

EXHIBIT C

North Richmond Watershed Connections Project: Agency, Non-Profit Organization and Community – Letters of Support Received

Letters attached are ordered and numbered as shown:

Project Partners (2):

- 1) Urban Tilth
- 2) The Watershed Project

Agency and Non-Profit Collaborators (providing in-kind support) (9)

- 3) Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia
- 4) Contra Costa County Dept. of Conservation and Development, John Kopchik
- 5) Contra Costa Health Services Dept., Safe Routes to School Program
- 6) City of Richmond, City Manager's Office
- 7) American Rivers
- 8) Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
- 9) Neighborhood House of North Richmond
- 10) Reach Fellowship
- 11) West County Waste Water District

Community/Non Profit Group Support (8)

- 12) North Richmond Municipal Advisory Council (Don Gilmore, Chair)
- 13) Community Housing and Development Corporation
- 14) Verde Elementary School (Principal)
- 15) Contra Costa Resource Conservation District
- 16) Citizens for East Shore Parks
- 17) YES Families (Richmond-based nonprofit organization)
- 18) Earth Team
- 19) North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church
- 20) California Urban Streams Partnership

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February 9, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Urban Tilth was founded in 2005 to build a more sustainable, healthy, and just local food system. Since then, Urban Tilth has emerged as a local environmental education and food justice leader. Urban Tilth teaches local residents about the relationships between natural ecosystems, food, health, poverty, and justice and directly engages community members in activities that improve our urban environment.

Based in Richmond California, Urban Tilth is a strong diverse, local rooted organization led and operated by local residents. Our staff, including our Executive Director, are primarily of people of color who come from and currently live in the communities our programs serve.

Currently, Urban Tilth is working in collaboration with Contra Costa County and Supervisor John Gioia's office to build a comprehensive Agricultural and Watershed Learning Center and functioning Urban Farm in North Richmond. This 3-acre project is situated in the historical floodplain between Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks and will be a focal point of our work for the next decade and beyond.

For us safe access to the creeks, the regional trails, regional parks and the Learning Center for local disadvantaged community members is a key environmental justice issue. Urban Tilth supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged

community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

The Project will support the Urban Tilth's objectives by creating healthy, safe, access to our creeks and natural spaces, while replacing outdated, undersized stormwater infrastructure with green infrastructure that will help reduce contaminants in our local creeks and help facilitate the inclusion of low income communities of color in the restoration, stewardship and preservation of natural spaces in our community, especially our waterways.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Doria Robinson, Executive Director at 510-778-5886. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doria Robinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Doria" and last name "Robinson" clearly distinguishable.

Doria Robinson

Executive Director

Urban Tilth

31 Maine Ave

Richmond, CA 94804

2



February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connections Project Grant Proposal

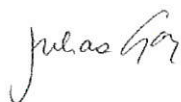
The Watershed Project's mission is to empower communities to protect their local watersheds. For the last 10 years, The Watershed Project has been working in the community of North Richmond to help protect the riparian corridor, reduce trash load to the waterways and empower neighbors to help care for their local watersheds.

The Watershed Project supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connections Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

The Project will support the Watershed Project's objectives by improving the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Watersheds, increasing green infrastructure in the community and improving the urban canopy.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Juliana Gonzalez, Executive Director at 510-7591203. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Juliana Gonzalez, Executive Director

3

John Gioia (say "Joy-a")
District One
Board of Supervisors

Contra
Costa
County

11780 San Pablo Avenue, Suite D
El Cerrito, CA 94530
Phone: (510) 231-8686
Fax: (510) 374-3429

January 18, 2017



Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

I am writing in support of the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection**, which would create a healthy, walkable, and green connection between San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks in North Richmond. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, The Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will improve urban watershed health and the water quality of Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community.

The project will also showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a catalyst for improving North Richmond's identity and pride of place.

I encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact my office. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Gioia".

John Gioia
Supervisor, District One

4

**Department of
Conservation and
Development**

30 Muir Road
Martinez, CA 94553

Phone: 1-855-323-2626

**Contra
Costa
County**



John Kopchik
Director

Aruna Bhat
Deputy Director

Jason Crapo
Deputy Director

Maureen Toms
Deputy Director

Kara Douglas
Assistant Deputy Director

Victoria Mejia
Business Operations Manager

February 14, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal


Dear Mr. Gerhart:

The Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) is the planning, zoning, and building permitting organization for Contra Costa County. DCD is pleased to support the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much-needed access to local natural resources. The project will create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks, benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community.

