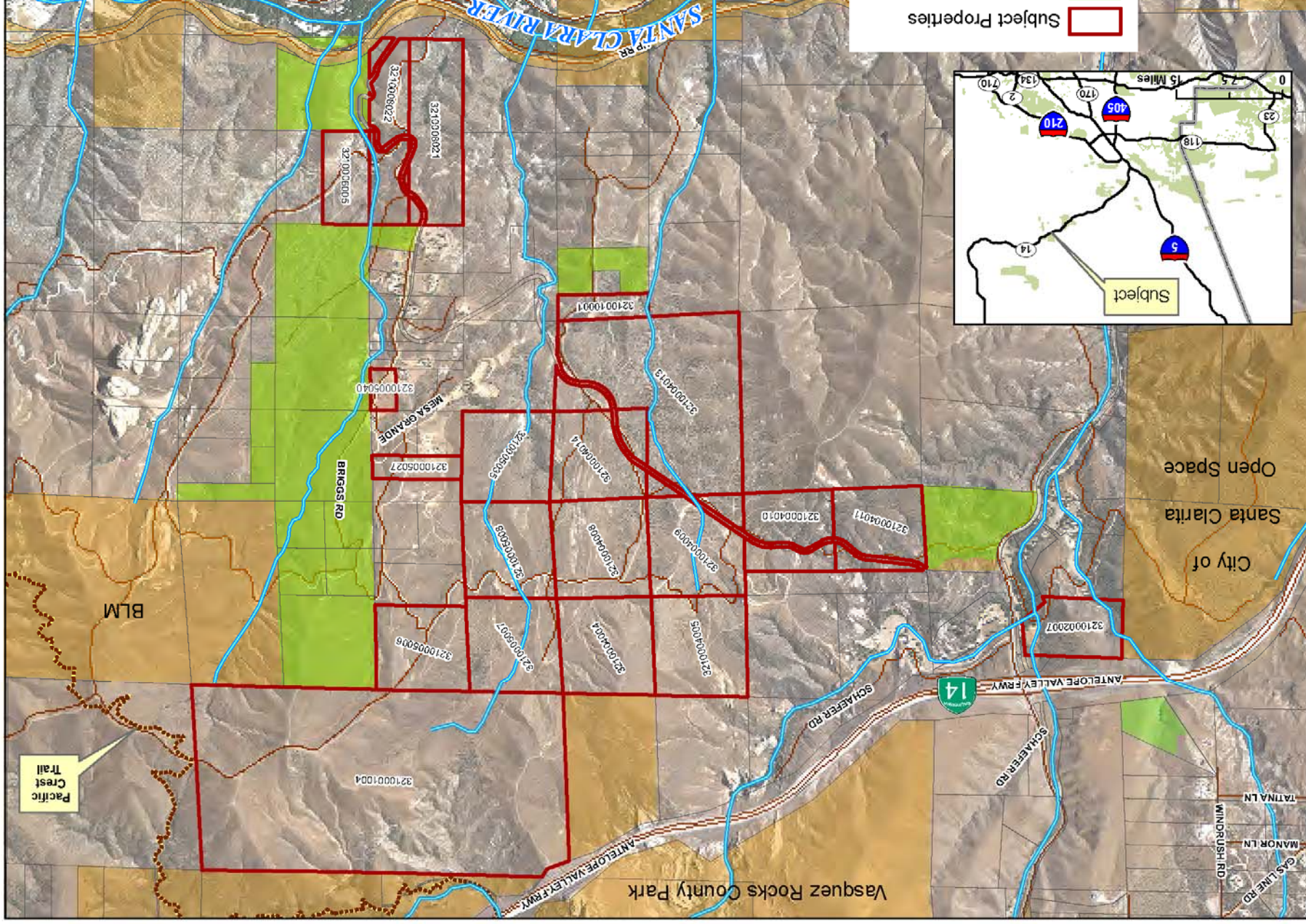
Parcels to be amended into
Project Agreement 85A1-09-2202
and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's
Project List

APN	Acreage	Sub-watershed
3210-001-004	316.73	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-002-007	25.59	Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-004	42.52	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-005	44.15	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-008	43.87	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-009	43.69	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-010	31.51	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-011	33.10	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-013	116.08	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-004-014	38.74	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-005-006	36.88	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-005-007	41.00	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-005-008	40.28	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-005-027	9.61	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-005-035	38.30	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-005-040	4.96	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
3210-006-005	20.51	Long Canyon
3210-008-021	45.72	Long Canyon
3210-008-022	31.07	Long Canyon
3210-010-001	10.44	Unnamed tributary between Long Canyon and Agua Dulce Canyon
Totals	1,014.75	

Agenda Item V(k)
MRCA
3/2/11

- Subject Properties
- SMMC MRCA Property
- Other Public Land

0 500 1,000 2,000
Feet



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

Attachment B

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

June 11, 2012

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: LD-4

TO: Ilona Volkmann, Administrator
Department of Parks and Recreation

FROM: *for* Anthony Nyivih
Land Development Division
Department of Public Works

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S REQUEST FOR A NEW ACQUISITION PROJECTS IN THE AGUA DULCE CANYON AREA

