



December 1, 2009

The Honorable Jackie Speier
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Speier,

On behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, thank you for the opportunity to submit project requests for the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). WRDA is a major federal funding tool available to assist San Francisco with its attempts to reconstruct the Sharp Park Seawall, a structure critical to our efforts to protect the homes of Pacifica and to rehabilitate the habitat of the federally endangered San Francisco Garter Snake and the federally threatened California Red-Legged Frog. The City's proposed authorization would be a lifeline to these animals, their habitat and to the community. It is a project of extraordinary value to the City, the region, and the nation.

I respectfully request your support for the City's request for WRDA funding authorization for environmental protection and restoration of the wetlands within Sharp Park. Over the past several months, the City has worked with a team of consultants and experts on the SFGS to develop plans for restoring these species at Sharp Park. *The Sharp Park Conceptual Restoration Alternatives Report* issued in November 2009 states that the SFGS and the CRLF can not only survive but would flourish in Sharp Park by restoring a transitional wetland area and a connection to a nearby habitat area.

The City's request, \$5 million, would revitalize the wetlands, maintain the existing recreational amenities provided by the golf course, and allow these federally threatened and endangered species to prosper.

Thank you for strong consideration of this request, for your long-standing commitment to the City and County of San Francisco, and for your leadership in securing these resources to preserve our wildlife and our ecosystem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

Gavin Newsom
Mayor