The Department of Conservation and Development oversees implementation of the County's *Climate Action Plan*. The North Richmond Watershed Connection Project supports the goals of the *Climate Action Plan*, which ties measures for reducing greenhouse gas emissions with public health co-benefits. The *Climate Action Plan* calls for developing more urban agriculture spaces, promoting active forms of transportation such as walking and biking, and increasing the urban tree canopy, all of which will occur with this project. DCD is hopeful that this project will provide a template that can be used in other communities in our County, and across the State.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John Kopchik, Director

5

WILLIAM B. WALKER, MD
HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

DAN PEDDYCORD, RN, MPA/HA
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Contra Costa
Public Health

597 Center Avenue, Suite 200
Martinez, California 94553
Ph 925-313-6712
Fax 925-313-6721

DANIEL.PEDDYCORD@HSD.CCCOUNTY.US

February 10, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612


Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connections Project Grant Proposal

I am writing on behalf of Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) Safe Routes to School Program to express our agency's support for the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connections Project**. The project will restore "green and clean" vitality to the neighborhood, streets, parks, and trails in an underserved area of our County in great need of aesthetic and built environment improvements to enhance safety and walkability. This effort between Contra Costa County, local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and improve the community's accessibility to and the quality of urban watersheds and creeks. North Richmond and San Pablo residents bear a disproportionate burden of poor health outcomes compared to neighboring cities, therefore this collaborative undertaking is strategically aligned with CCHS' mission to care for and improve the health of all people in Contra Costa County with special attention to those who are most vulnerable to health problems.

CCHS' West Contra Costa Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program was established in 2008 and is based on a national best practice model. It aims to encourage walking and biking to west Contra Costa elementary schools to get daily exercise. Additional co-benefits of SRTS include reducing air pollution and traffic congestion, and improving overall safety and environmental quality in school zones to make them the "hubs" of healthy communities. Central to implementing SRTS in lower-income communities like unincorporated North Richmond is the goal of community-building. Funding the **North Richmond Watershed Connections Project** will complement CCHS' ongoing efforts to promote health equity by enhancing families' access to opportunities for safe, outdoor exercise as it's their right, not a privilege.

As a partner, CCHS will conduct outreach efforts with Verde Elementary School to implement both the "Adopt-a-Block" and Wildcat Creek Trail greening project components to ensure student and parent participation in greening and cleaning efforts. This integration of families will increase their buy-in and ultimately, their pride in joining up with community partners to improve their recommended safe routes to school for the long-term.

I strongly urge the Coastal Conservancy grant review committee to fund this multi-sector and community-inspired project. If you have any questions, please contact me at (925) 313.6813. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shannon Ladner-Beasley, MPH, Manager
Safe Routes to School Program



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CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE



February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

The City of Richmond is committed to addressing urban growth issues impacting energy, waste reduction, urban design, urban nature, transportation, environmental health, and water. For these reasons we are pleased to submit this letter of support for the proposed North Richmond Watershed Connection project that aligns with the City's goals of protecting the urban and natural environments and the fundamental obligation to adopt policies that adversely impact human health.

The City of Richmond supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

The Project will support the City of Richmond's objectives and work towards building a green and sustainable city in which community residents, neighbors, workers, and visitors work together to balance ecological, economic, and social needs to ensure a clean, healthy and safe environment for all community members for generations to come.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Reese-Brown, Project Manager at (510) 620-6869.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lori Reese-Brown

Project Manager



American Rivers
Rivers Connect Us

February 1, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
California State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Gerhart:

American Rivers supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources.

American Rivers protects wild rivers, restores damaged rivers, and conserves clean water for people and nature. Headquartered in Washington, DC, American Rivers has offices across the country, including California, and more than 200,000 members, supporters, and volunteers. The Project will support American Rivers' mission by improving habitat, water quality, and recreational opportunities in Contra Costa County watersheds.

We encourage the State Coastal Conservancy to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Odefey, Director, Clean Water Supply Programs at the number below. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Rother
California Director

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February 8, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal
The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) combines the power of more than two million members and online activists with the expertise of some 500 scientists, lawyers, and policy advocates across the globe to ensure the rights of all people to the air, the water, and the wild. NRDC works to safeguard the earth—its people, its plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends.

