

Supporting Education and Stewardship

2401 Blueridge Avenue, Suite 303 Wheaton, MD 20902 (301) 946-9475 appl@appl.org www.appl.org Presidio Trust Board of Directors Presidio of San Francisco 103 Montgomery Street San Francisco, CA 94129

October 30, 2013

Dear Directors of the Presidio Trust Board:

The Association of Partners for Public Lands (APPL) represents 85 nonprofit public land partners who serve over 500 public lands sites and their visitors nationwide. Among these partners, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy stands out for its diverse capacities and program quality, serving park visitors, attracting philanthropic support, providing education and youth development and engaging volunteers. The Parks Conservancy is among the nation's most effective public land partners, fostering stewardship and appreciation of public lands and historic sites through many high performing partnerships in the Golden Gate National Parks.

For these reasons, APPL is pleased to provide this letter of endorsement for the Parks Conservancy's Presidio Exchange (PX) proposal for the Trust's Commissary site at Crissy Field. The PX proposes an exciting program center and park gathering place in an extraordinary location. Few entities are better prepared to deliver on this vision and to interlace the site with the surrounding parklands, and neither of the other final proposals do so. This connectivity is crucial to truly developing a dynamic, interconnected park landscape that invites all people and celebrates the full breadth of the Presidio and its mission.

At APPL, we believe that public lands are essential to our health and soul as a nation. In this regard, the Presidio – steeped in history and representing an extraordinary collection of natural assets – offers so much to the surrounding Bay Area and to visitors from around the globe. We believe that none of the options before you is more essential to the Presidio's soul and for the benefit of future generations than the PX.

Sincerely,

Dan Puskar Executive Director