

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

ROOM 5066
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-4900
TEL (916) 445-6447
FAX (916) 327-9113

3711 LONG BEACH BOULEVARD
SUITE 801
LONG BEACH, CA 90807
TEL (562) 997-0794
FAX (562) 997-0799



California State Senate

BETTY KARNETTE

SENATOR
TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:

CHAIR:
BLUE-RIBBON STATE COMMISSION
ON TRANSPORTATION
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CALIFORNIA
EUROPEAN TRADE DEVELOPMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ALAMEDA CORRIDOR
MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS
BANKING, COMMERCE AND
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
EDUCATION
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
AND RETIREMENT
RULES
TRANSPORTATION
SELECT COMMITTEE:
ALAMEDA CORRIDOR EAST
(VICE CHAIR)
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM
INVESTIGATE PRICE MANIPULATION
OF THE WHOLESALE ENERGY
MARKET
LEGISLATIVE MEMBER:
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
METROPOLITAN TRANSIT
AUTHORITY

March 10, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Attn: Karen C. Bane

Re: Support for Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing to seek your support for the Coastal Conservancy's disbursement of \$400,000 for the preliminary design and environmental review of the Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project.

This proposed project would incorporate alternatives developed by the feasibility study that I supported in my February 8, 2000 letter to Chairman Hernandez. Historic wetlands that once bordered the L.A. River in the vicinity of the coast would be restored according to the designs prepared with Conservancy funds.

I would appreciate your favorable consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Karnette".

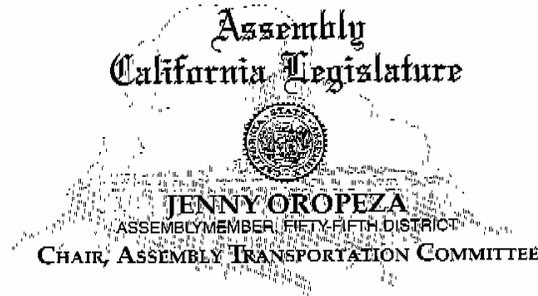
BETTY KARNETTE

BK:kj



EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942649
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0055
(916) 319-2055
FAX (916) 319-2155
DISTRICT OFFICE
ONE CIVIC PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 460
CARSON, CA 90745-2243
(310) 518-3324 or (562) 461-9740
FAX (310) 518-3508



COMMITTEES:
CHAIR, TRANSPORTATION
AGRICULTURE
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND THE ECONOMY

March 10, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Karen C. Bane

VIA US Post and Facsimile (510/286-3840)

Re: Support for Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project

Dear Chair. Morabito,

I am writing to express my support for a \$400,000 grant for the preliminary design and environmental review of the Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project from the California Coastal Conservancy.

The historic wetlands that once bordered the Los Angeles River in the vicinity of the coast would be restored in accordance with the prepared designs. In order to produce sufficiently detailed preliminary designs, Conservancy funds are needed to complement those from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

I would appreciate your favorable consideration of this request and would welcome the opportunity to provide any further information you would find helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Oropeza".

JENNY OROPEZA
Assemblymember, 55 Assembly District

A small logo for recycled paper, featuring a recycling symbol and the text "CALIFORNIA RECYCLED PAPER".
Printed on Recycled Paper

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



CITY OF LONG BEACH

Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

2760 Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697

(562) 570-3100 • FAX (562) 570-3109

January 29, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
State of California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor,
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Support for the Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project

Dear Mr. Morabito:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I encourage you to support the Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project. The City of Long Beach is the holder of a permit to utilize part of the northern basin (known as the DeForest Nature Center) in the Dominguez Gap storm water retention basin complex. For twenty-five years, members of the community in north Long Beach have pursued habitat restoration of this area for the beautification of their neighborhood and so that everyone in this very urbanized area can experience and appreciate what was the natural condition of the area before human disturbance. Finally, the City and County governments adopted the citizens' vision in 1996 when the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Angeles River Master Plan.

Following the adoption of the Los Angeles River Master Plan, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works conducted a feasibility study of the restoration of the eastern and western basins for habitat restoration and recreational uses. That was followed by a similar study, conducted by the City of Long Beach and funded by the State of California Coastal Conservancy, of the feasibility of habitat restoration and water reclamation in the northern, or DeForest, Basin. Both studies showed habitat restorations to be feasible.

The project before you now is the next step in implementing the restoration project, a conceptual design and environmental impact analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act. I encourage your support of this project, as this is one of the key sites that provide opportunities for habitat restoration along the Los Angeles River. Not only do I encourage your action for the benefit of the neighborhood immediately adjacent to the site but for the vision incorporated in the Los Angeles River Master Plan. This site, with a combined length of three miles, provides a unique opportunity for a significant scale of restored habitat. The riparian wetlands of the river were once a vital link in the lives of many now endangered and threatened species, especially migratory

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State of California Coastal Conservancy
January 29, 2004
Page 2

species along the Pacific flyway. Implementation of this project can be a major step in saving those species.

