



Making San Francisco Bay Better

April 30, 2014

Amy Hutzel, Program Manager  
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

SUBJECT: Support for the Disbursement of Caltrans Mitigation Funds for Albany Bulb

Dear Ms. Hutzel:

This letter is to communicate the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's (BCDC) support for the State Coastal Conservancy's (Conservancy) disbursement of up to \$168,000 to the City of Albany to develop a plan for improving the Albany Neck and Bulb to enable this area to become part of McLaughlin Eastshore State Park of Alameda County.

We are pleased to support the City of Albany's application for funds to improve trail and habitat enhancement along the East Bay shoreline. The funds are intended to be used by the City of Albany to retain consultants to prepare a plan for implementation of the transition of the Albany Neck and Bulb into a park as outlined in the *Eastshore State Park General Plan*. The plan would include, in part, a physical site assessment including a sea level rise vulnerability analysis, a hazard assessment and remediation plan, community meetings, an environmental analysis, a cost estimate, a phasing plan and considerations pertaining to operation and maintenance of the park.

These funds, held in the Conservancy's Coastal Trust Fund account, were deposited as a result of BCDC mitigation requirements to offset project impacts associated with authorized Caltrans work on Interstate 80 (BCDC Permit No. 11-93), at the Bay Bridge, and involving a Fastrak sign project (BCDC Permit Nos. 8-01 and 8-92). The disbursement of funds as proposed would fulfill the intention of the mitigation funds that were set aside for these purposes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad McCREA", written over a horizontal line.

BRAD McCREA  
Regulatory Program Director

BM/gg



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East Bay  
Regional Park District

February 7, 2014

Amy Hutzel, Program Manager  
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

**RE: Use of Caltrans Mitigation Funds for the City of Albany**

Dear Ms. Hutzel:

On behalf of the East Bay Regional Park District, I am sending you this letter to indicate the District's support of allocating a portion of the \$275,000 in Caltrans' mitigation funds to the City of Albany for improvements to the Albany Bulb.

The mitigation funds are being held by the State Coastal Conservancy on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Conservation Development Commission and are to be used for trail and habitat enhancement along the East Bay Shoreline from the Bay Bridge to the Marina Bay Trail in Richmond. The monies may be used to fund projects proposed by the District at the discretion of the Conservancy and the Commission.

The City of Albany has proposed to enhance the Albany Bulb and create a passive park area and trail network around the Bulb in conformance with the McLaughlin Eastshore State Park General Plan and the City's 2013-15 Strategic Plan. The project will include: removal of concrete rubble and non-native vegetation; planting of appropriate new vegetation and enhancement of existing upland habitat; a trail network that ties into the Bay Trail near the Albany Beach; and seating areas, vista points, and launching facilities for human powered watercraft.

At a meeting with the City Manager of Albany and yourself, we discussed an allocation of \$100,000 from the mitigation funds for the City of Albany to begin preparation of the design plans, fulfill CEQA requirements, and obtain necessary permits. The District agrees with the use of these funds for this project and endorses the City as the lead agency to pursue the project and expend the funds.

Sincerely,

Robert Nisbet  
Assistant General Manager – Land Division

cc: Penelope Leach, City Manager, City of Albany

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OAKLAND, CALIF.

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February 26, 2014

Douglas Besco  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for the city of Albany's Waterfront Transition Plan Grant Application

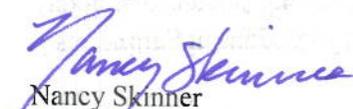
Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the city of Albany's grant application to the California Coastal Conservancy for funding to support the development of a transition plan for the Albany Waterfront. The city of Albany is in the process of starting a multi-phase project to transfer city-owned portions of the Albany waterfront to the McLaughlin Eastshore State Park. This project includes the need for developing and implementing a transitional plan that fits the needs of all parties involved including the city of Albany, its residents, the East Bay Regional Park District, and the State Parks Commission, as well as other Bay Area residents who use our beloved Parks.

The McLaughlin Eastshore State Park is the result of decades of citizen efforts, starting in the 1960s, to stop garbage dumping in the Bay, to regulate commercial development on the shoreline, to preserve the waterfront for public use, and to create environmental benefit on the shoreline. I am expressing support for this project because it will enhance the waterfront and encourage recreational use of the area by users from around the region. This project has potential environmental benefits, including enhanced vegetation management and habitat restoration. The plan is also in line with the Eastshore State Park General Plan.

Thank you for your consideration of the city of Albany's request.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy Skinner  
Assemblymember, 15<sup>th</sup> District

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FEB 28 2014

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF





# Citizens for East Shore Parks

PO Box 6087, Albany, Ca 94706  
510. 524.5000

Office: 520 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito CA 94530  
eastshorepark@hotmail.com  
www.eastshorepark.org

May 13, 2014

Jeff Melby  
Project Manager  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530 via email: [jmelby@scc.ca.gov](mailto:jmelby@scc.ca.gov)

Re: City of Albany- Albany Neck and Bulb Transition Improvement Plan grant request

Dear Jeff:

Citizens for East Shore Parks (CESP) strongly supports the application of the City of Albany for a grant of \$168,000 to develop a plan for the transition of the Albany Bulb and Neck into public parkland suitable for administration by the East Bay Regional Park District as a part of the McLaughlin Eastshore State Park. The area will offer an extraordinary waterfront recreational resource to all Californians, as well as contributing substantially to the protection of the San Francisco Bay.

CESP has been working since 1985 to protect open space and establish a park along the northern East Bay shoreline through advocacy, outreach, and education. It leads the broad coalition of area residents and organizations that have fought to preserve 1800 acres of open space in one of our nation's most densely populated urban regions. On December 6, 2002, the McLaughlin Eastshore State Park was established. More than eight miles of Shoreline Park now stretches through five cities - from the foot of the Bay Bridge in Oakland through Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany to Richmond. The transition of the Bulb is central to completing this vision.

The City of Albany had done a remarkable job over the past year in humanely relocating homeless-encampment residents, many of whom have qualified for benefits and are now living indoors in a variety of settings. It has long been recognized that the management of a significant State Park is beyond the capacity of a small city. The time for the transition of the Bulb has come.

Sincerely,

Patricia Vaughan Jones  
Executive Director

cc: Robert Cheasty (CESP), Jeff Bond (Albany)

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