



November 10, 2008

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

RE: Lake Merritt Channel Project Funding Request

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Board of Waterfront Action is writing in support of the City of Oakland's request to the California Coastal Conservancy Grant Program for the Lake Merritt Channel Project.

Waterfront Action is a citizen-based non-profit organization. Our mission is to promote public access to the Oakland-Alameda Estuary and Lake Merritt through public awareness, education, and direct action.

The Channel Project, which has had considerable public input, will remove the dam and culverts at 12<sup>th</sup> Street, construct clear span bridges, and create tidal marsh. By removing the dam we will significantly improve the water quality and the upland habitat in Lake Merritt. In addition, we will provide a vital educational element to the SF Bay Trail which circles Lake Merritt and goes along the Channel, with a few diversions, all the way to the Oakland-Alameda Estuary. The best educational tool is seeing nature work, and the increased flow from this project will enable nature to do its best.

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

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