

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

# California State Senate

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SENATOR  
**CAROLE MIGDEN**  
THIRD SENATE DISTRICT  
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS CHAIR  
LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CHAIR



February 8, 2008

Douglas Bosco  
Chairman, California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Fl.  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I'm writing this letter in support of San Francisco Exploratorium's Wave Organ Barrier-Free Access Project. I urge you to fund this important project. The Wave Organ is a wave-activated sound sculpture located on the jetty that forms the Marina Yacht Harbor in San Francisco. The land is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Since its completion in 1986, the Wave Organ has been an exceptional public art display in San Francisco, attracting thousands of tourists, local families, and art patrons. There is free access to the site, with sufficient parking available in the area. However, access to the site is a problem for people with mobility problems.

The Barrier-Free Access Project includes the installation of a 250-foot asphalt path from the parking area to the site, and an access ramp down to the installation's listening and seating areas. In addition, the project proposes to install a 1-inch water line to irrigate existing planting beds. At the end of the project, volunteers will replant the existing beds.

I hope you'll support this worthy project. The Wave Organ is widely known locally and abroad, can be found in many guide books, and has been recognized as an exceptional public amenity and a fine example of public art. It's our duty to support the unique essence that makes the city of San Francisco exceptional by making our public sites accessible for everyone.

If you have any questions or concerns about this issue, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,

CAROLE MIGDEN  
Senator, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

**RECEIVED**

FEB 13 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



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Assembly  
California Legislature



MARK LENO  
ASSEMBLYMAN, THIRTEENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS, CHAIR  
ELECTIONS AND REDISTRICTING  
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
PUBLIC SAFETY

February 8, 2008

California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Fl  
Oakland, CA 94612

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the Exploratorium's Barrier-Free Access Project - Wave Organ application to improve accessibility to the exhibition site.

The wave organ is a wave-activated acoustic sculpture, located on the jetty that forms the Marina Yacht Harbor whose music is dependent on tides, weather, and water conditions. It is widely known locally and abroad, and can be found in many guide books, and has been recognized as an exceptional public amenity and a fine example of public art by leading writers and journalists. However, this work is not accessible to everyone and I support any steps that can be taken to improve access to this valuable cultural and educational asset to the City.

As a long-time vocal supporter of the Arts, I encourage you to support the Exploratorium's proposal. By awarding them a grant, it will allow the organization to include the installation of an asphalt path from the parking area to the site and an access ramp down to the installation's listening and seating areas.

If you would like additional information, please contact my office at 415-557-3013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leno".

MARK LENO  
Assemblyman, 13<sup>th</sup> District

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

Member, Board of Supervisors  
District 2



City and County of San Francisco

MICHELA ALIOTO-PIER

January 15, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Supervisor for District 2, I am proud to represent one of the most beautiful areas of San Francisco – the Marina waterfront. The Wave Organ, located at the end of the jetty of the Marina Yacht Harbor, is a beautiful piece of art that offers incredible views of the San Francisco Bay, solace and a truly unique experience.

The Wave Organ is an environmental piece of artwork created in 1986 by master stonemason George Gonzalez and Peter Richards, Senior Artist at the Exploratorium. It has been touted in many guidebooks and has been recognized as a perfect example of public art by leading writers and journalists.

However, this incredible piece of art is not “public” to all. The Wave Organ does not meet accessibility standards that would allow all San Franciscans to experience this popular destination.

The location is also subject to the harsh conditions of the Bay and is designed to protect harbor tenants from the ocean surge and wind-blown waves that often come out of the northeast. The Wave Organ has stood up well to these conditions over the years but it is in need of repair.

Although a recent gift enabled renovations to begin to the foundation and to parts of the underwater sound apparatus, further needs include repairs to existing pipes and portions of the Wave Organ weakened by the 1989 earthquake. Of the utmost importance is the need to install an accessible ramp, as well as a paved 240-yard path to the Wave Organ.

This letter is to express my support for this project and to lend whatever help I can to make sure that the Wave Organ is maintained as public art for all San Franciscans and all those who wish to visit this beautiful part of our city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michela Alioto-Pier".

Michela Alioto-Pier  
Supervisor, District 2

SFCC HEADQUARTERS



February 14, 2008

Moira McEnespy  
Project Manager  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Wave Barrier Free Access Project

Dear Ms. McEnespy,

The San Francisco Conservation Corps is pleased to support the Exploratorium's funding request for its Wave Barrier Free Access Project. We recognize the Wave Organ as fine public amenity and we are proud to have been a part of its original construction. We assigned several of our Corpsmembers to work as apprentices to artist George Gonzalez for the original installation of the Wave Organ in 1985-86 and are pleased to be in a situation where we can assign two more Corpsmember apprentices for this "barrier free phase".

As a supporter of the Arts in San Francisco and the State of California, we recognize that the Wave Organ, located on the jetty that forms the Marina Yacht Harbor is a valuable cultural asset to the City and that it has been recognized numerous times as a fine example of site specific artwork.

The SFCC also understand that this work is not accessible to everyone and we support any steps that can be taken to improve its accessibility.

Sincerely,

Janet Gomes  
Director of Corpsmember Services  
San Francisco Conservation Corps

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Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Marina Community Association  
1517 North Point #531, San Francisco, CA 94123 – [marina.94123@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marina.94123@sbcglobal.net)

26 January 2008

To Whom It May Concern.

The Marina Community Association recognizes that the Wave Organ on the St. Francis Spit in the Marina Yacht Harbor is a valuable cultural asset to our neighborhood. Any steps that can be taken to improve access to the Wave Organ would make it more valuable to a wider range of our members.

Thus the Marina Community Association supports the plans to improve accessibility.

Alan Silverman

President, Marina Community Association