

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

APR-10-2007 15:32 FROM: SEN TORLAKSON

9257785174

TO: 9253351299

P. 002/002

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL ROOM 4032
SACRAMENTO CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4007
FAX (916) 445-2527

California State Senate

DISTRICT OFFICE
2801 CONCORD BOULEVARD
CONCORD CA 94519
TEL (925) 602-6593
FAX (925) 602-6590

MAJORITY CAUCUS
CHAIR

SENATOR
TOM TORLAKSON
SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT

JOINT GOVERNMENT CENTER
420 WEST 3RD STREET
ANTIOCH CA 94509
TEL (925) 754-1401
FAX (925) 770-5174

STANDING COMMITTEE
APPROPRIATIONS
EDUCATION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION & HOUSING
SELECT COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE
CHAIR

WEST COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE
111 CIVIC DRIVE
HERCULES CA 94547
TEL (909) 850-9900

SENATOR TORLAKSON@SEN.CA.GOV
WWW.SEN.CA.GOV/TORLAKSON



April 10, 2007

Douglas Bosco
Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning* application submitted by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF) to the California Coastal Conservancy.

The \$150,000 requested would help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data for Contra Costa County, as well as create a detailed report of the East County region.

As a former science teacher, and as the author of SB 1556 in 2006 to create the Great California Delta Trail concept, I enthusiastically support such scientific and public engagement efforts and know they can create tremendous benefits for these communities.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health. Specifically, this project will identify restoration and conservation opportunities, identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species), engage stakeholders throughout Contra Costa County, and educate the public about natural resources and history of the region.

In addition to producing useful datasets and reports for resource managers, this proposal would also harness public interest and involvement and help direct the public to contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds around the California Delta Region.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal. Please contact my office at (925) 602-6593 if you have any questions about my support for this project.

Sincerely,

Tom Torlakson



Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Loni Hancock

ASSEMBLYWOMAN, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

CONTRA COSTA

07 APR 05 PM 1:17

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT

COMMITTEES:

NATURAL RESOURCES, CHAIR
BUDGET,
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
EDUCATION
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

April 2, 2007

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. Contra Costa County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

It is my understanding that this project will:

- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities;
- Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species);
- Engage stakeholders throughout Contra Costa County; and
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region.

The historical ecology project would produce useful datasets and reports for resource management. It would also serve as important tool for harnessing the growing public interest and involvement about environmental restoration and conservation and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of watersheds, creeks and the San Francisco Bay.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant request.

Sincerely,

LONI HANCOCK
Assemblywoman

lh/tw

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0011
(916) 319-2011
FAX (916) 319-2111

DISTRICT OFFICE
815 ESTUDILLO STREET
MARTINEZ, CA 94553
(925) 372-7990
FAX (925) 372-0934

Assembly
California Legislature



MARK DESAULNIER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, ELEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
RULES
TRANSPORTATION
APPROPRIATIONS
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
HUMAN SERVICES

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

April 5, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

This project will:

- o Identify restoration and conservation opportunities
- o Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- o Design ecologically sustainable and successful restoration
- o Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- o Engage stakeholders
- o Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds and the San Francisco Bay –Delta.

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark DeSaulnier".

Mark DeSaulnier

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 106
Martinez, California 94553-1293

John Gioia, 1st District
Gayle B. Uilkema, 2nd District
Mary N. Piepho, 3rd District
Susan A. Bonilla, 4th District
Federal D. Glover, 5th District

**Contra
Costa
County**



John Cullen
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 335-1900

April 10, 2007

Douglas Bosco
Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

Dear Mr. Bosco:

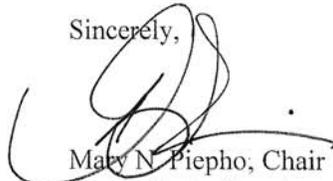
The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors supports the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy, *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County is collaborating with the Contra Costa Watershed Forum and the San Francisco Estuary Institute in applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and identify opportunities for effective restoration. In addition, the project can inform resource management actions associated with the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan.

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds and the San Francisco Bay-Delta.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant proposal

Sincerely,


Mary N. Piepho, Chair
Contra Costa County
Board of Supervisors

*Thank you
for
consideration,
A.*



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605
Sacramento, California 95825-1846



In reply refer to:
1-1-07-CP-0864

Mr. Douglas Bosco
Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Subject: Grant Application for the Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has been working with the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan Association for the past five years to develop a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act). The HCP will provide for the conservation of Covered Species which includes eight federally listed species and 20 species that are currently unlisted, but may become listed in the future. The Service published a Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the issuance of a 30-year Section 10(a)(1)(B) incidental take permit (permit) on March 9, 2007. The comment period closes April 9, 2007. The Service anticipates issuing a permit shortly after that date.

