



Friends of Torrey Highlands Dogs®

Find us at: <http://www.ourdogpark.com>

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Councilman Scott Peters
Council District 1
Chairman, Land Use Committee
City of San Diego
220 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

June 7, 2004

Re: Torrey Highlands Dog Park, Carmel Valley

Dear Councilman Peters:

We are pleased to report that the Maintenance Assessment District sub-committee voted unanimously on June 1 to recommend permanent status be granted to the Torrey Highlands Dog Park. As members of the community who use the dog park, we were enormously pleased with this action by MAD,

As part of the motion made by the sub-committee, we were asked to provide a written confirmation of our continued commitment to the park, both in terms of volunteer efforts and financial contributions. This letter is intended to serve this purpose by outlining the efforts and activities that have taken place to date. We have every reason to believe the same, if not a higher, level of commitment will continue well into the future.

As you know, the Dog Park is used by 400+ families in this area; we have a mailing list of over three hundred families and others who are involved in the activity. We have a supported web site, a Newsletter and a wonderful sense of community that has been generated by the Park and those who visit it. We have organized ourselves into an Association, have elected a Board of Directors and have regular sessions of fund raising and volunteerism to do our best collectively to make this a Park to be enjoyed by humans and dogs alike.

Since the inception of the park, private donations have been made to maintain and upgrade the park. These monies have been used to lease a fence to aid in the turf upgrade, clean the park, provide dog waste bags, develop and maintain the web site and publish the Newsletter. There have been several thousand dollars raised since the Park's inception in 2002.

In addition to financial donations, numerous individuals have volunteered countless hours at the park. As you know, the park is under the maintenance contract with Aztec Landscaping for a once-a-week visit. Volunteers help maintain the park the rest of the time. Volunteer efforts include an organized, weekly Saturday morning park clean up, moving the temporary fencing to assist in the improvement of the grassy areas, repair of the dog fountain and fence, and a project to build a bulletin board.

Once we receive the official word on permanent status for the Park, it is our intention to seek private and business donations to further improve the park. At the present time, we have an individual willing to donate a table and benches (to city specifications, of course), a Boy Scout working on the approved bulletin board for community use and notices, a Fortune 500 company willing to make a financial contribution as part of its program to encourage employee volunteerism, etc. We are confident additional contributions will be made, especially if we are able to offer recognition for these efforts.

In closing, on behalf of the Friends of Torrey Highlands Dogs, we want to thank you once again for all your efforts in bringing this dog park to fruition.

Sincerely,

Jim Adams
President
Friends of Torrey Highlands Dogs

cc: Maintenance Assessment District Sub Committee Members