



Oakland Measure DD Community Coalition

July 17, 2012

Chancellor Jose M. Ortiz, Ed.D.
Peralta Community College District
333 East 8th St.
Oakland, CA 94606

Dear Chancellor Ortiz:

On behalf of the Measure DD Community Coalition, I am writing to urge you to quickly execute a Right-of-Entry Agreement with the City of Oakland so that an important public project at Lake Merritt Channel Park can move forward.

The Measure DD Community Coalition is an inclusive coalition recognized by the Oakland City Council. It has representation from a large number of community groups and City staff involved in Measure DD. The Coalition meets regularly to provide ongoing dialogue about and oversight of Measure DD implementation.

The Coalition recognizes the many benefits that will result from the City's Measure DD project to improve Channel Park. These include enhanced public access, educational benefits for Laney College, improvements to the college property interface to the channel, and improved water quality at Lake Merritt. Reflecting these benefits, there is broad support for the project from Peralta staff and faculty, the State Coastal Conservancy, State Resources Agency, Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and Federal, State, and Local legislators.

Much of the groundwork for the agreement has already been laid. The proposed Right-of-Entry Agreement is essentially a renewal of an existing agreement that has been in effect since 1982. The Peralta CCD Board of Trustees authorized the Chancellor to execute the new agreement in 2008, and the language of the agreement has already been reviewed and approved by Peralta's attorney and the City Attorney.

The college and public benefits noted above cannot occur until the project at 10th Street is constructed, and the Right-of-Entry agreement is an essential prerequisite. As directed by the Coalition at its meeting of July 16, 2012, I respectfully request that you support the public and Laney College communities by acting to execute the agreement now.

Sincerely,

William Threlfall, Coalition Administrator,
for and upon the direction of the
Measure DD Community Coalition