

September 5, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express the FOR-SITE Foundation's enthusiastic support of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy's Presidio Exchange (PX) Proposal. Our organization's artist residencies, education programs, exhibitions and commissions are based in the belief that art can inspire fresh thinking and important dialogue about our natural and cultural environment. This is a belief that the Golden Gate National Park Conservancy undoubtedly shares, and we are excited to collaborate with the Conservancy in furthering our dedication to the creation, understanding, and presentation of art about place both in around the proposed Presidio Exchange.

The FOR-SITE Foundation has presented exhibitions and temporal installations within San Francisco's Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) – the largest urban park in the U.S. – as a means of offering new ways for the public to experience the natural and cultural resources of public parks and historic places. FOR-SITE projects in the GGNRA's Presidio include: Andy Goldsworthy's monumental *Spire* (2008) and *Wood Line* (2011), and the acclaimed exhibition *Presidio Habitats* (May 16, 2010 – May 15, 2011) – the first of its kind on national park land – for which artists, designers, and architects created animal habitats in the park. At historic Fort Point, FOR-SITE presented *International Orange* (May 25 – October 28, 2012), which celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge through the presentation of new work by 16 contemporary artists responding to the bridge as icon, historic structure, and conceptual inspiration. Through these groundbreaking projects and commissions, FOR-SITE has created an innovative model for artistic collaborations on national park land, making us an ideal programming partner on the PX project.

Echoing the overarching goals of the PX proposal, the FOR-SITE Foundation aims to deepen the park visitor's understanding of the Presidio's natural and cultural history through the presentation of dynamic interdisciplinary exhibitions, performances, and interactive programs. We are thrilled to support the PX project, and work alongside the Golden Gate Park Conservancy and other PX partners to offer local, national, and international visitors, artists, historians, scientists, and other luminaries the opportunity to engage in a vibrant, place-based dialogue that will extend well beyond the PX walls.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Haines Executive Director FOR-SITE Foundation