



San Francisco Group
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor, Box SFG, San Francisco CA 94105-3441

October 23, 2013

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

Dear Members of the Board:

The Sierra Club, local and national, has been a passionate supporter of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area since 1970. It is because of this enduring relationship with the GGNRA and the Presidio, we wholeheartedly support the Presidio Exchange proposal for the Mid-Crissy Field site.

It is the only proposal which satisfies the Project Goals, particularly its compatibility with “the natural and cultural setting along the Crissy Marsh and San Francisco Bay”.

The proposed PX connects the outdoors of Crissy Field, visited by millions each year, with programs of education and recreation that will further understanding of the Presidio’s natural resources and history in a building which fits well into the landscape. The PX will connect visitors with national parks in the United States and in the larger world.

Over decades, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy amassed a track record second to none with its accomplishments, awards, park transformations and restoration projects – transformation of Crissy Field, more than 500,000 school kids participating in Parks as Classrooms, 34 indigenous archeological sites in the park managed in partnership with native peoples, 17 miles of park trails improved, built or planned for enhancement **AND** 4 endowment funds created.

The Presidio Trust Board has this opportunity to leave an important legacy – approving a project worthy of the unique site – the Presidio Exchange. The other proposals are institutions which do not depend on the unique values of the Presidio, or indeed, this extraordinary site.

The Presidio is a national park and merits a cultural institution worthy of its uniqueness. The Lucas Cultural Arts Museum and the Bridge/Sustainability Institute could be built anywhere. They have no immutable link to the Presidio or to Crissy Field.

The Conservancy has demonstrated its mettle in its partnering with the National Park Service and the Presidio Trust. It has demonstrated its ability to fund the Presidio Exchange proposal by raising more than \$300 million dollars in park support since 1981.

We commend the efforts of the Presidio Trust board and staff to seek the best proposal for this site on San Francisco's doorstep. We urge your selection of the Presidio Exchange.

Yours truly,

Rebecca Evans
Chair, San Francisco Group
Sierra Club