



City of Santa Rosa

July 29, 2014

Northern California RTCA, National Parks Service
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: Support for Southeast Greenway Grant Application

Dear Ms. Rice:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Santa Rosa to express support for the Southeast Greenway Campaign's grant application to the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. In recent years, two Santa Rosa City Councils have expressed interest in taking advantage of the opportunity to acquire this two-mile stretch of vacant State right-of-way for community benefit. This summer the California Transportation Commission is scheduled to rescind this portion of the freeway adoption for State Route 12, allowing Caltrans to dispose of these parcels of land. Our community must act if we hope to acquire the property.

SCOTT P. BARTLEY
Mayor

ROBIN SWINTH
Vice Mayor

ERIN CARLSTROM
JULIE COMBS
ERNESTO OLIVARES
JAKE OURS
GARY WYSOCKY

To this end the City of Santa Rosa has recently signed a Mutual Letter of Intent with the Southeast Greenway Campaign and other Community Partners regarding the acquisition, property transfer, and land management of this two-mile stretch of land. The City intends to accept the land transfer from Caltrans for the portion of the property between Farmers Lane and Summerfield Road. The City, through its Community Development Department, intends to provide leadership regarding the general planning and future land uses on the entire length of the property between Farmers Lane and Spring Lake Park.

The Santa Rosa City Council recently approved a budget expenditure for the Community Development Department to fund planning activities that will facilitate acquisition of the property. This City department will be working with the Greenway Campaign, other Community Partners, and Caltrans to prepare an Opportunity and Constraints Map that will help establish potential land uses.

The City of Santa Rosa General Plan proposes a Class One Bike Path on this property. The City is exploring future uses of the corridor for bicycle and pedestrian paths, parks, gardens, public places, environmental restoration, and possibly limited development, recognizing that there may be such opportunities adjacent to certain street corridors.

The City of Santa Rosa looks forward to working with the Southeast Greenway Campaign and Community Partners to secure this property for community benefit. We, therefore, urge the National Park Service to approve the Greenway Campaign's application to the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program.

Sincerely,

SCOTT P. BARTLEY
Mayor

SPB/sks

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