



October 23, 2013

Dear Members of the Presidio Trust Board of Directors

I write to you as both a resident of the Presidio and as an educator to support the Parks Conservancy's PX proposal. Every day I am appreciative of the manner in which you have coordinated restoration of this historic and natural treasure. Whether I visit historic buildings on the Main Post, hike on the trails, or walk along Crissy Field, all of which have been made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Trust, the Parks Conservancy, and the National Park Service, I am struck by the conscientiousness and respect manifested for this unique place. As an educator, I direct my doctoral students to the incredible stories told here; the stories of the past, of course, but also the contemporary stories that students and researchers can learn from about volunteerism, philanthropy, and the private/public partnerships that can protect and nurture our natural and historic treasures for future generations.

I urge you to continue this admirable legacy by selecting the Parks Conservancy's Presidio Exchange (PX) proposal for the development of the commissary site. The PX seems to meet all of the Trust's criteria to: offer programs with broad themes that have "lasting relevance," be compatible with the natural and cultural setting, complement current uses and activities, integrate well with plans for Crissy Field and the Main Post, and, importantly, adhere to the Mid-Crissy Field Design Guidelines. As a resident, I especially look forward to the reconnection of the Main Post and Crissy Field and the new programs and activities that will grow out of a further collaboration of the Trust and the Conservancy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "JoAnn McAllister".

JoAnn McAllister, PhD
Director, Human Science Program