

California State Senate

SENATOR
MIKE MCGUIRE

SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



February 10, 2015

Douglas H. Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Re: Sky Ranch Acquisition (APNs 007-064-43-, 002-181-21, 007-071-01), Fairfax and San Anselmo, Marin County

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing in support of Marin County Open Space District's (MCOSD) application for a \$300,000 grant to purchase Sky Ranch, adjacent to the Bald Hill Open Space Preserve.

Although the Sky Ranch property has historically been used as an equestrian boarding facility, it is zoned for residential use. The Marin Open Space Trust recently purchased Sky Ranch and is proposing to sell it to MCOSD to ensure its preservation as open space.

The site consists of 16 acres of forest and woodland adjacent to Bald Hill and the Marin Municipal Water District's Mount Tamalpais Watershed. Acquiring this undeveloped land would not only enhance public access to the area, it would also protect a variety of habitats. In addition, the acquisition would allow the MCOSD to reduce sedimentation into the Corte Madera Creek watershed by improving existing roads and trails and mitigating for damage caused by past land use. The MCOSD also plans to recognize the equestrian tradition at Sky Ranch by allowing continued horse boarding at the site or through an equestrian day use facility.

I am pleased to support the MCOSD and this project and I urge your full consideration of their application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MIKE MCGUIRE".

MIKE MCGUIRE
Senator, 2nd District

Exhibit 4: Project Letters

COMMITTEES

VICE CHAIR: LOCAL GOVERNMENT
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
HIGHER EDUCATION
AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE
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SELECT COMMITTEES

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BIOTECHNOLOGY
WINE

Assembly
California Legislature



MARC LEVINE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TENTH DISTRICT

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50 D STREET, SUITE 301
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 576-2631

E-MAIL Assemblymember.Levine@assembly.ca.gov
WEBSITE www.assembly.ca.gov/Levine

February 20, 2015

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, #1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the \$300,000 Coastal Conservancy grant application by the Marin County Open Space District to acquire 16 acres land adjacent to the Bald Hill Open Space preserve, known as Sky Ranch.

The Sky Ranch property was purchased by the Marin Open Space Trust, with a goal of preserving the land in perpetuity by selling it to the Marin County Open Space District. This sale would create a critical link to Bald Hill, which is a prominent peak in the Ross Valley. As such, the sale of the undeveloped land would protect a variety of habitats and increase public access to open space.

I encourage the Coastal Conservancy to look favorably on Marin County Open Space District's grant application.

Please call us if we can be of any further assistance. My staff or I can be reached at (415) 479-4920.

Sincerely,

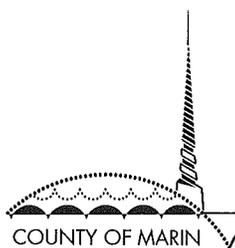
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Levine".

MARC LEVINE

cc: James Raives, Senior Open Space Planner, Marin County Parks



Exhibit 4: Project Letters



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KATIE RICE

Second District

Marin County Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Drive
Suite 329
San Rafael, CA 94903
415 473 7331 T
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KRice@marincounty.org
www.marincounty.org/bos

February 12, 2015

Douglas H. Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2530

Subject: Acquisition of Sky Ranch (APNs 007-064-43, 002-181-21, 007-071-01),
Fairfax and San Anselmo, Marin County

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to support the application for grant funds from the Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) to be used in the acquisition of Sky Ranch, adjacent to the Bald Hill Open Space Preserve.

The Sky Ranch property has been historically used as an equestrian boarding facility, but is zoned for residential use. The land was recently purchased by the Marin Open Space Trust, who is proposing to sell it to the MCOSD in order to preserve it in perpetuity. The preservation of Sky Ranch would be a critical link in the preservation of Bald Hill, a prominent peak in the Ross Valley.

The site consists of 16 acres of forest and woodlands adjacent to the Bald Hill and the Marin Municipal Water District's Mount Tamalpais Watershed. Acquisition of this property would enhance public access to the existing open space preserve and the water district's land. In addition, acquisition of this property would protect a variety of habitats and allow the MCOSD to reduce sedimentation into the Corte Madera Creek watershed by improving the conditions of existing roads and trails on the site and mitigating for damage caused by past land uses. Finally, the acquisition will give the MCOSD the opportunity to recognize the historic equestrian use of the area through either continued horse boarding on site or through an equestrian day use facility.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

Katie Rice

Raives, James

From: Robert Eichstaedt <re@well.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 9:05 PM
To: Raives, James
Subject: Support for Sky Ranch open space preservation effort

February 10, 2015

Mr. James Raives
SENIOR OPEN SPACE PLANNER

Marin County Parks
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 260
San Rafael, CA 94903

Mr. Raives,

The Alto Bowl Horseowners Association has enjoyed a long and fruitful partnership with the Marin County Open Space District; the ABHA holds a grazing lease on MCOSD's Horse Hill Open Space Preserve.

The ABHA applauds on-going efforts to purchase and preserve for public use the Sky Ranch (Cary) property in Fairfax. We encourage and support your agency's application to the California Coastal Conservancy for funding to help underwrite the acquisition of this land. The Sky Ranch parcel is a key piece in protecting the greenbelt ridgelines above Fairfax and San Anselmo.