The Service is writing this letter in support of the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County (County) and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum: *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. We understand that the applicants are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data for the entire County as well as create a detailed report on the area covered by the HCP.

This historical ecology project will create an important resource for implementing the goals for the protection and recovery of the Covered Species in east County. Implementation of the HCP will create, preserve, and restore habitat on approximately 30,000 acres in east County for the benefit of Covered Species. One of the greatest challenges to the successful restoration of habitat is to know what habitat types were there previously and restore those areas appropriately. This



Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

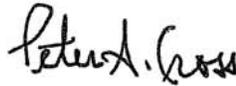
Mr. Douglas Bosco

2

historical ecology study will provide that information and will have an immediate application in the HCP area.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Shelia Larsen, Conservation Planning Branch, at (916)414-6685.

Sincerely,



for Cay C. Goude
Assistant Field Supervisor

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Contra Costa County
FLOOD CONTROL
& Water Conservation District

Maurice M. Shiu
ex officio Chief Engineer

255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-4825
Telephone: (925) 313-2000
FAX (925) 313-2333

March 27, 2007

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Attn: Abe Doherty

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report in the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health. The Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District is particularly interested and involved in the development of this project for its implications to resource management, creek and watershed restoration and flood protection for communities in Contra Costa County. The District is also interested in using historical ecology information to identify appropriate mitigation sites for our projects and appropriate infiltration sites to meet hydrograph modification management requirements.

Beyond the implications of resource management, we see the historical ecology project providing a number of other benefits to our region, including:

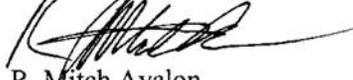
- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities.
- Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species).
- Better design of ecologically sustainable restoration.
- Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity.
- Engage stakeholders.
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region.

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

Douglas Bosco
March 27, 2007
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Very truly yours,



R. Mitch Avalon
Deputy Chief Engineer

RMA:lz
G:\Admin\Mitch\2007\Bosco ltr.doc

c: Maurice Shiu, Public Works Director
Greg Connaughton, Flood Control
Cece Sellgren, Environmental

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
5552 Clayton Road - Concord, California 94521
Phone: (925) 672-6522 - Fax (925) 672-8064

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

March 21, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

On behalf of the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District, I would like to express our support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

This project will:

- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities
- Better design ecologically sustainable restoration
- Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engage stakeholders
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds and the San Francisco Bay –Delta.

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Sincerely,


James R. S. Toland, President

San Francisco Estuary Institute



7770 Pardee Lane, 2nd floor
Oakland, California 94621
Office (510) 746.7334
Fax (510) 746.7300

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

March 27, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

Over the past year, the San Francisco Estuary Institute has been working with Contra Costa Watershed Forum participants to develop a historical ecology project that will address the concerns and priorities of stakeholder in the county. The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health. We have been impressed by the enthusiasm and talent of both Forum participants and County staff. We are confident that the proposed work will result in technically-strong, locally-supported conservation actions and look forward to working to support those efforts.

In particular, we expect that this project will:

- Identify new, previously unrecognized restoration and conservation opportunities
- Identify historical locations of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- Assist in better designing ecologically sustainable restoration projects
- Help understand how past resource management has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engage local stakeholders
- Educate and inspire the public about the persisting and recoverable natural resources of the region

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and analytical reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest that has been growing around local environmental conservation, and direct it toward meaningful actions for the health of local creeks, watersheds, and the San Francisco Bay-Delta.

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Connor", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Connor
Executive Director

URBAN CREEKS COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA



Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

March 28, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

This project will:

- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities
- Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- Better design ecologically sustainable restoration
- Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engage stakeholders
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds and the San Francisco Bay –Delta. We have great hope to see this wonderful project implemented in the watersheds of Contra Costa County.

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Milton Marks".

