



THE WILDLANDS CONSERVANCY

Behold the Beauty

January 24, 2023

Mayor Kevin McDonnell
Members, Petaluma City Council
11 English Street
Petaluma, CA 94952

Re: Scott Ranch Project to Extend Putnam Park and Approve 28 New Homes

Dear Mayor McDonnell and Councilmembers:

I am writing as President of The Wildlands Conservancy, which owns and operates California's largest nature preserve system including Jenner Headlands and Estero Americano Coast in Sonoma County.

I have had the opportunity to view the Scott Ranch property on the west side of Petaluma and discuss its future with Greg Colvin, director of the Kelly Creek Protection Project of Earth Island Institute. At the southwestern gateway of the city, the property is an important landscape to protect consisting of rolling hills and wetlands, with native trees winding up the course of the creek into Helen Putnam Regional Park. Conserving locations like Scott Ranch, within two miles from downtown, mass transit, and a major interstate, is a rare opportunity to provide easy access to diverse members of a whole community.

I have known Greg Colvin for over 25 years as legal counsel for the Conservancy and for its major funders. You are fortunate that he brings a lifetime of personal experience with public parklands and with connecting dreams and nonprofit resources to protecting this unique acreage within your city limits from excessive development.

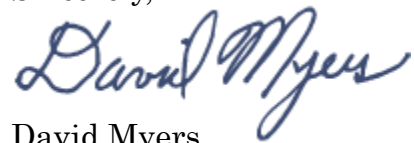


Furthermore, KCPP has brought significant Sonoma County financial and organization support to this solution for Scott Ranch. That includes \$1 million to aid in the acquisition of 47 acres and \$450,000 for threatened wildlife habitat restoration awarded by the Ag + Open Space district, as well as a solid working relationship with Regional Parks – the eventual owner and operator of the Putnam Park Scott Ranch extension.

We wholeheartedly endorse the compromise forged between KCPP and Davidon Homes that resulted in the Scott Ranch proposal, documented thoroughly by the City's Final Environmental Impact Report, for your favorable consideration as it comes to you early this year for full approval.

Please give this rare opportunity your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Myers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Myers
President