



March 15, 2016

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Letter of Support**

**San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project: 3/24/16 Board Authorization for 2016-17 funding**

This letter is respectfully submitted to confirm that the City of Richmond supports the San Francisco Bay Creosote Piling Removal and Pacific Herring Restoration Project ("Project"): We understand that on March 24, 2016 the State Coastal Conservancy board will consider an authorization to disburse funds for implementation of the Project.

The overarching goal of the Project is to remove derelict creosote pilings that cause marine debris and navigational hazards, while improving spawning habitat availability and habitat quality for Pacific herring and other species in San Francisco Bay. There has long been a concern that chemicals leaching from creosote-treated structures harm Pacific herring, which constitute the last commercial fishery of a native species within San Francisco Bay. The Project will both remove creosote-treated pilings and reestablish subtidal habitat, through restoration methods to establish eelgrass, oysters, and other subtidal species.

The City of Richmond supports the project because it helps to reach regional goals of cleaning up the shoreline, removing marine debris and navigational hazards, and restoring native, diverse shoreline habitats for a variety of species in San Francisco Bay. The City's General Plan 2030, at Policy CN6.1, specifically calls for the clean-up and reuse of contaminated sites to protect human and environmental health, and to "support the remediation and reuse of large, disturbed sites, such as...the Terminal 4 site at Point San Pablo." The Project site is adjacent to the Terminal 4 area and the City is an owner of landside property at the Project site. Consequently, the City has been an ongoing partner and stakeholder in this effort, and highly value the key leadership coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, and funders in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chadrick Smalley".

Chadrick Smalley, Capital Projects Manager

City of Richmond

Cc: Marilyn Latta, Project Manager