

July 7, 2008

10 California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Prentiss Williams
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Hillside Grant Proposal

Dear Ms. Williams,

I am writing as a researcher and advocate of Sunset Cliffs Natural Park. The park, situated where the cliffs meet the Pacific Ocean, is a border landscape where two elemental entities meet. We have the possibility of being intentional in our relationship with this vulnerable and endangered coastal sage scrub hillside. The 50-acre Hillside Section of the park holds diverse microhabitats from the intertidal zone up the twenty to forty foot cliffs to the coastal terraces and rare stands of coastal sage scrub. Revegetation and restoration projects are in progress under the auspices of the Master Plan for the park.

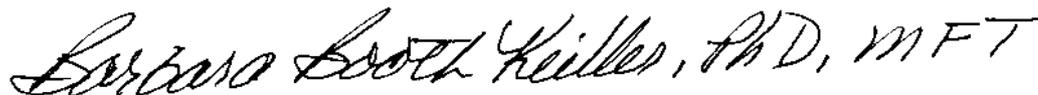
Defined trails are desperately needed to ensure the safety of visitors as well as protect the fragile sandy porous cliff surface. Healthy native plant populations will help hold the soil and prevent excessive erosion. Trails will allow plants to grow without intrusion by visitors.

The grant proposal follows the implementation process that describes eliminating inappropriate use of the park. Irrigation and turf located on landfill will be removed and several rental properties will be removed. This will allow for an integrated trail system that will be contiguous throughout the Hillside Section while honoring the rare and fragile landscape that is in jeopardy.

My personal research on the background and unique features of the park provided me with an understanding of the geological and paleontological story of the park. The 80 million-year-old Pt. Loma Formation holds clues to the age of the dinosaurs in San Diego County for example. This particular feature of the park has the title of "Significant California Resource" for both geology and paleontology.

I urge the California Coastal Conservancy to underwrite the Grant Proposal. Thank you for your attention.

Warmest regards,



Barbara Booth Keiller, PhD, MFT
Ecopsychologist and Border Writer

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JUL 16 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

1150 Barcelona Drive
San Diego, CA 92107
July 14, 2008

To: California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Prentiss Williams
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Hillside Grant Proposal.

Dear Coastal Conservancy Members:

We are writing to urge your support of the Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Hillside Grant Proposal.

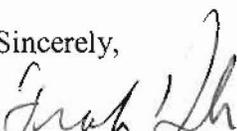
Sunset Cliffs Natural Park is a unique ecosystem. Its sandstone cliffs, panoramic ocean vistas, and coastal sage scrub extend continuously for 1.5 miles along a City street in a residential neighborhood. The Park has been described as the **only** park in the City of San Diego with these features—and it is less than a twenty minute drive from downtown and the international airport.

In the Park's 50 acre Hillside section, defined pedestrian trails are desperately needed, both to ensure visitor safety and to protect the fragile cliffs and endangered microhabitats. In accordance with the Park's approved Master Plan, the grant also supports removal of several rental properties and a temporary athletic field. These measures will make possible an integrated trail system and restoration of native habitat in the intertidal and coastal sage scrub zones.

In addition to being members of the community who love walking through the park, we are the donors and fund advisors of the Frank and Ellen Quick Fund of the San Diego Foundation. Our Fund is offering the City a grant of \$100,000 for trail restoration in the Hillside section of the Park, with matching funds requested, to be accepted by the City during the 2008 calendar year. The Coastal Conservancy Grant will make it possible for the City to accept our Fund's contribution.

For all of these reasons, we urge your support of the City of San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Hillside Grant Proposal.

Sincerely,


Frank Quick, Ph.D.


Ellen Quick, Ph.D.

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JUL 17 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

FRIENDS of FAMOSA SLOUGH



A California Non-Profit Corporation

Box 87280, San Diego, CA 92138-7280

April 30, 2008

California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Ms. Prentiss Williams
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Ms. Williams:

Subject: Support for grant application for Sunset Cliffs Natural Park proposal

The Friends of Famosa Slough support the City of San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Natural Park – Hillside Trail Grant Proposal. Funding provided by the Conservancy will initiate the restoration of an area that was once a premier example of coastal sage scrub environment.

