

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Alex Size <Alex.Size@tpl.org>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 10:03 AM
To: sbcob
Subject: BoS Meeting - October 21, 2014 - CREF Cycle: 14-00772

To Whom It May Concern,

The Trust for Public Land has been working to protect "Land for People" in Santa Barbara County for over two decades by acquiring and conserving cherished lands like Elwood Mesa, the Douglas Family Preserve, El Capitan Ranch and most recently, the Ocean Meadows Golf Course in Goleta, among many others. These projects could not have been completed without significant public financial support, which is why The Trust for Public Land strongly recommends approving the 2015 CREF cycle with 50% of the funding allocated towards coastal acquisitions.

The Trust for Public Land fundraises from federal, state and local sources to acquire the lands we help set aside for public recreation and enjoyment. Many of the federal and state sources of funding require a "match" from a non-federal or non-state source, as well as strong local support for each project they review. The CREF program is the only source of Santa Barbara County funding that can be used to highlight this local support to our federal and state partners and help keep our grant applications competitive. Through CREF The Trust for Public Land is able to leverage these outside funding sources, helping Santa Barbara County funding go even further towards protecting critical coastal lands and helping to create more sustainable communities.

For these reasons, we strongly approve the Board to authorize the commencement of the 2015 CREF cycle, and allocating 50% of the funding (\$337, 750) for coastal acquisitions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alex Size
The Trust for Public Land
Project Manager
California State Office
101 Montgomery Street
Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94104
415-495-4014 - Office
415-442-0487 - Fax

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