



CITY OF PETALUMA

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David Glass
Mayor

Chris Albertson
Teresa Barrett
Mike Healy
Gabe Kearney
Dave King
Kathy Miller
Councilmembers

August 16, 2018

William Keene, General Manager
Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District
747 Mendocino Avenue, Suite 100
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Subject: Helen Putnam Regional Park Extension Matching Grant

Dear Mr. Keene,

The City of Petaluma is submitting this letter to acknowledge we are aware of the application of Earth Island Institute's Kelly Creek Protection Project (KCPP) for a matching grant in the District's 2018 matching grant program cycle. The City supports preservation of the open space and the subsequent expansion of Helen Putnam Park.

KCPP has raised three million dollars in nonprofit philanthropic funding to assist with the acquisition and to be used as matching funds in the event of a grant award. The KCPP project has not requested nor required any City funding.

The City of Petaluma has sponsored and submitted two acquisition project applications for the LaCresta Ridge parcel, and a 20 acre parcel on McNear Peninsula. While we have submitted our priority open space acquisition projects, the City would like to see grant funding awarded to the KCPP Putnam Park extension project as well, mindful of the timing of the Purchase and Sale Agreement between KCPP and the land owner which requires \$4.1 million to be deposited into escrow in September.

The City received a copy of Regional Parks Director, Bert Whitaker's letter in support of this project and we appreciate that the County will consider owning and operating this extension of Putnam Park within the City limits. Extension of Putnam Park is consistent with the goals and policies of the City's General Plan.

The City has advised KCPP project sponsors relative to land use issues, and fully expects they will submit application to adjust zoning on the property from very low density residential to parks and open space. The City will review such application to ensure consistency with the General Plan.

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Thank you for considering our input and for assuring the matching grant program remains a viable funding mechanism in the County. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

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

John C. Brown,
City Manager

cc: Jennifer Kuszmar, Matching Grant Coordinator