The NRDC supports the proposed North Richmond Watershed Connection Project, which will implement a much-needed suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

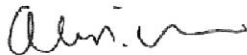
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

111 SUTTER STREET | SAN FRANCISCO, CA | 94104 | T 415.875.6100 | F 415.875.6161 | NRDC.ORG

The Project exemplifies several NRDC's objectives, in particular those of NRDC Water Program, by creating stakeholder-led and place-based examples that can demonstrate how green infrastructure creates multi-benefit solutions that help achieve water quality goals while also serving important roles in cleaning air, reducing urban heat, and improving equitable outcomes. NRDC's Water program is particularly interested in how the Project can create opportunities for private property owners to become stakeholders in the effort to reduce litter and improve stormwater management, by creating avenues to subsidize green infrastructure projects on private land. We look forward to keeping in touch with the team as the Project moves forward.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Alisa Valderrama, at avalderrama@nrdc.org. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Alisa R. Valderrama
Senior Project Finance Analyst

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Neighborhood House of North Richmond
3065 Richmond Parkway Suite 113
Richmond CA 94806

Phone: 510-229-5000
Fax: 510-235-3112
Website: www.nhnr.org

February 9, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

World War II brought the Kaiser Shipyards to Richmond and the population skyrocketed. Recruited throughout the United States, workers came in great numbers from the South; a large population was African American seeking a brighter future. Following the war, at the time the economy was increasing, the post-war shipyard jobs were decreasing. During this era, black workers were relegated to live in government housing projects segregated in the north end of Richmond and those who owned homes resided in the adjacent unincorporated area. This area became known as North Richmond and is still divided, one-half is the City of Richmond and the other half is unincorporated and governed by Contra Costa County.

Neighborhood House of North Richmond (NHNR) Inc. was created as a result of the early community work by a Quaker group called the American Friends Service Committee. By the end of 1955, the group drafted a constitution and by-laws for a non-profit organization and filed the documents with the California Secretary of State. Neighborhood House current mission is to help individuals and families overcome significant economic, social, educational, and environmental barriers and to become self-sufficient and productive.

Neighborhood House of North Richmond supports the proposed North Richmond Watershed Connection Project, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walk ability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community.

The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Lloyd Madden, at (510) 229-5000). Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lloyd G. Madden". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "M".

Lloyd G. Madden, President/CEO

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February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612



Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Reach Fellowship International (REACH) is the only gender-responsive program that caters exclusively to women coming home from incarceration within the Contra Costa County region. REACH also has a special home for reentry women, as well, which is located, in the heart of North Richmond, that we call the Naomi house. And, it is from this home that we provide staffing for the cleanup project that we are currently doing under the Contra Costa Watershed "Cleaning and Greening" service plan.

REACH is in support of the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

The Project is important and its objectives are in line with REACH's plan to keep North Richmond cleaner and safer for the women that we serve there.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give a strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Belinda D. Thomas, Project Manager at 510-593-6380 if you have any further questions. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Belinda Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "B" and "T".

Belinda D. Thomas
Project Manager
Reach Fellowship International
Direct-line 510-593-6380
Thomas.b@reachfi.org
www.reachfi.org



Community Partner for Our Bay, Our Environment

February 14, 2017

Matthew Gerhart, Program Manager
 San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy
 1515 Clay Street, Suite 100
 Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connections Project Grant Proposal

On behalf of West County Wastewater District (District), we are writing to express our support for the North Richmond Watershed Connections Project grant application for the North Richmond Watershed Connection to create a walkable and green connection between San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks in North Richmond. The project is a collaboration between Contra Costa County, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth and Neighborhood House of North Richmond in their pursuit to improve watershed health and the water quality of Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks.

The District would like to add its support to the Coastal Conservancy to approve funding of the North Richmond Watershed Connection grant. The project will add another neighborhood connection to the Bay Trail by way of the Wildcat Marsh trail. The Wildcat Marsh Trail portion of the Bay Trail is partially on land donated by the West County Wastewater District and offers a wonderful opportunity to discover the marsh environment protected by the District's treatment facility.

The West County Wastewater District is located in Richmond, California and has existed since 1921 for the purpose of protecting and serving the public health of the community through the construction and maintenance of a sewer system. The District's operation includes wastewater collection, treatment and disposal, serving approximately 100,000 people.

BOARD MEMBERS

David Alvarado
 Audrey L. Comeaux
 Leonard R. McNeil
 Sherry A. Stanley
 Harry Wiener

BOARD ATTORNEY

Alfred A. Cabral

**INTERIM GENERAL
 MANAGER**

Brian E. Hill

North Richmond Watershed Connections Projects Grant

February 14, 2017

Page 2

The Project aligns with the District's Environmental Justice Policy which includes *preserving and protecting natural resources while identifying and partnering with organizations in order to prioritize, establish and fund appropriate activities to improve environmental justice performance in communities already affected.*

We trust you recognize the merits of this grant request and its importance in promoting environmental stewardship supported by local government and non-profit organizations.

