

CITY of CARPINTERIA, CALIFORNIA



February 7, 2008

Members of the City Council

Michael Ledbetter, *Mayor*
Gregg Carty, *Vice Mayor*
J. Bradley Stein
Joe Armendariz
Al Clark

Honorable Salud Carbajal
Supervisor, 1st District
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

#5



Dear Supervisor Carbajal

It is my understanding that the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors will be reviewing the CREF program and possible significant land acquisitions for the next year at the February 12, 2008 Board of Supervisors meeting. In 1999, the County CREF program provided critical funding to assist with the acquisition of the 52 acre Carpinteria Bluffs Nature Preserve. At that time the western most portion of the Bluffs was not available for public acquisition.

Now however, the two remaining parcels of land consisting of 27 acres (Property) adjacent to the publicly owned 52 acre Carpinteria Bluffs Nature Preserve may become available for public acquisition. Such an acquisition would provide unique benefits in perpetuity. It is rare to accomplish the preservation of coastal open space and habitat while establishing coastal access and passive recreation benefits in Southern California. This Property is located where its public acquisition will allow for an essential connection in the Carpinteria Coastal Vista Trail, enhanced protection of the Carpinteria Harbor Seal Sanctuary and allow for a major enlargement of the Carpinteria Bluffs Nature Preserve. Acquiring the Property will complete an important regional goal for Carpinterians and Santa Barbara County residents alike.

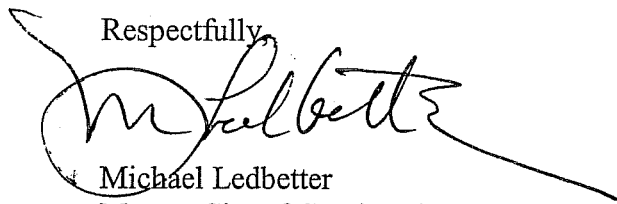
In order for the acquisition effort to be successful, the City of Carpinteria will need funding partners to contribute toward the acquisition price. Because the Property could be privately purchased for development purposes, the City believes there is a need to begin purchase negotiations and develop funding partnerships forthwith. We believe the Property is currently threatened with foreclosure and so this a good time to explore this unique opportunity.

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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As you deliberate potential land acquisitions that should be eligible for CREF funds, the City hopes you will support efforts to complete the original vision to preserve the valuable coastal open space of the Carpinteria Bluffs forever.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Ledbetter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Michael Ledbetter
Mayor, City of Carpinteria

Thanks, Salud!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Attachment



Existing Trail
Future Trail