Funding this project also encourages work toward an even larger adjacent habitat. Just south of the Dominguez Gap basins, the City of Long Beach has acquired privately owned properties and is seeking to acquire others to allow a further continuation of the habitat restoration efforts. Farther south, in the Wrigley Greenbelt area, near the beginning of the soft bottom portion of the river, both the City and the County are pursuing plans on separate sites for increased riparian reforestation to help support the many birds that are drawn to the river channel and to provide shade and rest areas along the recreational trail parallel to the river. Together these efforts will help restore plants and animals that are facing extinction and help draw residents to and along the river habitat to appreciate them.

I would appreciate your favorable consideration of this request. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at (562) 570-3170.

Sincerely,



Phil T. Hester
Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

PTH:DLE:lr
DOCS\MEMO<R\DeForest\CCCSupport.doc

c: Karen C. Bane, Project Manager, State of California Coastal Conservancy
Dan Sharp, Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works, Watershed Management
Carl Kemp, Government Affairs Officer
Dennis Eschen, Manager of Planning and Development

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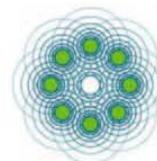
FEB 2 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

February 27, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612



RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE DOMINGUEZ GAP-DEFOREST WETLANDS PROJECT

Dear Mr. Morabito,

The Watershed Council is pleased to support the Los Angeles County Department of Public Work's proposal with regard to the Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project. This is a project that has been germinating for many years. We have consistently recognized its importance with regard to Los Angeles River revitalization and restoration of wetlands habitat, and are very pleased to see it coming to fruition.

The stakeholders of our organization (see attached one-page description) have developed a Vision for the double watershed of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers, which identifies eight major themes to be realized over the next 25 years. This letter speaks to the consistency of the Dominguez Gap proposal with this Vision, which represents an extraordinary consensus across a broad spectrum of actors and interests. Several of the elements in this Vision pertain to natural resources and urban quality of life, but five are especially pertinent to the primary goals of this proposal. These are:

- Celebrating our rivers with greenway/bikeways, habitat, recreation areas, and interpretive signs;
- Restoring habitat for fish, birds, and wildlife;
- Creating truly livable communities around revitalized rivers;
- Using all of our water resources efficiently; and
- Managing the watershed for economic vitality, environmental health and sustainability.

The proposed project is highly consistent with these adopted principles and would implement many of the vision elements we would like to see in place.

The project is also consistent with the goals and objectives of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP), for which we serve as Co-Chair of the Los Angeles County Task Force. The Dominguez Gap area was identified in the May 2000 publication by the Coastal Conservancy of *Wetlands of the Los Angeles River Watershed: Profiles and Restoration Opportunities*, and it has subsequently been the subject of detailed investigation by the City of Long Beach and the County Department of Public Works. Restoration in this locale is especially valuable because of the bird

THE LOS ANGELES & SAN GABRIEL RIVERS WATERSHED COUNCIL
700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 T 213/ 229-9945 F 213/ 229-9952

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

THE LOS ANGELES & SAN GABRIEL RIVERS
WATERSHED COUNCIL

habitat that could be enhanced, as identified in the May 2002 publication by LASGRWC in collaboration with Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR) of *Avifauna Along Portions of the Los Angeles River*, which focused largely on this three-mile corridor north of the Queensway Bay estuary (see the 'Publications' page on our web site at <<http://www.lasgrwc.org/publications.html>>).

The project would also provide a destination for the Long Beach RiverLink program that we have been participating in, which looks to provide pathways for people in western and northern Long Beach to connect to the Los Angeles River and onward to the estuary. Pedestrian and bike trails are already in place, thanks to the LACDA project, and this new initiative would significantly increase the aesthetic and recreational value of the area.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for this project. If you have any questions or require further elaboration, don't hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Rick Harter,
Executive Director
(213) 229-9950 [direct line]

Note: The Watershed Council, in expressing support for projects and proposals consistent with its Mission and Vision, does not evaluate or rank competing proposals relative to one another. The Council's determination that a proposal is consistent with our Mission and Vision and worthy of support does not imply that individual agencies or organizations participating in the Council also support, or have reviewed, the proposal.

Cc: Karen Bane, South Coast Regional Staff, California Coastal Conservancy
Maria Chong-Castillo, Office of Hon. Zev Yaroslavsky, LA County Supervisor, Third District
Dan Sharp, Watershed Management Division, LA County Department of Public Works

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

LOS ANGELES & SAN GABRIEL RIVERS WATERSHED COUNCIL

Who We Are:

The Watershed Council is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization incorporated in 1996. The 18-member Board of Directors is required by our By-Laws to be comprised of six categories of stakeholders, including:

- environmental organizations and community groups,
- government agencies at all levels,
- educational institutions and professional associations,
- business groups and property owners,
- water and wastewater agencies, and
- the general public.