If you have any questions, please contact Brian E. Hill, West County Wastewater District Interim General Manager at (510) 222-6700 or at email: bhill@wcwd.org.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Leonard R. McNeil
President



Brian E. Hill
Interim General Manager

cc: WCWD Board of Directors

North Richmond
Municipal Advisory
Council (NRMAC) to
John Gioia (say "Joy-a")
District One
Board of Supervisors

Contra
Costa
County

215 Silver Avenue
North Richmond, CA 94801
Phone: (510) 231-8686



February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

The North Richmond Municipal Advisory Council (NRMAC) is composed of community residents in this unincorporated community of Contra Costa County and acts as an advisory body to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors.

The NRMAC supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community.

The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community. We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Gilmore".

Don Gilmore, NRMAC Chair

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1535-A Fred Jackson Way
Richmond, CA 94801
Tel: (510) 412-9290
Tel: (707) 652-7861
Fax: (510) 215-9276
www.chdcnr.org



February 14, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connections Project Grant Proposal

Community Housing Development Corporation's (CHDC), mission is to provide high-quality affordable housing, economic development and supportive services that create and sustains vibrant communities for low to moderate income individuals and families.

Community Housing Development Corporation supports the proposed North Richmond Watershed Connections Project, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

At CHDC we recognize that managing the environmental footprint of our properties is a critical piece of our preservation mission. Our green initiatives weave throughout CHDC's activities and impact development, operations, and property management practices. CHDC's Green Initiatives improve the quality of life and well-being for residents. It improves the health and safety of work environment, the homes of our residents and our neighborhoods-creating a healthier place for all. Our goals are the preservation of affordable and sustainable housing, sustained resident engagement to achieve positive community impact, and the promotion of green and sustainable practices for the long-term benefit of residents and communities. We strive to be resourceful, responsible stewards to improve lives and strengthen communities.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Donald Gilmore, Executive Director at (510) 412-9290, extension 215. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donald Gilmore
Executive Director



Verde Elementary School

**2000 Giaramita Street
Richmond, CA 94801
(510) 231 - 1408**

February 9, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Verde Elementary School supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

The Project will support Verde Elementary's objectives by enhancing community safety and beauty. Further, we will be able to implement STEAM efforts incorporating this suite of greening projects.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Acosta-Verprauskus, Principal at 510-231-1408. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric Acosta-Verprauskus

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CONTRA COSTA



RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

(925) 672-6522 | PHONE
(925) 672-8064 | FAX

5552 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521

February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District is an independent special district whose mission is to conserve soil, water, and natural resources in Contra Costa County. We strongly support the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community.

The project, with strong community support, will also create linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community. CCRCD applauds this effort to engage the North Richmond community in vital watershed conservation efforts.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ben Wallace
Executive Director



Dwight Steele
Emeritus Co-Chair
(1914 - 2002)

Sylvia McLaughlin
Emeritus Co-Chair
Secretary
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Hon. Whitney Dotson
Hon. Rochelle Nason

Executive Director:
Robert Cheasty
Program Manager
Cameron Wilson

Citizens for East Shore Parks

PO Box 6087, Albany, CA 94706

Office: 1604 Solano Avenue, Albany, CA 94707

Office: 510.524.5000 | Fax: 510.526.3672

www.eastshorepark.org eastshorepark@hotmail.com

January 31, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Gerhart:

Citizens for East Shore Parks is the nonprofit instrumental in establishing McLaughlin Eastshore State Park which runs 8.5 miles along the East Bay shoreline from Oakland to Richmond. CESP advocates for expanded shoreline parks and open space in our dense urban area.

CESP supports the proposed North Richmond Watershed Connection, which creates a healthy, walkable connection between San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks in North Richmond. The project is a wonderful example of diverse organizations coming together for a common goal. This suite of projects will improve urban watershed health and water quality of Wildcat and San Pablo Creeks and showcase urban greening practices.

CESP is especially eager to see this project completed as it will eventually connect more residential areas in North Richmond to the shoreline. The project vision also includes a future Bay Trail connection and a complete loop to the Dotson Family Marsh. We see this project as a wonderful opportunity to increase access to the shoreline, effectively increasing residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and improving North Richmond's identity and pride of place.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Cheasty
Executive Director



February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

On behalf of YES Nature to Neighborhoods (YES), I am proud to support the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community’s much needed access to local natural resources.

