

## Manis, Dina

---

**From:** John McCaull <johnm@sonomalandtrust.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 1:58 PM  
**To:** City Council Public Comments  
**Cc:** Wendy Elliot; Scott, Jill; Thea Hensel; Adams, Nancy  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for PCA Designation for Southeast Greenway (Agenda Item 12.3)

Dear Santa Rosa City Council:

The Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) supports the staff recommendation to submit a nomination to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) to designate the Southeast Greenway as a Priority Conservation Area (PCA). MTC and ABAG created the PCA designation to address parks, green spaces and recreational needs across the Bay Area as part of the Plan Bay Area 2040 and Plan Bay Area 2050. PCAs are regionally significant open spaces which have broad agreement for long-term protection. The Southeast Greenway fits multiple criteria for the PCA program, and in particular by providing a continuous pedestrian, bicycle and nonmotorized connection linking downtown Santa Rosa, neighborhoods, schools, parks to a regional trail system. Designating the Southeast Greenway as a PCA would enhance eligibility for funding for the proposed project and also supports the City Council's goals and priorities of promoting environmental sustainability, implementing the Climate Action Plan, and investing in downtown housing and livability.

We applaud the City Council and staff for submitting this application, and we look forward to working with you in the years to come to acquire the Southeast Greenway from Caltrans, and developing it as recreational and open space amenity for all the residents of Santa Rosa.

Thank you for your continued leadership on this issue.

John McCaull



John McCaull | *Land Acquisition Program Manager*  
Sonoma Land Trust  
822 Fifth Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
(707) 526-6930 ext. 151  
(707) 974-0128 (cell)  
[www.sonomalandtrust.org](http://www.sonomalandtrust.org)

**Manis, Dina**

---

**From:** Thea Hensel <theahensel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 7, 2020 4:21 PM  
**To:** John McCaul; City Council Public Comments; cc: Wendy Eliot; Scott, Jill; Thea Hensel; Adams, Nancy  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for PCA Designation for Southeast Greenway (Agenda Item 12.3)  
**Attachments:** ABAG app letter 4-7-20.docx

Dear Partners,

FYI  
I am sorry that I did not share this Letter of Support sent to Council members this weekend. see attached. Thank you for your work on this.

Regards,

**Thea**

Thea Hensel  
CoChair, Southeast Greenway Campaign Committee  
(C) 707-953-1207



April 6, 2020

Dear Mayor Schwedhelm and Council members,

As Chairs of the Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway Campaign representing over 2300 Santa Rosa and Sonoma County supporters we ask for your consideration to nominate the Greenway project for Priority Conservation Area designation. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments has the authority to offer these designations to enhance the opportunities for conservation, restoration and public access.

Currently there are 17 such designations, all in the unincorporated areas of Sonoma County. The Greenway project offers public access to parklands and green space within the City, enriching the prospects for recreation, education, non-motorized transportation within walking and biking distance of many City residents. Adoption of the Greenway as a PCA will fulfill the requirements of both the Greenway plan and the ABAG criteria including:

- Natural landscapes - restoring oak woodlands and other natural vegetation
- Agricultural lands – community gardens and walnut grove restoration
- Urban greening – parklands and recreational areas with the most trees and plantings possible
- Regional recreation – gathering areas for picnics and play, and a Class 1 bike path and walkway to other state, regional and local parks

Endorsement of this nomination will allow us and the City to apply for grants in the future as this project moves forward. It will be important for Santa Rosa to bring open space access and recreation to the areas where people live. Please approve this resolution and nomination.

Thank you for this consideration.

Best regards,

*Thea Hensel*

*Bob Gaiser*

Thea Hensel

Bob Gaiser

Co Chairs, Santa Rosa Southeast Greenway