Milton Marks
Interim Executive Director

1250 Addison Street, Suite 107 • Berkeley, CA 94702 • Tel: 510 540 6669 • Fax: 510 848 2219

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

March 27, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

This project will:

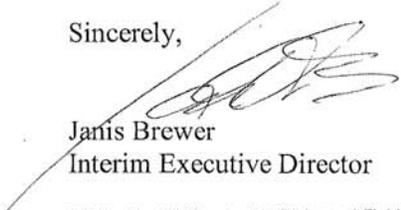
- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities
- Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- Better design ecologically sustainable restoration
- Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engage stakeholders
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region

The Watershed Project is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing organizational development support to watershed groups throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. We are an active partner of the Contra Costa Watershed Forum and many of the watershed groups we work will also benefit from the ecological history of the county.

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds and the San Francisco Bay –Delta.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Janis Brewer
Interim Executive Director

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Natural
Heritage
Institute

100 Pine Street, Suite 1550
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111
TEL: (415) 693-3000/ FAX: (415) 693-3178
WEBSITE: www.n-h-i.org
EMAIL: nhi@n-h-i.org

Non-Profit Law and Science for Global Resource Solutions

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

March 21, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

This project will:

- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities
- Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- Better design ecologically sustainable restoration
- Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engage stakeholders
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region

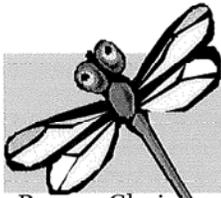
I have been involved in collaborative restoration planning efforts in the South Bay that have employed historical ecology to help identify opportunities, understand natural processes, and resolve conflict. The historical ecology approach has created excitement and enthusiasm and fostered not only a sense of collaboration but also confidence in the restoration designs that have followed. I have no doubt that the CCWF effort will have similar, if not greater success.

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RW', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rich Walkling
Director, Baylands Restoration
Natural Heritage Institute



Friends of Alhambra Creek

P.O. Box 2315 Martinez, CA 94553 friendsofac@california.com

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

April 2, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco,

Friends of Alhambra Creek would like to express their support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF), *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

A fundamental question that underlies restoration efforts is "Restore to what?". This project is intended to provide an answer to this question based on analysis of what was actually the condition of the watersheds and riparian areas prior to modification and development. By examining historical data, maps and other sources, the project will provide realistic targets for restoration efforts based on actual historic information. This will be of immeasurable help in developing realistic, achievable and effective watershed and riparian restoration targets. Having such soundly grounded projects will be a major asset in effectively applying restoration resources toward projects which will result in positive net results in a cost effective manner.

In addition to providing such a core value to restoration efforts, developing the baseline data for the Historical Ecology project will have numerous other beneficial effects, such as:

- Identifying restoration and conservation opportunities
- Identifying historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- Aiding the design of ecologically sustainable restoration
- Understanding past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engaging stakeholders and other members of the community
- Educating the public about natural resources and history of the region

The historical ecology project would not only provide a historically grounded basis for restoration projects, but also would stimulate public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks, watersheds and the San Francisco Bay Delta.

Thank you for your consideration of this much needed grant,

Sincerely,


Shirley Skaredoff
Chair, Friends of Alhambra Creek

CONTRA COSTA
COUNTY
PLANNING DEPT
APR 4 AM 10:46

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support



Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed

Douglas Bosco, Chairman of the Board
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Abe Doherty

April 4, 2007

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed would like to express our full and enthusiastic support for the proposal submitted to the California Coastal Conservancy by Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Watershed Forum (CCWF): *Historical Ecology: Conservation and Restoration Planning*. The County and the CCWF are applying for \$150,000 to help fund a two-year effort to develop baseline historical ecological data countywide as well as create a detailed report on the east county region.

The historical ecology project will build on efforts in Contra Costa County to engage the public on creek and watershed issues and improve open space habitat and watershed health.

This project will:

- Identify restoration and conservation opportunities
- Identify historical location of key habitats (including those critical for special status species)
- Better design ecologically sustainable restoration
- Understand past resource management that has impacted current watershed and habitat integrity
- Engage stakeholders
- Educate the public about natural resources and history of the region

The historical ecology project would not only produce useful datasets and reports for resource managers, but also would harness the public interest and involvement that has been growing around environmental restoration and conservation issues and direct it toward meaningful actions that contribute to protecting the health of creeks and watersheds and the San Francisco Bay –Delta. For example, in East Contra Costa County there is a strong desire and need to restore portions of Marsh Creek that have been diverted and channelized. In addition, the boom in development necessitates a better understanding of changes in urban runoff and the overall condition of the watershed.

Thank you for your consideration of this much-needed grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Littlejohn". The ink is black and the signature is fluid and legible.

Anne Littlejohn, Coordinator
Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed