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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**HANNAH-BETH JACKSON**  
NINETEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



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FAIRS, ALLOCATION  
& CLASSIFICATION  
LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

November 14, 2013

Salud Carbajal, Chairman  
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
123 E. Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RECEIVED  
NOV 15 2013  
1ST DISTRICT

RE: Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund Grant; Ellwood Coastal Trail Enhancement and Habitat Restoration Project

Dear Chairman Carbajal:

I am writing in support of the Santa Barbara County Trails Council's (Trails Council) application for Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) grant. The Trails Council plans to use the grant funds to prepare a final trail and coastal access engineering design plans, final habitat restoration plans, Coastal Development Permit applications and associated final environmental documents for the *Ellwood Coastal Trail Enhancement and Habitat Restoration Project*. I understand that the work will be done in partnership with the City of Goleta, and that both the City and Trails Council will donate substantial matching in-kind effort from qualified professionals and draw upon multiple other funding sources.

Enhancement of the California Coastal and De Anza National Historic Trails, two coastal access trails and improved public beach access on the Ellwood Mesa will enhance the public's ability to experience the largest coastal open space in the South Coast's urban area in both an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner. The Ellwood Mesa is a key **regional open space** enjoyed by residents from throughout the region. This is an area that has been **severely impacted by past and ongoing oil development**. As the State Senator representing this area I consider the *Ellwood Coastal Trail Enhancement and Habitat Restoration Project* an important priority for my constituents.

As your State Senator I place a high priority on completing and improving the California Coastal Trail and improving public access to and along the coast. To this end, the State Coastal Conservancy has already provided \$100,000 in planning and design funding and the Trails Council has drawn upon a number of other funding sources to complete this important project. I am aware that additional "bridge" funding is needed, however, to bring this important project to fruition and address issues raised by State Coastal Commission to further protect sensitive resources and enhance public access.



I understand that the Coastal Conservancy is unable to provide additional planning and design assistance funding at this time, but that substantial construction funding may be available. I would certainly support the State Coastal Conservancy partnering with Trails Council and City of Goleta to assemble a funding package for project construction when this project is *shovel ready* after completion of the final planning and design work as envisioned in this CREF grant application.

Please consider this worthy effort to help enhance public access to and along the coast in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hannah Beth Jackson". The signature is fluid and extends to the right.

Hannah Beth Jackson  
State Senator, 19<sup>th</sup> District

HBJ: jj