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January 24, 2012

Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentive Program
c/o Department of Conservation
Division of Land Resource Protection
801 K Street, MS Floor 18-01
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **Application for Sustainable Communities Planning Grant – Sustainable Parks Strategic Plan**

The Community Planners Committee (CPC) representing over 40 community planning groups citywide, is pleased to submit this letter of support for the City of San Diego's State Strategic Growth Council grant application for the Sustainable Parks Strategic Plan. The proposal is consistent with the City of San Diego's General Plan, as well as State Planning Priorities and Strategic Growth Council objectives. In addition, the project would support the State's AB 32 Greenhouse Gas emission reduction targets and implementation of SB 375. The CPC voted on January 24, 2012 to recommend approval in support of this grant application.

The proposed Sustainable Parks Strategic Plan would implement the vision of the Governor and Legislature to foster the development of sustainable communities throughout California. The Plan would implement a major General Plan goal/policy to create a citywide parks master plan. The Parks Master Plan would encourage the use of sustainable methods and techniques to promote walking, bicycling, and transit to access parks and recreation resources citywide. In addition, the plan would encourage the preservation of sensitive habitat and open space and the advancement of water and energy conservation, green buildings and low maintenance landscaping within parks and recreation facilities. Finally, the plan would be a major step toward achieving equity in parks and recreation facilities opportunities and distribution, focusing as a priority on economically-disadvantaged and under-served neighborhoods, by establishing alternative methods of satisfying population-based parks and recreation facilities standards where constraints make meeting guidelines infeasible. The plan would include comprehensive implementation measures to provide a model which can be duplicated by other communities and jurisdictions.

If you have questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at (619) 231-4495, leo.wikstrom@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leo Wilson, Chairperson
Community Planners Committee