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NATURAL RESOURCES

Assembly
California Legislature
JOHN LAIRD
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

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99 PACIFIC STREET, SUITE 555-D
MONTEREY, CA 93940
(831) 649-2832
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January 9, 2007

Doug Bosco, Chair
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

ATTN: Big Sur Land Trust Grant Request for Carmel River Parkway

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to support the Big Sur Land Trust's application to the Coastal Conservancy for $3.5 million in grants and loans to further the Carmel River Parkway project. The Carmel River Parkway is an exciting new project which will provide much needed recreational access to the public park areas of the Carmel River, Palo Corona Regional Park and Carmel River State Beach. The Parkway will also assist in promoting long-term protection of the Carmel River ecosystem, which includes several threatened or endangered species.

My staff and I recently visited areas of the Parkway with the Big Sur Land Trust and are very supportive of the vision initiated by the Land Trust. The Carmel River area is the gateway to the Big Sur coastline and accommodates millions of tourists each year from all over the world. This important state resource and recreational feature will be enhanced by the Parkway trail system plan that these funds will support.

I appreciate your support of the Big Sur Land Trust's application and for continuing to afford California's residents and visitors access to our wonderful coastal areas. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 831-649-2832.

Sincerely,

John Laird

JOHN LAIRD, Assemblymember
27th District

JL:co

State of California • The Resources Agency Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION • P.O. Box 942896 • Sacramento, CA 94296-001 Ruth G. Coleman, Director
Monterey District
2211 Garden Road
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 649-2836
(831) 647-6239 FAX

August 21, 2006

Ms. Barbara Rice, Program Leader
National Park Service
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Ms. Rice:

Letter of Support for Big Sur Land Trust Assistance Request

California State Parks would like to express our support for the assistance request submitted to the River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) by the Big Sur Land Trust for the Carmel River Parkway. California State Parks has been a partner in the development of the Carmel river Parkway vision and continues to be committed to implementation of the trails and amenities associated with this parkway. The Big Sur Land Trust has requested RTCA support for an important next step in creating the regional parkway, which is to create an implementation plan for the parkway, including addressing important components such as defining partner roles and responsibilities, trail operations and maintenance issues, parking and access, public safety, local and regional connections and orientation, and interpretive focuses for the parkway.

California State Parks will continue to engage as a partner in the planning process for the Carmel River Parkway. A clearly-developed implementation plan will help move this exciting project forward. We hope that you are supportive of this request for assistance and can work in our community on this project.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me at (831) 649-2836 or mfuzie@parks.ca.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mathew L. Fuzie
District Superintendent

c: Donna Meyers
Big Sur Land Trust

BARNYARD
SHOPPING VILLAGE CARMEL

October 2, 2006

California River Parkways Grant Program
The Resources Agency
Attn: Bonds and Grants Unit
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Letter of Support for Big Sur Land Trust Application for Carmel River Parkway

To Whom It May Concern:

I represent the Barnyard Shopping Village within the immediate vicinity of the proposed Lower Hatton Canyon Trail project proposed by the Big Sur Land Trust in their application to the River Parkway Program. I am writing to express our support for this important improvement in our community and would urge you to fund the application. The Barnyard Shopping Village is located adjacent to the proposed trail corridor. Our shopping center represents 50 locally owned businesses and has been located in the community for over 30 years.

The Lower Hatton Canyon Trail would convert a vacant, underutilized area into a recreational area that would be enjoyed by our patrons and the community at large. Because trails are so lacking in the lower Carmel Valley, an improvement such as the Lower Hatton Canyon Trail and its links with the larger Carmel River Parkway will really benefit our community and provide safe alternative routes for our patrons to get to our shopping center.

As we are very committed to the Lower Hatton Canyon Trail, we have offered our beautiful venue for additional project fundraising events, offered to install a linear strip of paved parking on our leased portion of the parcel at the property owner's expense, and have plans and funds to relocate our trash enclosure to a hidden area outside of public view. We will also consider making native plant and maintenance contributions, as well as hold events like the Monterey Bay Certified Farmer's Market, which supports local farmers and is a strongly valued community event.

We look forward to working with the Big Sur Land Trust on this project and hope you will support their funding request. Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (831)624-8886.

Sincerely,
SMA Barnyard, LLC
Stephanie Scholderer
Stephanie Scholderer
General Manager

P.O. Box 222465, Carmel California 93922 831/624-8886 Fax 831/622-0923 www.thebarnyard.com