

August 8, 2006

Mr. Douglas Bosco  
Chairman, Coastal Conservancy Board  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Lake Merritt Bird Islands Project

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Waterfront Action is writing to ask for your support of the City of Oakland's \$1 million request from the California Proposition 50 funds. The \$1 million request will supplement funds from City of Oakland's Clean Water, Safe Parks and Open Space Trust Fund for our Lake Merritt Bird Islands Project.

Waterfront Action is a citizen-based non-profit organization. Our mission is to promote full implementation of the Estuary Policy Plan and the Lake Merritt Park Master Plan; to protect the public trust; and to educate the citizens about the region's watershed.

Lake Merritt was the first federal bird sanctuary in the country. The Lake is a critical element for the Pacific Flyway. It is critical that we improve these islands to provide nesting and roosting sites for the numerous bird species that stop here. The best educational tool is seeing nature work, and, as part of this project, there will be demonstration wetlands, view scopes and signage for the human visitors.

Waterfront Action office can be reached at (510) 336-1824, if you wish to speak with me personally. We appreciate your consideration and support for this project.

Sincerely,

Sandra Threlfall  
Executive Director

cc: Nadine Hitchcock, Coastal conservancy  
Lesley Estes, City of Oakland  
Markley Bavinger, City of Oakland