

May 5, 2009

The Honorable Ted Lieu
California Assembly
500 Center Street
El Segundo, CA 90245

RE: Saving the Ballona Wetlands

Dear Assemblymember Lieu:

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa ("NCWP") supports the efforts of the *Ballona Institute* and *The Committee to Complete the Park* to secure and protect all of the privately-owned parcels of land located in the Ballona Wetlands area. The NCWP appreciates your support in the past and urges you to help us complete the full preservation and conservation of all of the Ballona Wetlands.

Egret Park, at the north end of the Del Rey Lagoon in Playa del Rey, is again threatened by development. The proposed development would not only destroy the ecology of this area, it would ruin one of the few remaining coastal parks we have in Los Angeles. Thousands of people from across LA enjoy this park every weekend. While most people say they want to preserve Egret Park and other precious areas in the Ballona Wetlands, you are in the position to actually do something about it.

Funds through the Port of Los Angeles and Proposition 12 have been specifically designated for the very purpose of saving the wetlands. We urge you to ask the Port and the State to release these funds for Ballona. Specifically, a personal communication from you to the decision-making bodies (the Harbor Commission and the Coastal Conservancy Board) to urge them to make this acquisition a priority would be greatly appreciated and could be extremely beneficial.

We have a willing seller and we need to secure this land for the public now and put a conservation easement on it to ensure we don't have to wage this battle again. Certainly this is more fiscally responsible than continuing to spend the many millions of dollars that have been spent in litigation over this land for decades.

The NCWP is willing to help you and your office in any way we can to facilitate this deal in a timely manner. The community has been fighting for more than 30 years to save this land. Please help us acquire Egret Park for the public benefit and preserve all of the Ballona Wetlands once and for all so that future generations can enjoy this precious place.

Sincerely,

Cyndi Hench
President, Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa

May 5, 2009

The Honorable Antonio Villaraigosa
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Saving the Ballona Wetlands

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa:

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Sincerely,

Cyndi Hench
President, Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa

From Westchester/ Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Council

May 5, 2009

The Honorable Jenny Oropeza
California Senate
2512 Artesia Blvd., #200
Redondo Beach 90278-3279

RE: Saving the Ballona Wetlands

Dear Senator Oropeza:

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