Years of misuse and neglect have lowered the habitat value of the Park. Loss of native habitat has reduced the biological richness and diversity of the hillside area which once had plant and animal diversity matching the adjacent Point Loma Ecological Reserve.

The ball field at the south end of the hillside area creates a barrier separating the Park from the Ecological Reserve. Native wildlife and plants commonly observed in the Ecological Reserve have become rare in the Park. Ball field removal together with native plant restoration and construction of enjoyable and environmentally benign trails will create a park of greatly enhanced value to both wildlife and the public.

The Friends of Famosa Slough strongly urges the Conservancy to grant this proposal and restore this significant part of California's coastal habitat.

Please let us know, at 619/224-4591 or peugh@cox.net, if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

James A. Peugh
Chairman, Board of Directors

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MAY 05 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®**

LWV OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
4901 MORENA BLVD. SUITE 104
SAN DIEGO, CA 92117
619-222-9719

May 9, 2008

TO: California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Prentiss Williams
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Sunset Cliffs Natural Park- Hillside Trail Grant Proposal

Dear Ms. Williams,

The League of Women Voters of San Diego County (LWVSDC) encourages the California Coastal Conservancy to approve the Hillside Trail Grant proposal for the city of San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Natural Park.

The LWVSDC supports land use planning that reflects conservation and wise management of resources. Resources need to be conserved and protected to assure their future availability. The Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Master Plan will protect the quality of this unique regional park's environment and guide it to preservation.

The Hillside Trail Grant is vitally needed in order to proceed with implementation of the Master Plan. The historic preservation of this natural park will include: re-vegetation of the coastal terrace in the 50 acre Hillside Section, continuous public trails, vista points, wild life linkage to the adjacent Point Loma ecological reserve, and erosion reduction of the coastal bluffs.

This natural park is not only accessible to San Diego residents but to visitors from all over the world. The LWV of San Diego County urges the California Coastal Conservancy to fund the Hillside Trail Grant to enable continued restoration of the Sunset Cliffs Natural Park.

Sincerely,

Nancy McCleary
President
League of Women Voters of San Diego County

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MAY 12 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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California Native Plant Society

2707 K Street, Ste 1 • Sacramento, CA 95816-5113 • (916)447-2677 • Fax (916)447-2727

April 1, 2008

California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Prentiss Williams

Dear Ms. Williams:

This letter is written in support of the City of San Diego's Sunset Cliffs Natural Park – Hillside Trail Grant Proposal. The Park provides refuge to one of the last remaining areas of coastal bluff vegetation which urgently needs improvement and protection.

As identified in a 2003 plant survey (Biological Resources Report, Sunset Cliffs Natural Park, City of San Diego (LDR 91-0644)), Sunset Cliffs Natural Park contains 70 species of native plants—species that are also found in abundance in the adjoining Point Loma Ecological Reserve. However, another 70 invasive plant species now predominate and form more than 90% of the total plant cover. Years of neglect and misuse have degraded this park that once extended the Reserve habitat.

The San Diego chapter of the California Native Plant Society has supported the revegetation effort through a grant to the Sunset Cliffs Park Council. These funds were used to buy and plant native plants that have formed the core of a one-acre restoration effort. Our members have participated in planting native plants and removing non-native plants from the Park. CNPS restoration work is important, but not sufficient. Similar efforts are needed to restore the rest of the 50-acre hillside area.

A major portion of the Conservancy grant would be used to clear non-native plants and replace them with a diverse spectrum of coastal sage scrub species. We urge the Conservancy to fund this critical project to save this endangered California coastal habitat.

