



February 17, 2009

The Honorable Mike Thompson
United States Congressman
First District of California
Napa District Office
1040 Main Street, Suite 101
Napa, CA 94559

Subject: Letter of Support for the Town of Windsor's Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriation Request

MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Rohnert Park
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Ukiah
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

DAVE RICHARDSON
Executive Director

300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 833-2553

Dear Representative Thompson,
The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) would like to express our support for the Town of Windsor's 2010 Appropriation Request to revise their Town's planning design guidelines in an effort to enhance water quality in the Russian River and its tributaries. The RRWA is an association of local public agencies in the Russian River Watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs for clean water, fisheries restoration, and watershed enhancement. The Town Windsor, one of our member agencies, is a leader in Smart Growth, sustainability and protecting the surface waters in the Russian River watershed. The Town's goals are to reduce storm water runoff and to enhance the quality of runoff through on-site detention, filtration and water table recharge.

To achieve the storm water runoff goals, the Town must rethink its land use planning and design goals from past practices. Clearly the Town will continue with city center higher density Smart Growth as the main focus. The reformation of the Town's urban landscape for future development will transition to more management runoff and surface waters tributary to the Russian River.

Given these goals, the Town is requesting funding to prepare the "Town of Windsor Smart Growth Design Guidelines for Enhanced Water Quality." We believe that engaging the community in a new urban design process will improve runoff water quality from the Town area and further protect rare and endangered animal species in the Russian River Watershed.

The RRWA is fully supportive of the Town's plans for preparation of Smart Growth Design Guidelines and would like to thank you for your time in consideration of this worthwhile request.

Sincerely,

Chair, Russian River Watershed Association
Russian River Watershed Association, www.rrwatershed.org