

Mayor, Chuck Della Sala  
City Manager, Fred Meuer  
Monterey City Council Members  
Monterey City Hall  
Monterey, California 93940

June 6, 2008

Dear Mayor Della Sala, Mr. Meuer and Council Members,

We, as residents and members of the Monterey Vista Neighborhood Association appreciate the efforts of the city to make Monterey a pedestrian-friendly city, but are deeply concerned with the status of the greenbelt commonly known as Parcel B. As you know, this land lies within our association boundaries and has been open for public use for generations by citizens young and old. We understand that legal suits against the City of Monterey are in motion around the maintenance and public use of the trails across the parcel, and have the following concerns:

- Parcel B has been open for public access for decades and was designated as open greenbelt space with rights for public use as a **condition** of approval to subdivide and develop land for housing around its borders. Therefore, any effort to close the parcel to public use is **contrary** to the original intention of the land set forth in the development agreement.
- That Parcel B, currently under private ownership, has **NOT** been maintained to fire-safe standards for years and presents a fire risk to all homes in the area.
- We recognize that public access across Parcel B is valuable to the citizens of Monterey, providing a safe and scenic footpath between two prime city parks; Quarry and Veterans' Memorial. Such access also promotes friendly community stewardship of the land.

We, therefore, urge the City of Monterey to consider any legal steps necessary to enforce the following proposal to resolve the current situation:

1. **Public Access:** That Parcel B retain its historical accessibility to the public, **and** as it was **originally intended** when the land was subdivided for development in 1983.
2. **Maintenance and Ownership:** That the City of Monterey **finally** acquire the deed of ownership for Parcel B, as all but 2 homeowners voted in good faith to negotiate in 2002 when the transfer was proposed by the City, so the City may assume the responsibility for maintaining the land to fire-safe standards.

**We, the undersigned, request the following:**

**That the City of Monterey acquire the deed of ownership for Parcel B, maintain public access to the trails, and ensure the parcel is maintained to fire-safe standards for the benefit of our neighborhood and community as a whole.**

