

EXHIBIT 5: Letters of Support

GEORGE MILLER

7TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0507
(202) 225-2095

www.house.gov/georgemiller

DANIEL WEISS
CHIEF OF STAFF

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AND THE WORKFORCE
SENIOR DEMOCRAT

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0507

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RICHMOND, CA 94806
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1410 GEORGIA STREET
VALLEJO, CA 94590
(707) 645-1888
TTY (202) 225-1904

October 23, 2003

Paul Morabito, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Morabito:

I am writing in strong support of the \$150,000 request by the City of Benicia for Coastal Conservancy funding for the First Street Peninsula Improvements Project.

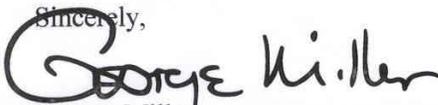
The First Street peninsula and pier are major parts of Benicia's open space system. The pier area provides for active and passive recreation, including public access to the water. It is popular for fishing and the immediate area is a recreation destination point for numerous walkers, joggers, and bicyclists.

This project will complete the Point Benicia Spit as detailed in the Urban Waterfront Restoration Plan. The pier is currently composed of gravel and packed dirt and is not prepped for drainage. Improvements will include pavement, drainage, an ADA-accessible restroom, a turnaround, and lighting. Up to 62 parking spaces are planned, with 3 disabled spaces. In addition, the project will service the historic downtown district by greatly improving the parking situation.

The total cost of the project is \$560,000. Funding partners are the California Wildlife Conservation Board (\$252,000), the City of Benicia (\$69,500), and the U.S. Coastal Impact Assistance Program (\$88,000).

This project will enhance the peninsula for the residents of Benicia and the countless visitors to the community. I urge your favorable consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



George Miller
Member of Congress
7th District, California

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF

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California State Senate

**SENATOR
WESLEY CHESBRO
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

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FORESTRY
MOBILE & MANUFACTURED
HOMES
RURAL EDUCATION



November 3, 2003

Paul Morabito
Chair
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in strong support of the request by the City of Benicia for Coastal Conservancy funding for the First Street Peninsula Improvements Project.

The First Street Pier is considered major part of the open space system. The Pier area provides for active and passive recreation, as well as public access to the water. It is a main hub for daytime and nighttime fishing, and is also used for various pedestrian activities. During the fall season, the pier and surrounding area is often crowded with people fishing for popular sport fish such as Striped Bass, Salmon and Sturgeon. Besides the pier's unique accessibility to these popular sport fish, its immediate area offers great public access to the water for walking, jogging, dog walking, and other similar recreational activities.

The project will service the historic downtown district by greatly improving the parking situation with ADA accessible paved parking spots and an ADA accessible restroom. This project seeks to enhance the quality of life for the immediate community as well as surrounding communities who use the First Street Pier Peninsula.

I hope that you will seriously consider the City of Benicia's grant proposal. Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

WESLEY CHESBRO
State Senator, 2nd District

WC: bo

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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A California

Main Street City...

... fostering a unified

community effort to

downtown revitalization,

emphasis on historic

preservation, enhancing

the waterfront orienta-

tion, and creating a

quality mix of retail,

commercial, residential,

and recreational uses.

**90 First Street
Benicia, CA 94510
(707) 745-9791**

October 15, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito
Chair
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in strong support of the request by the City of Benicia for Coastal Conservancy funding for the First Street Peninsula Improvements Project.

The First Street Pier is the anchor to our historic downtown and is considered a major part of the open space system. The Pier area provides for active and passive recreation, as well as public access to the water. It is a main hub for daytime and nighttime fishing and is also used for various pedestrian activities. During the fall season, the pier and surrounding area is often crowded with people fishing for popular sport fish such as Striped Bass, Salmon, and Sturgeon. Besides the pier's unique accessibility to these popular sport fish, its immediate area offers great public access to the water for walking, jogging, dog walking, and other similar recreational activities.

The project seeks to enhance what the Pier area can provide to the immediate community as well as surrounding communities. The project will service the historic downtown district by greatly improving the parking situation with ADA accessible paved parking spots and an ADA accessible restroom.

As one of Benicia Main Street's goals is to enhance the visual and functional quality of the downtown, we strongly support the City of Benicia in this grant request.

Sincerely,

Libbey McKendry
Executive Director

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OAKLAND, CALIF.