I strongly support consent item 4S on the June 7, 2021 agenda, to disburse up to $290,600 for the East Bay Regional Park District’s efforts to reduce fuel loads in Tilden Regional Park and Wildcat Canyon.

4. S. Consideration and possible authorization to disburse up to $290,600 to the East Bay Regional Park District to expand on-going fuel treatments and fuel breaks and conduct biological surveys on East Bay Regional Park lands, specifically in two recommended treatment areas: Tilden Regional Park – TI002a and Wildcat Canyon Regional Park – WC005.

As a member of the Kensington Fire District's Emergency Preparedness Committee, I am all too aware of the hazards overgrown vegetation in adjoining EBRPD lands present to my community and other nearby densely populated communities. The potential for property loss and life in the event of a wildfire originating in these areas is real and growing as is the urgency for taking steps to mitigate these risks now.

Peter Guerrero
KFD, Emergency Planning Committee
Dear State Coastal Conservancy Board,

The Kensington Property Owners Association (KPOA) has for years supported efforts to clear wildfire fuels from private properties and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD). We have been concerned that EBRPD has not cleared the most vulnerable source of wildfire fuels that will threaten all of the unincorporated community of Kensington if a wind-driven wildfire approaches the ridgeline at the Tilden-Wildcat Park/Kensington boundary. The ridgeline will accelerate the wind and the embers it carries into the Kensington community of over 2200 homes with disastrous consequences. These fuels have accumulated for many decades but have become worse following the recent drought and windstorms.

We understand that Coastal Conservancy Board will consider a grant Project No.21-032-01 to EBRPD specifically in support of clearing some of these dangerous interfaces. KPOA vigorously supports this action. It can help fund life-saving clearing efforts, and encourage EBRPD to add to a CACC grant to undertake a major clearing effort.

Sincerely,

Rob Firmin, KPOA President