

Ms. Ruth Coleman, Director
California Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296

November 4, 2011

RE: SUPPORT for the City of Sacramento's Powerhouse Science Center Park Proposition 84 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Application (# XS 34-03)

Dear Ms. Coleman,

I am writing to express my support for City of Sacramento's recently submitted Proposition 84 Park Development and Community Revitalization application for the Powerhouse Science Center Park, which will be a landmark public-private partnership that will reconfigure and expand the Robert T. Matsui Park into a much needed dynamic recreation space where children and families can learn, explore, and play.

The Powerhouse Science Center Park project will be a landmark public-private partnership that will leverage and blend together existing park space with a soon to be completed science center's campus to develop a unique public recreational opportunity. The project will provide Robert T. Matsui Waterfront Park with appropriate recreational features that it currently lacks, major support amenities, and at no additional cost more than double park acreage.

The Park Project's outdoor, shaded amphitheater (terraced grove), and other seating areas dispersed throughout the park, will be ideal for picnics and gathering places. A network of walking and biking paths with bike racks will connect project site to existing open space in Matsui Park and existing recreational trails. Additional landscaping and hardscaping plazas will open and unify park.

Throughout the Park Project, the public will be able to enjoy for free interactive outdoor science education exhibits, signage, and art on water conservation, renewable energy, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts. A greatly enhanced lighting network will ensure safety while enhancing the design of the park. And a parking structure will be available to accommodate park visitors; making it accessible and usable by families, individuals and school groups.

Schematic and design drawings and environmental clearances (NEPA and CEQA) have been completed. With Proposition 84 funding, the Powerhouse Science Center Park will be operational by 2014.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project that will both substantially revitalize an existing park and create new public park space for a significantly underserved neighborhood within our state capitol.

Sincerely,