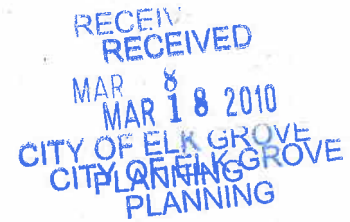


March 15th, 2010

Don Hazen,  
Planning Director  
City of Elk Grove Planning  
8401 Laguna Palms Drive  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

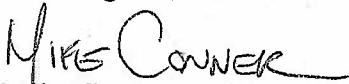


Dear Director Hazen,

In January The Nature Conservancy (the Conservancy) provided you with its comments to the proposed MOU between the City of Elk Grove and the County of Sacramento regarding the City's application to expand its Sphere of Influence (SOI) further south into the Cosumnes River Basin. While the Conservancy's comments were directed primarily at actions in the MOU that would lead to a more ecologically sound decision process, *it was by no means meant to serve as an endorsement of Elk Grove's SOI amendment application* currently pending before Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission.

In fact, the Conservancy believes that Elk Grove should focus on smart planning and land use on the thousands of acres in its existing city limits before looking over the fence for further expansion. Resource responsible planning and use of the area remaining in the present SOI will go a long way in determining the real need for expansion and is an opportunity to prove Elk Grove's intentions for responsible growth.

Best Regards,

  
Mike Conner  
Cosumnes Project Director

cc: Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor  
Joan Buchanan, Assemblymember 15<sup>th</sup> District  
✓ Taro Echiburu, Environmental Planning Manager, Elk Grove  
Rich Radmacher, Senior Planner, Sacramento County  
Peter Brundage, Executive Director, Sacramento LAFCo  
Sean Wirth, Chair, Habitat 2020  
Jude Lamare, Friends of the Swainson's Hawk  
Rob Burness, Environmental Council of Sacramento  
Bill Kutzer, Wilton Action Group