



February 20, 2014

Mayor Scott Bartley
City of Santa Rosa
100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 10
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

**SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Santa Rosa's Proposition 84 Project:
*Santa Rosa Demonstrates Sustainable Solutions for City Hall Plaza***

MEMBER AGENCIES

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

VIRGINIA PORTER
Executive Director

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

www.rrwatershed.org

Dear Mayor Bartley,

The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is a coalition of eleven public agencies in the Russian River watershed in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties that have come together to coordinate regional programs for clean water and watershed enhancement. RRWA is pleased to voice support for the City of Santa Rosa's proposal for funding from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to demonstrate Sustainable Solutions at Santa Rosa City Hall Plaza.

Santa Rosa project includes the retrofit of City Hall with Low Impact Development (LID) features; removal of lawn; and retrofit of the irrigation system to demonstrate successful implementation of best practices now required of new and redevelopment projects. The project will educate the design community, and will allow for the quantification of the long term water quality benefits in our local creeks and the Laguna de Santa Rosa. The key features and practices will be promoted using educational kiosks and signage, influencing adoption and implementation of sustainable practices in municipal, commercial, and private landscapes.

RRWA developed the Russian River-Friendly Landscape Guidelines (RRFLG) program in 2010 as a means of targeting professional landscapers to protect water quality and carry out sustainable landscape practices. The RRFLG program is actively utilized in our watershed. Santa Rosa has been instrumental in developing the watershed-wide RRFLG program and continues to be a leader in these implementation efforts. The proposed project further enhances the message of sustainable landscape practices introduced with the RRFLG.

Our Board of Directors has reviewed this letter, and has directed me to formally voice RRWA's formal support for this project.

Thank you for advancing this project for funding from the SWRCB.

Sincerely,


Mark Landman, Chair, RRWA Board of Directors

cc: David Guhin, Director of Utilities, City of Santa Rosa
Mona Dougherty, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board