

AMBAG

ASSOCIATION OF MONTEREY BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

January 31, 2003

Ms. Stephanie Harlan
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Advisory Council
299 Foam Street
Monterey, CA 93940

RE: Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail Resolution

Dear Chair Harlan:

The Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) is writing to request that you adopt the enclosed resolution supporting the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail.

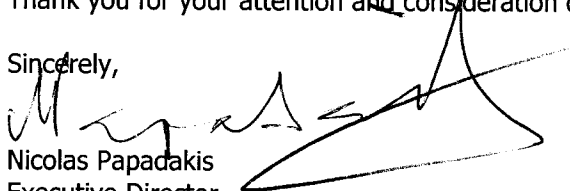
As you may know, a coalition of Monterey Bay Area local, state, and federal agencies and several non-profit organizations is accelerating an effort to complete a recreational/educational trail around Monterey Bay. At the request of Congressman Farr, AMBAG has taken the lead to coordinate this effort. The project is also receiving planning and technical assistance from the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program of the National Park Service.

Several communities around the Monterey Bay have completed or developed plans for coastal trails over the past few decades. The most notable examples are the Monterey Bay Coastal Trail, connecting Pacific Grove to Marina, and the Santa Cruz County Sanctuary Scenic Trail, currently under development. The City of Monterey has also made great progress on its Window on the Bay trail project. The goal for the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail is to link these existing segments and to provide a recreational and interpretive experience, while highlighting our inspiring coastal resources.

Completion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail will require commitment, collaboration, and of course funding. Your entity's participation is essential to our success – and so we invite you to formally join this effort through adoption of the attached resolution. In addition, AMBAG would like to encourage you to participate in one or both of our trail working groups, focusing on interpretive themes and alignment planning. If you are interested, please contact Kyrrha Sevco at 831.883.3750.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Nicolas Papadakis
Executive Director

Enclosures