

College-Glen Sacramento, California 95826 <u>neighborsofcg@gmail.com</u> <u>www.neighborsofcollegeglen.org</u>

May 16, 2023 The Honorable Angelique Ashby 1021 O St., Suite 7320 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Oki Farm Project Budget Proposal - Support

Dear Senator Ashby,

We write to you as representatives of the residents of the College-Glen neighborhood, to strongly express our support of your budget proposal for the Oki Farm Project, which will realize the vision developed by the coalition composed of NextGen Policy, Insight Garden Program, Miridae and NorCal Resist for transforming a 6.1 acre vacant suburban lot situated in a utility corridor just outside of downtown Sacramento, California. This site is currently a blight on our community due to the wildfire risk, illegal dumping, and vagrancy it fosters. However, the ultimate goal of the project is to revitalize this site in a way that will provide multiple ecological, economic and recreational benefits to our community, as well as provide a practical template that can inspire better use of similar spaces found in the numerous utility corridors throughout the Sacramento region. The key project features include a working urban farm, native grassland, pollinator friendly hedgerows and biking/walking paths. We are also pleased by their plans to provide a suite of educational and workforce development programming opportunities.

The City of Sacramento, excited by the promise of this project, recently allocated nearly a half-million dollars to support this project. The financial support from the state would provide the remaining resources needed to move forward with project implementation, which will lead to increased local biodiversity, better climate resiliency, improved health outcomes, greater food security, and the provision of needed programming opportunities for K-12 enrichment and workforce development for system-impacted community members. Beyond the benefits that will

accrue to the adjacent neighborhoods, we believe that this project will ultimately prove to be a model for other communities and cities across the state. For these reasons, we wholeheartedly recommend that this proposal be included in the state budget.

Sincerely,

Andrea Doria, President

Andrea Doria

Neighbors of College-Glen, A Non-Profit Neighborhood Organization on behalf of its College-Glen members and the undersigned College-Glen residents

Fonda Trimble-Huynh, Moravian Ct.

Lenicia & Bobby Nguyen, Naples Dr.

Matthew and Natalia Schorn, Marmor Ct.

Ashley Lopez-Trotter, Lake Forest Dr.

Tim and Cathy Hicks, Belmar St.

Kristin Goree, Glenville Cir.

Kyle Bowlin, Everglade Dr.

Cindi Cereceres, Honeysuckle Way

Sam and Sara Miller, Fallbrook Dr.

Jeff Taylor, Marquette Dr.

Lisa Snyder, Lake Forest Dr.

Tina Borgman, Everglade Dr.

Melanie Shanley, Loyola St.

Salina Karia, Honeysuckle Way

Joe Manganello, Honeysuckle Way

CC: Honorable Phil Ting, Chair Assembly Budget Committee, Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair Senate Budget Committee, Members of the Assembly Budget Committee, Members of the Senate Budget Committee, Department of Finance, Governor Newsom