Sincerely,



Amanda Jorgenson
Executive Director



Dedicated to the preservation of California native flora



Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council

*3611 Warner Street
San Diego, California 92106*

TO: California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Prentiss Williams



FROM: Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council

DATE: March 31, 2008

Dear Ms. Williams:

The Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council, the official City of San Diego advisory group for Sunset Cliffs Natural Park, strongly supports the City of San Diego's *Sunset Cliffs Natural Park – Hillside Trail Grant Proposal* and encourages the California Coastal Conservancy to consider this project a top funding priority. Sunset Cliffs is a unique and rare coastal gem, a California treasure which urgently needs restoration and preservation.

This project will be one of the first steps toward implementation of the *Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Master Plan* which received broad based community support through extensive public hearings, and was approved by the California Coastal Commission in 2005. This proposal calls for restoring the disturbed coastal terrace in the 50 acre Hillside Section and providing continuous public trails and vista points. Consistent with the master plan, the project includes removal of elements incompatible with the natural park and harmful to ecological integrity, such as life estate structures now reverted to the City and an athletic field, which block pedestrian access and vistas, interfere with wildlife corridors, and contribute to the degradation and erosion of the coastal bluffs. The coastal terrace will be re-vegetated with the native coastal sage scrub habitat and will provide wildlife linkage to the adjacent Point Loma Ecological Reserve to the south. Continuous trails and vista points will provide much needed public access.

The Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council is excited about this opportunity to move forward with implementation of this vital part of the *Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Master Plan!* We hope the California Coastal Conservancy will grant the funding to make this envisioned restoration a reality. Please let me know if you need additional information. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann E. Swanson".

Ann E. Swanson, Chair
Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Council
(619) 222-8141

CC:
Carol Wood, City of San Diego
Matt Awbrey
Stacey LoMedico
Paul Jacob
Michael Ruiz

Friends of Sunset Cliffs

Incorporated
P.O. Box 7858
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92167

Voice & FAX: 619-222-9642
e-mail: swanson@ieee.org
April 3, 2008

California Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Prentiss Williams
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Williams:

Friends of Sunset Cliffs, Inc., is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the protection and preservation of Sunset Cliffs especially Sunset Cliffs Natural Park. "Friends" strongly supports the City of San Diego's *Sunset Cliffs Natural Park – Hillside Trail Grant Proposal*. We encourage the California Coastal Conservancy to give this project a top funding priority. Sunset Cliffs urgently needs restoration and preservation.

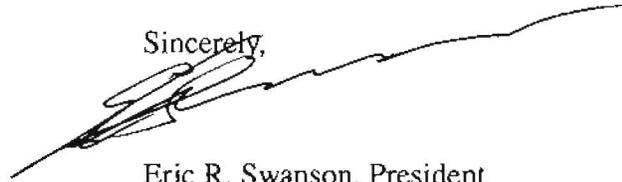
As stated in the Articles of Incorporation, the specific purposes of Friends are:

- A. To protect the integrity of the fragile landforms, sensitive native coastal habitat, and scenic vistas in Sunset Cliffs Natural Park, and adjacent areas, and to oppose any actions which would result in the reduction, destruction or degradation of the Park, or encroachment into the Park by private use or development;
- B. To work with local, state, and federal agencies to develop and implement plans for the Park which preserve the natural environment, including plans for erosion control measures in the Park and surrounding area;
- C. To promote public awareness of Park issues, and support educational activities to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the geographic, environmental, and historical features of the Park;
- D. To support public access to the Park consistent with passive use, including safe pedestrian paths, benches, and view points, as well as access to the water for surfing, fishing, and tidepooling;
- E. To raise funds through donations, and obtain funds from grants and entitlements, for use in promoting and implementing these goals.

Exhibit 7: Project Letters

These purposes are in consonance with the goals of this grant proposal. "Friends" is excited about this opportunity to move forward with implementation of the *Sunset Cliffs Natural Park Master Plan!* Again, please grant needed funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric R. Swanson", written over a horizontal line that extends to the right.

Eric R. Swanson, President

cc:

Carol Wood, City of San Diego

Matt Awbrey

Stacey LoMedico

Paul Jacob

Michael Ruiz