

May 12, 2009



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Doug Anthony, Deputy Director
Santa Barbara County Energy Division
123 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Dear Mr. Anthony:

As you know, on July 15, 2008, the County Board of Supervisors approved an \$860,938 Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund (CREF) grant to The Trust for Public Land (TPL) toward the acquisition of the 43-acre "Village" property located on the north side of Highway 101, at the western edge of the Gaviota Coast.

At that time, TPL had already received notice of the approval of an \$889,062 grant to the State Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) from the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program-NOAA and a \$600,000 grant to TPL from the Goleta Valley Land Trust (GVLТ). TPL was also working closely with DPR, the proposed long term steward of the property, to allocate \$500,000 of DPR's funds to complete the acquisition. While DPR staff is completely supportive of allocating \$500,000 of its funds towards the purchase of the property, the process to secure these funds has been substantially delayed. In December, the State Public Works Board, the funding Board for DPR, approved the project and was set to approve the actual allocation in January when the Governor imposed a freeze on the selling of any additional bonds which would provide the revenue necessary for resource acquisitions such as this one. Since that time, the bond freeze has been lifted, however, it is unclear at this time as to when those bonds can and will be sold.

While the property owners have given TPL one extension to our purchase agreement, it is not likely that they will agree to another extension. As it stands, we have the right to purchase the property until June 30, 2009. Furthermore, TPL cannot take ownership of the property since properties purchased with a NOAA-CELCP grant must be owned by a government agency. In an effort to ensure that this important property is protected, we are pursuing a request to the County entailing:

- 1) An additional CREF grant to TPL of in the amount of \$500,000; and
- 2) Agreement from the County to become the interim or long-term steward of the property.

Should the County agree to allocate the additional \$500,000 in CREF funds for the project and become the property's interim or long-term steward, TPL would continue to work with DPR and GVLТ to ensure the timely deposit of the NOAA-CELCP and GVLТ funds into escrow and the requisite designation of the County as owner of the property. We would also work closely with your staff to close escrow on the property prior to June 30, 2009. As you know, we have already provided documentation to both you and Ronn Carlentine for review.

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Once escrow has closed, TPL staff will continue to work with DPR on the allocation of its \$500,000. Once those funds are allocated and the acquisition of the property approved by the State Public Works Board, DPR would then purchase the property from the County.

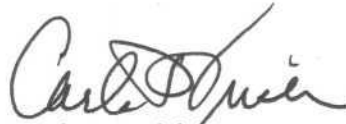
If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact either me or TPL project consultant, Carla Frisk. Ms. Frisk can be reached at 805 350-3811 and I can be reached at 415 495-5660, ext. 496.

As always, thank you so much for your past assistance on this project and for your efforts regarding this new request.

Sincerely,



Debra Geiler, Director
Southern California



Carla D. Frisk
Project Consultant

cc: Ronn Carlentine, Real Estate Services.