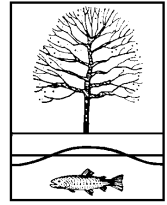


SANTA BARBARA URBAN CREEKS COUNCIL

P.O. Box 1467, Santa Barbara, CA 93102 (805) 968-3000



March 12, 2009

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, Ca 93101

Re: 2009-2010 Annual Work Program and Mid-Year Report For Land Use Planning Projects and Policy Initiatives

Dear Chairman Centeno and Board Members,

The Santa Barbara Urban Creek Council is a 501(c)3 non profit that has worked since 1989 to promote environmental awareness and sound watershed management principles throughout the county. On March 17th you will consider the County Long Range Planning 5 year work plan.

We ask that you make funding for a Regional Gaviota Plan and for a Climate Action Strategy a high priority. We also feel that the County should begin immediately to obtain grant funding for the plans. In addition, please reprioritize the existing workload to help fund a high level of effort on the Gaviota Plan in fiscal year 2009-2010. We feel strongly that the County should restructure the Office of Long Rang Planning to reduce management overhead, to free up funds for planning, and to better integrate the Office of Long Range Planning into the Planning and Development Department. Please do not delay starting the Gaviota Plan process. A public workshop would be appropriate to initiate the process, and should be done at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for taking these steps to ensure that these important environmental needs are met.

Sincerely,

/s/

Eddie Harris
President
Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council

cc: EDC