

Mike Sweeney  
The Nature Conservancy  
830 S. St.  
Sacramento, CA 95811

2/2/2024

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay St, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support – Ormond Beach Restoration and Public Access Project Funding

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I write in strong support of the above-entitled grant request for funding to advance planning, permitting, and implementation of restoration and public access at Ormond Beach to help the surrounding communities thrive and adapt to a changing coast.

Funding is crucial for The Nature Conservancy (TNC), in partnership with the City of Oxnard and the State Coastal Conservancy, to restore and enhance 280 acres of seasonal wetland, salt marsh, transitional upland, and coastal dune habitats in Ormond Beach to increase community resiliency by restoring the capacity of this coastal ecosystem to adapt to sea-level rise. This project will create habitat migration pathways and provide welcoming public access in a manner that both protects endangered species and sensitive habitats and opens access to neighboring disadvantaged communities. The project has been designed with extensive community and Tribal input and engagement for over a decade and it is time to make this project a reality.

The Nature Conservancy staff assigned to the project possess expertise in large scale restoration project management and implementation, and the organization as a whole brings the necessary fiscal and operational capacity to meet the needs of such a large and complex project.

As the representative of The Nature Conservancy, I support the content and immediacy of this project request and urge approval of the funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Sweeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

---

SIGNATURE

Mike Sweeney, California Executive Director