

San Francisco Bay Chapter Serving Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin and San Francisco Counties

April 8, 2022

Nicholas S. Kosla Land Entitlement Director Toll Brothers 6800 Koll Center Parkway, #320 Pleasanton, CA 94566

Felix Wong 6466 Hollis Street, #200 Emeryville, CA 946-08

Re: Proposal to Develop Fairview Open Space

Dear Messrs. Kosla and Wong:

I am writing to you in regard to the Fairview Open Space. Please see attached map. The Sierra Club understands that the owner of the property is in discussions with Toll Brothers regarding possible proposals to develop this property. The Sierra Club wants Toll Brothers and the owner of the property to know that the Sierra Club opposes any development of this property and supports its acquisition as public open space.

The property will make a great addition to the adjacent Hillside Natural Area. Two creeks run through the property, one of which cascades steeply downhill in a series of cataracts. The area is natural habitat for East Bay wildlife with rich riparian corridors that are protected under El Cerrito ordinances.

The Sierra Club urges the property owner to avoid a protracted attempt to develop the property which will be costly and unwinnable. Instead, the property owner should work with community groups like the Sierra Club on how to transfer the property to a public agency for the enjoyment of all residents of the Bay Area, but especially El Cerrito.

Personally, I have been involved over the past 40 years on park and open space campaigns where the Sierra Club has successfully worked with property owners to transfer private property into the public domain as public park space. I am also a past El Cerrito city council member and mayor.

If you wish to discuss the issues with me on behalf of the Sierra Club please feel free to email or call me at contacts noted below.

Sincerely yours,

Norman La Force, Chair

East Bay Public Lands Committee &

Chapter Legal Chair

Email: n.laforce@comcast.net Telephone: 510-295-7657

Mayor Gabe Quinto, and Council members Janet Abelson, Paul Fadeli, Lisa cc: Motoyama, and Tessa Rudnick, City Manager, Karen Pinkos David Weinstein, El Cerrito Trail Trekkers



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