

May 3, 2010

TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF REDWOOD CITY:

San Francisco Bay is our natural treasure, and it is essential that we protect and restore it to ensure that the Bay Area is a healthy place to live.

The era of filling in San Francisco Bay is over – we stopped that destruction forty years ago. The bay’s salt ponds provide the best opportunity to restore a portion of the 150,000 of acres of valuable wetlands destroyed by previous generations.

But now, a developer wants to turn back the clock, by proposing a massive development on 1,400 acres of restorable salt ponds in Redwood City. Nothing so breathtaking in size or misguided in scope has been proposed in half a century.

Salt ponds are not land to be paved – they are part of San Francisco Bay to be restored to tidal marsh for wildlife habitat, natural flood protection for our communities, cleaner water, and recreation areas for everyone to enjoy.

The Bay Area should accommodate growth with truly sustainable development that preserves the open space needed for our economy and quality of life. The Bay Area requires more housing near existing transit corridors and services, like in downtown Redwood City.

As current and former elected officials, we understand the pressures cities face and how essential San Francisco Bay is to our region. The bay belongs to all of us, and we all must protect it. We urge you to join us in actively opposing this project to develop on San Francisco Bay salt ponds.

Sincerely,

[Affiliations for Identification Purposes Only]

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