Our Mission:

to facilitate a comprehensive, multipurpose, stakeholder-driven consensus process to preserve, restore, and enhance the many beneficial uses - economic, social, environmental and biological - of the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds ecosystem through education, research, planning, and mediation.

Our 25-Year Vision for the Watersheds:

acting together, our communities and our watershed will be renewed through an integrated and cooperative approach to restoring the environment and the economy, creating a more livable future with regard to:

Water Supply

- Using all of our water resources efficiently.

Water Quality

- Improving water quality to support boating, fishing and swimming in the rivers and at the beach.

Natural Resources

- Managing the forest for water supply and quality.
- Restoring habitat for fish, birds, and wildlife.

Urban Quality of Life

- Celebrating our rivers with greenway/bikeways, habitat, recreation areas, and interpretive signs.
- Re-developing urban zones with offices, shops and cafes.
- Creating truly livable communities around the revitalized rivers.

Integrated Management & Sustainability

- Managing the watershed for economic vitality, environmental health and sustainability.

Our Current Initiatives:

In service to our stakeholders, we have formed the following strategic committees:

- Water Quality
- Landscape Ethic
- GIS Coordination
- Funding / Economics
- Education / Outreach

For further information, see our web site at <www.LASGRWC.org>.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY

San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

Governing Board of the Conservancy

Frank Colonna
Chair
City of Long Beach
Bev Perry
Vice-Chair
Orange County Division of the League of
California Cities

Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
Resources Agency

Margaret Clark
San Gabriel Valley Council of
Governments

Cristina Cruz Madrid
San Gabriel Valley Council of
Governments

Ed Wilson
Gateway Cities Council of Governments

Mark Grajeda
Valley County Water District
San Gabriel Valley Water Association

Donna Arduin
Director
Department of Finance

Terry Tamminen
Secretary
California Environmental Protection
Agency

Gloria Molina
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Rick Ruiz
Environmental Public Member

Dr. Paul Yost
Director
Orange County Division of the League of
California Cities

Dan Arrighi
Central Basin Water Association

Ruth Coleman
Director
Department of Parks and Recreation

Colonel Richard Thompson
District Engineer, Los Angeles District
US Army Corps of Engineers

Al Wright
Executive Director
Wildlife Conservation Board

Thomas M. Stetson
San Gabriel River Water Master

Jim Noyes
LA County Public Works

Jack Blackwell
Angeles National Forest
US Forest Service

Vicki Wilson
Orange County Executive Office

Belinda V. Faustinos
Executive Officer

February 24, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for Dominguez Gap DeForest Wetlands
Project

Dear: Mr. Morabito

On behalf of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, I encourage your support for the Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project. The RMC authorizing statute (Public Resources Code, Sections 32602(a) authorizes the RMC to acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory. The goals of the RMC are described Common Ground, the Conservancy's Watershed and Open Space Plan. The Plan presents a simple vision for the future: restore balance between natural and human systems in the watersheds.

The Plan also encourages creation of river parkways along the rivers and tributaries, preservation of land in the mountains and foothills to preserve important wildlife habitat and open space; creation of a comprehensive network of pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trails; maintenance and enhancement of flood protection using a range of flood protection methods; optimization of water supplies, protection of beneficial uses; and expansion of groundwater infiltration. The RMC supports the Dominguez Gap – Deforest Wetlands project as it will provide valuable freshwater and estuarine wetland habitats, is located in the Pacific Flyway, and will create a three mile stretch of open space for habitat, education, and passive recreation. As of this date the RMC has approved a planning grant to the Los

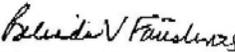
900 S. Fremont Ave., Annex, 2nd Floor • P.O. Box 1460 • Alhambra, CA 91802-1460
Phone: (626) 458-4315 • Fax: (626) 979-5333 • E-mail: bfaustinos@rmc.ca.gov
www.rmc.ca.gov

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Angeles County Flood Control District in the amount of \$200,000 for this project.

I would appreciate your favorable consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Belinda Faustinos,
Executive Officer

cc: Karen C. Bane

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FEB 26 2004
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



March 16, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

VIA US Post and Facsimile (510) 286-3840

Re: Support for Dominguez Gap – DeForest Wetlands Project

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing to seek your support for the Coastal Conservancy's disbursement of \$400,000 for the preliminary design and environmental review of the Dominguez Gap-DeForest Wetlands Project. Historic wetlands that once bordered the L.A. River in the vicinity of the coast would be restored according to the designs prepared with Conservancy funds. Active steps must be taken to recapture these lost wetlands including mitigation and education themes.

This proposed project would incorporate alternatives developed by the feasibility study that Betty Karnette supported in her February 8, 2000 letter to Chairman Hernandez.

I would appreciate your favorable consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. D. Grafton III", is written over a horizontal line.

W. D. Grafton III,
AMRF President, Board of Directors

148 N Marina Dr.
Long Beach
California
90803
562-598-4880
F 562-598-8712
www.algalita.org

CC: Marieta Francis, AMRF Director of Operations

