

de la Guerra, Sheila **Public Comment**

A-8

From: Marc Chytilo <marc@lomcsb.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 13, 2023 12:40 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment Item A-8 5/16/23



Caution: This email originated from a source outside of the County of Santa Barbara. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify the sender and know the content is safe.

Clerk and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed action in item A-8, on the Board's 5/16/23 agenda

Channel Island Restoration has offered to contract to perform cleanup and habitat restoration at former encampments. Regrettably, many such encampments have, often by necessity, been located in areas that are removed from residences and businesses, in undeveloped and natural areas along creeks, near and in wetlands, and in wooded areas that provide significant habitat values to the plants and animals native to our region.

The County's efforts to provide accommodation for the houseless, working with NGO partners and municipalities, have and can be expected to further expand facilities and options that allow those living on the streets and in the thickets to relocate in safe, clean and dignified housing. Likewise, County Park staff have wrestled with the difficult balance of the management of the County's precious open spaces and recreation areas while respecting the dignity of those members of our community that find themselves having to take shelter on these lands.

Channel Island Restoration has a history of effective work in the community, including their central role in the preservation and restoration of the San Marcos Foothills along with myriad habitat restoration projects throughout the region. We all owe CIR a debt of gratitude for stepping up to play a part of our community's response to the houseless.

I urge your Board to approve the CIR grant, enabling CIR's hard-working staff and volunteers to tackle this critically important project.

Marc Chytilo

* * * * *

Marc Chytilo

Law Office of Marc Chytilo, APC

Post Office Box 92233

Santa Barbara, California 93190

Phone: (805) 682-0585

Email: Marc@lomcsb.com

We Saved the San Marcos Foothills - Forever! <https://www.foothillsforever.org/>