The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents’ appreciation of their community’s environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

As a community partner, YES has served the North Richmond community, and neighboring Verde Elementary School, for the past 15 years with outdoor leadership programming for youth and adults alike. This project will greatly enhance the quality of life and safety for the families we serve. We cherish our partnerships with the organizations involved in this project and, most importantly, they are trusted and respected among residents in the community.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact me by email at eric@yesfamilies.org or by calling 510-232-3032. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric Aaholm
Executive Director



Board of Directors

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President
Weswind Associates

Vladimir Foronda
UC Berkeley

Tracy Ostrom
UC Berkeley - CCASN

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John Steere
Contra Costa County

Manuel Alonso-Martinez
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Turtle Island Restoration Project

Whitney Dotson
East Bay Regional Park District

Katharine Barrett, Emeritus
UC Botanical Gardens

Michele Perrault, Emeritus
Sierra Club

Main Office
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Tel. 844-704-4030
info@earthteam.net

www.earthteam.net

February 1, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

For the past 16 years Earth Team, a leading environmental education organization located in Richmond, CA, has been offering high quality project-based learning opportunities to students from East Bay public high schools each year. Our Sustainable Youth internship program targets Title 1 schools with underserved, minority enrollment student populations and focuses on watershed education and restoration, reduction of waste and litter and alternative transportation.

Earth Team supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community.

The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community. The Project will support Earth Team's objectives by engaging up to 150 high school interns each year to participate in valuable, environmentally oriented work-based learning opportunities.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact Manuel Alonso, Executive Director at 844-704-4030 xt.1 Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Manuel Alonso

Manuel Alonso, Earth Team
Executive Director

North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

1427 Fred Jackson Way - Richmond, CA 94801

Office: 510-232-7751

Fax: 510-232-7759

nrbchurch2014@gmail.com

Rev. Dana Keith Mitchell, Sr., Pastor
Phone: 510-232-7751

Sis. Charlotte M. Jones, Church Clerk
Phone: 510-232-7751

February 3, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

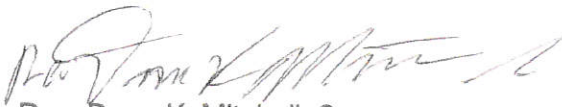
Subject: North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Grant,

North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church supports the proposed **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project**, which will implement a suite of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and an urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and respective watersheds while improving the North Richmond community's much needed access to local natural resources. The project, a collaboration between Contra Costa County, and the local nonprofit organizations, the Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, and the Neighborhood House of North Richmond, will serve to create a healthy, walkable, green connection between the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks and benefit the health and water quality of the urban watersheds and creeks, enhance public green space, and increase walkability and neighborhood safety in a severely disadvantaged community. The project, with strong community support, will also create a linear commons that will showcase urban greening practices, help increase residents' appreciation of their community's environmental assets, and be a source of pride for the community.

We encourage the Coastal Conservancy grant selection committee to give strong consideration to this multi-beneficial and highly collaborative project when making funding decisions. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 510-232-7751. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rev. Dana K. Mitchell, Sr.
Pastor



February 8, 2017

Matthew Gerhart
San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program Manager
1515 Clay St., Suite 100
Oakland, CA 94612

Letter of Support for the North Richmond Watershed Connection Project Grant Proposal

The California Urban Streams Partnership (CUSP) is an organization of local, regional, and statewide groups working to protect, restore, and steward urban streams and watersheds. We represent local governments, watershed councils, stream protection organizations, neighborhood associations and community groups engaged in improving water quality, reducing flood risks, managing stormwater, and restoring open/green spaces.

CUSP enthusiastically supports the **North Richmond Watershed Connection Project** proposal, which includes implementing a host of urban greening projects on streets, parks, creek trails, and along a newly operational urban farm to enhance the health of the San Pablo and Wildcat Creeks. This highly collaborative project, between Contra Costa County and various local non-profit agencies, will promote a healthy, walkable, green connection between the two creeks, including connecting the disadvantaged North Richmond community to the new farm run by Urban Tilth, a food security non-profit currently growing over 80 lbs of fresh produce a month! Further, if awarded, this project will provide the County (and the region) an example of integrating green infrastructure grant funds with "Complete Street" transportation investments to create Sustainable Streets. This may well be the paradigm of the future.

We strongly encourage the Coastal Conservancy to fund this collaborative, multi-beneficial project proposal.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joshua Bradt
Chair of the San Francisco Bay Area CUSP