As requested, we reviewed the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's May 17, 2012, list of proposed acquisition projects in the Agua Dulce Canyon area as it relates to construction of any highway depicted on the County of Los Angeles Highway Plan and the impacts to the Solid Waste Management System in the County of Los Angeles. The following are our comments:

1. Assessor Parcel No. 3210-002-007 fronts Agua Dulce Road, a secondary highway on the Los Angeles County Highway Plan, and requires 10 feet of additional right-of-way dedication plus additional slope easement along the property frontage on Agua Dulce Road.
2. The remaining Parcel Nos. 3210-001-004; 3210-004-004, 005, 008, 009, 010, 011, 013, and 014; 3210-005-006, 007, 008, 027, 035, and 040; 3210-006-005; 3210-008-021 and 022; and 3210-010-001 do not impact County highways.
3. The proposed acquisitions would not involve nor affect any existing or potential landfill sites or accesses thereto.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions on highway impacts, please contact Steve Burger of Public Works' Land Development Division at (626) 458-4943 or sburger@dpw.lacounty.gov. For Solid Waste Management System impacts, please contact Corey Mayne of Public Works' Environmental Programs Division at (626) 458-3524 or cmayne@dpw.lacounty.gov.

HW:tb

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Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

June 27, 2012

TO: Ilona Volkmann, Administrator
Regional Park and Open Space District

FROM: ^{MLH} Mark Herwick, AICP, Supervising Regional Planner
Land Development Coordinating Center

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING REVIEW OF PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF PARCELS IN AGUA DULCE CANYON FOR DETERMINATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE GENERAL PLAN AND/OR AREA PLANS

The Department of Regional Planning has reviewed your request for a determination of consistency with the adopted General Plan and/or Area Plans for parcels located in Agua Dulce Canyon. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is proposing to acquire twenty parcels of land in Agua Dulce Canyon and include the acquisition as an amendment to its Initial Work Program that will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

The subject parcels are contained within the adopted Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan (SCVAP) and the soon-to-be adopted One Valley One Vision Plan (OVOV). OVOV has been approved by the Board of Supervisors and is expected to be adopted in summer 2012. Once adopted, OVOV will replace SCVAP. The attached list of the parcels proposed for acquisition identifies SCVAP and OVOV land use plan designations, respective zoning, presence in a Significant Ecological Area (SEA), and any pending cases. Eight of the twenty parcels will be in the Santa Clara River SEA once OVOV is adopted.

In SCVAP, Hillside Management (HM) areas are those mountainous or foothill terrain areas having a natural slope of 25% or more. Residential developments in urban hillside management areas must contain no less than 25 percent of open space and residential developments in non-urban hillside management areas must contain no less than 70 percent of open space. Non-urban 2 (N2) allows 1 dwelling unit per acre. Watershed (W) is a land use designation indicating a floodway or floodplain.

In the soon-to-be adopted new plan, OVOV, a parcel designated as RL10 allows 1 dwelling unit per 10 acres, and a parcel designated as RL20 allows 1 dwelling unit per 20 acres.

The zoning for all parcels is Light Agriculture (A-1-1; A-1-2) or Heavy Agriculture (A-2-1; A-2-2). The last number in each designation (e.g. 1 or 2) specifies the minimum required area in acres.

The acquisition of these parcels for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's Initial Work Program is consistent with the goals and policies of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and soon-to-be adopted OVOV. The Department of Regional Planning has no objection to the proposed action, however, when OVOV is adopted there will be eight parcels in the Santa Clara River SEA. The development of these parcels in the future may be subject to an SEA CUP, SEA Technical Advisory Committee (SEATAC) review, or other applicable entitlement process.

County Counsel has been consulted regarding this information being provided to you.

Please contact me at (213) 974-6470 or mherwick@planning.lacounty.gov with any questions that you may have.

Attachment: Land Use and Zoning of Proposed Parcels for Acquisition by Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

MH:vi

Land Use and Zoning of Proposed Parcels for Acquisition by Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

APN	SCVAP Land Use	Zoning	SEA	Pending Cases	OVOV Land Use	Zoning	SEA	Pending Cases
3210-001-004	HM	A-2-1	No	None	RL 10	A-2-2	Yes	None
3210-002-007	HM	A-1-1	No	None	RL 10	A-2-1	Yes	None
3210-004-004	N2	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	Yes	None
3210-004-005	N2	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	Yes	None
3210-004-008	N2	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	No	None
3210-004-009	N2	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	Yes	None
3210-004-010	HM	A-1-1	No	None	RL-20	A-1-2	Yes	None
3210-004-011	HM	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	Yes	None
3210-004-013	N2	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	No	None
3210-004-014	N2	A-1-1	No	None	RL 20	A-1-2	No	None
3210-005-006	HM	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-005-007	N2	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-005-008	N2	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-005-027	N2	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-005-035	N2	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-005-040	HM	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-008-021	HM, W	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None
3210-008-022	HM	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	Yes	None
3210-010-001	HM	A-2-1	No	None	RL 20	A-2-2	No	None