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November 1, 2013

Presidio Trust Board of Directors
Presidio of San Francisco
103 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94129

Dear Members of the Presidio Trust Board:

Regarding the future of the Commissary site in the Presidio, I am writing to encourage the Trust to consider the alternative future vision proposed by the National Park Service in its letter dated September 23, 2013. This alternative would remove the intrusive and non-historic structure and create a seamless park land connection from the Main Post to Crissy Field, and would expand the Crissy Field marsh, increasing its chances for long-term viability.

In the event that the alternative vision is not selected, I am pleased to support the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy's proposal for the Presidio Commissary site, and for the programs envisioned by the Presidio Exchange (PX).

As one of the organizations providing informal science education to students, Richardson Bay Audubon Center & Sanctuary knows how an institution whose programs are rooted in history, nature, and science can give important lift to the experiences of those students in the classroom. The Parks Conservancy – through thoughtful partnerships with park partners and schools – is known and respected in the Bay Area for its work to create these experiences in the national parks, and especially at the Presidio.

In addition to supporting the connection of school children and young people to their parks, the PX will be a resource to families from local communities and from around the world, providing workshops, performances, exhibits and ties to park-wide programs that draw from its national park setting.

We understand the complexities of the park's natural and historic resources and competing public interests, and we appreciate the Trust's open and transparent process. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jordan Wellwood".

Jordan Wellwood
Center Director