Don't hesitate to call on our Association if we can assist in any way.

Robert Eichstaedt
President

Alto Bowl Horseowners Association
PO Box 1954
Mill Valley, CA 94942

415 259 9787



Douglas H. Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

February 23, 2015

Subject: Acquisition of Sky Ranch (APNs 007-064-43, 002-181-21, 007-071-01) Fairfax and San Anselmo, Marin County

Dear Mr. Bosco,

We are writing to support the application for a grant to assist Marin County Parks in acquiring the Sky Ranch, which is contiguous with the County's Bald Hill Open Space Preserve and the Marin Municipal Water District watershed lands.

Acquisition of Sky Ranch is integral to fulfilling San Anselmo's open space master plan. Public access to thousands of acres of adjoining public land will be enhanced. Wildlife habitat will be expanded and preserved and past poor land use will be remediated.

In the mid 1980's the San Anselmo Open Space Committee completed an open space master plan for San Anselmo and vicinity. The plan was adopted into the Open Space Element of the San Anselmo General Plan in 1988. A primary objective of the plan is to create a greenbelt on the ridgeline from Bald Hill, a major landmark, north along the ridge, which is the backdrop of the Ross Valley. Sky Ranch is located at the north end of this greenbelt.

In the mid 1990's the Marin Open Space District in partnership with the Town of San Anselmo, acquired 30 acres on this ridge now known as the Bald Hill Open Space Preserve. The addition of Sky Ranch will increase this preserve to 46 acres.

Preservation of Sky Ranch will provide regional benefits related to land use, recreation, habitat and watershed improvement.

We appreciate your consideration of this very important grant application.

Sincerely,

San Anselmo Open Space Committee,

Jonathan Braun & Stanley Radtke co-chairs



Douglas H. Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2530

Subject: Acquisition of Sky Ranch (APNs 007-064-43, 002-181-21, 007-071-01), Fairfax and San Anselmo, Marin County

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Marin Horse Council is writing in support of the application for grant funds from Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) to be used in the acquisition of Sky Ranch adjacent to the Bald Hill Open Space Preserve.

The Sky Ranch property has been historically used as an equestrian boarding facility, but is zoned for residential use. The land was recently purchased by the Marin Open Space Trust, who is proposing to sell it the MCOSD in order to preserve it in perpetuity. The preservation of Sky Ranch would be a critical link in the preservation of Bald Hill, a prominent peak in the Ross Valley.

The site consists of 16 acres of forest and woodlands adjacent to the Bald Hill and the Marin Municipal Water District's Mount Tamalpais Watershed. Acquisition of this property would enhance public access to the existing open space preserve and the water district's land. In addition, acquisition of this property would protect a variety of habitats and allow the MCOSD to reduce sedimentation into the Corte Madera Creek watershed by improving the conditions of existing roads and trails on the site and mitigating for damage caused by past land uses. Finally, the acquisition will give the MCOSD the opportunity to recognize the historic equestrian use of the area through either continued horse boarding on site or through an equestrian day use facility.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this grant application.

Yours truly,

Monte Kruger
President
Marin Horse Council

**TOWN OF FAIRFAX, CALIFORNIA
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

16 Park Road, Fairfax, CA 94930

Mimi Newton - Chair

Susan Adams
Michael Ardito
Ted Bright
Ray Burgarella
Jacob Feickert
Ruth Horn

Jack Judkins- Co Chair
Nancy Morita
Nancy Rogers
Beatrix Berry (*ex officio member*)
Hannah Salaverry (*ex officio member*)

February 28, 2015

Douglas H. Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612-2530

Subject: Acquisition of Sky Ranch (APNs 007-064-43, 002-181-21, 007-071-01), Fairfax and San Anselmo, Marin County

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to support the application for grant funds from Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) to be used in the acquisition of Sky Ranch which lies in both Fairfax and San Anselmo, California, adjacent to the Bald Hill Open Space Preserve.

The Sky Ranch property has been historically used as an equestrian boarding facility, but is zoned for residential use. The land was recently purchased by the Marin Open Space Trust, who is proposing to sell it the MCOSD in order to preserve it in perpetuity. The Fairfax Open Space Committee strongly supports the preservation of Sky Ranch as a critical link in the preservation of Bald Hill, a prominent peak in the Ross Valley.

The site consists of 16 acres of forest and woodlands adjacent to the Bald Hill and the Marin Municipal Water District's Mount Tamalpais Watershed. Acquisition of this property would enhance public access to the existing open space preserve and the water district's land. In addition, acquisition of this property would protect a variety of habitats and allow the MCOSD to reduce sedimentation into the Corte Madera Creek watershed by improving the conditions of existing roads and trails on the site and mitigating damage caused by past land uses. Finally, the acquisition will give the MCOSD the opportunity to recognize the historic equestrian use of the area through either continued horse boarding on site or through an equestrian day use facility.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this grant application.

Very truly yours,



Mimi Newton
Chair, Fairfax Open Space Committee