

CF 23-0129 Senderos Canyon Support

1 message

Marian A Dodge <chairman@hillsidefederation.org>

Fri, Mar 17, 2023 at 3:11 PM

Dear Elected Official,

The Hillside Federation strongly supports the acquisition of Senderos Canyon for Open Space.

Sincerely,

Marian A Dodge chairman@hillsidefederation.org



P.O. Box 27404 Los Angeles, CA 90027 www.hillsidefederation.org

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Local, state, and federal elected officials via email

March 17, 2023

Re: Support Acquisition of Senderos Canyon (Hoag Canyon) CF 23-0129

Dear Elected Official:

The Hillside Federation representing 46 resident and homeowner associations with approximately 250,000 constituents spanning the Santa Monica Mountains enthusiastically supports Los Angeles City Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky's motion seeking strategies to preserve Senderos Canyon (also known as Hoag Canyon) and identify various options to fund the purchase of the property. The mission of the Hillside Federation is to encourage and promote those policies and programs which will best preserve the natural topography and wildlife of the mountains and hillsides for the benefit of all the people of Los Angeles.

We have a unique opportunity to purchase this 260 acres of pristine habitat which contains the most ecologically significant riparian corridor in the Santa Monica Mountains east of the 405 freeway. Its perennial stream preserves watershed health and protects aquatic and terrestrial species. Senderos Canyon provides critical wildlife connectivity to open spaces to the east such as Griffith Park.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to save open space and help meet the Governor's 30X30 goal of preserving 30% of land and to support President Biden's America the Beautiful initiative to help combat climate change and the biodiversity crisis.

The Hillside Federation urges all our elected representatives to find the resources necessary to acquire this amazing habitat.

Sincerely,

Charley Mims

Charley MIMins



CCCF 23-0129, Save Senderos Canyon

1 message

Lois Becker/Mark Stratton <loismark@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 17, 2023 at 4:04 PM

To: Brad.Sherman@mail.house.gov, Janet.Turner@mail.house.gov, Nicolas.Rodriquez@mail.house.gov, ben.allen@sen.ca.gov, Tina.Andolina@sen.ca.gov, henry.stern@sen.ca.gov, katharine.moore@sen.ca.gov, nicholas.gaines@sen.ca.gov, Rick.Zbur@asm.ca.gov, Bob.Hartnagel@asm.ca.gov, Robert.Oliver@asm.ca.gov, Assemblymember.irwin@assembly.ca.gov, Nancy.Frawley@asm.ca.gov, Lindsey@bos.lacounty.gov, thirddistrict@bos.lacounty.gov, Maria Chong-Castillo <mccastillo@bos.lacounty.gov>, councilmember.yaroslavsky@lacity.org, Dylan Sittig <dylan.sittig@lacity.org>, CD 5 Deputy Jarrett Thompson <jarrett.thompson@lacity.org>, councilmember.park@lacity.org, Jeff Khau <Jeff.Khau@lacity.org>, contactCD4@lacity.org, Mashael Majid <Mashael.Majid@lacity.org>, mehmet.berker@lacity.org, Clerk.CPS@lacity.org, savesenderoscanyon@gmail.com

Attached please find a letter from Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners' Association (BASPOA) in support of the motion to identify strategies and government funding sources to enable the purchase of Senderos Canyon for preservation as open space (CCF 23-0129).

Lois Becker BASPOA Community Liaison

CCF 23-0129 SAVE SENDEROS-BASPOA.pdf



Date: March 17, 2023

To: Local, State and Federal Elected Officials

Re: BASPOA Supports L.A. City Council File 23-0129, SENDEROS CANYON

On behalf of Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners' Association (BASPOA) I urge your support for the motion to identify strategies and government funding sources to enable the purchase of Senderos Canyon for preservation as open space. This motion was put forward by the Honorable Katy Yaroslavsky of Council District 5 and seconded by our own CD11 Councilmember, the Honorable Traci Park.

Bel Air Skycrest is situated in the heart of the Santa Monica Mountains, one mile west of the Sepulveda Pass/405 freeway and immediately adjacent to the Mulholland Institutional Corridor. From this unique wildlands-urban vantage point, Bel Air Skycrest residents have, over the past several decades, experienced an onslaught of negative impacts resulting from the ongoing densification, degradation, and destruction of our hillside and canyon environs.

We have also had the privilege of experiencing an amazing antidote to these urban ills in the form of Mission Canyon, a 500-acre closed landfill which has been rehabilitated for open space preservation and recreational use. This new park will constitute the final link in an uninterrupted chain of protected open spaces spanning the *Western* Santa Monicas. Thanks to Mission Canyon and places like it, we know the benefits, both physical and psychological, of being in nature; know first-hand the value of such experience to our personal sense of well-being and connection.

Unfortunately, due to the way Los Angeles has grown historically, spreading westward from the city center, the *Eastern* Santa Monicas have been subject to the impacts of *over*development for a significantly longer period of time than the area we live in; and, as a result, the eastern part of the range has far less remaining open space overall. The open space that does remain is more fragmented, making for drastically less of the habitat and habitat connectivity required to enable wildlife to survive and safely traverse their territories. In short, the Santa Monicas – especially the Eastern Santa Monicas – need help!

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy recently adopted a <u>resolution</u> identifying Senderos Canyon as **one of the most regionally significant unprotected habitat areas** within the Santa Monica Mountains range, containing **the most ecologically significant riparian corridor** in the Santa Monica Mountains east of the 405.

Science is only just beginning to truly understand the superior resilience of our native Coastal Mediterranean Ecosystem in withstanding wildfire and climate change (as compared to the invasive plants that replace it in more developed areas). We are only just beginning to fully appreciate the vital role played by biodiversity in the health of the planet and the crucial role protected open space plays in guaranteeing essential habitat and habitat linkage for the survival of wildlife, especially endangered species, species of concern and more, including cougars, bobcats, deer, coyotes, hawks, owls and so many others.

Preserving Senderos Canyon will preserve essential habitat and habitat linkage between the Big Wild and Griffith Park, extending the Westridge-Canyonback Wilderness Park and the greater Santa Monica Mountains nature preserve (managed by the SMMC and MRCA), a tremendous boon to the Eastern Santa Monicas.

In addition, saving Senderos Canyon will further Governor Newsom's goal of conserving 30% of California's land and coastal waters by 2030. And it will further President Biden's America the Beautiful initiative to help combat the global climate and biodiversity crisis.

For all these reasons, **Senderos Canyon is an ideal candidate for conservation on the local, state** *and* **federal levels.** Please do not let this opportunity slip away.

If the resources of the Santa Monica Mountains are to be ensured for future generations, it is absolutely critical that you act quickly to acquire and preserve open space opportunities like Senderos Canyon. BASPOA urges you, as stewards of these mountains, to find the resources needed to purchase this important open space and preserve it, for the future of our city and our planet.

Respectfully,

Lois Becker, BASPOA Community Liaison