

October 21, 2011

Via e-mail board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org

Via U.S. Mail:

San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Mayor Edwin Lee
City Hall, Room 200
San Francisco, CA 94102
Mayoredwinlee@sfgov.org

Re: Support for Sharp Park Legislation (Avalos 110966)

Honorable Mayor Lee and Supervisors:

On behalf of the Pacifica Shorebird Alliance, this is a letter in support of the Sharp Park legislation recently introduced by Supervisor Avalos. This legislation provides the opportunity to partner with Sharp Park's adjacent land owner, the National Park Service, to create a new public park for everyone to enjoy.

Transfer of the property to the National Park Service will expand potential habitat for the endangered western Snowy Plover, protect and preserve habitat already used regularly by Caspian and Elegant Terns, as well as other species. National Park Service control of the area will provide better protection for the over-wintering birds which rely on this habitat for food and shelter during migration. Trails and boardwalks would allow easy access for everyone, including hikers and birdwatchers, to enjoy.

We particularly support this legislation because habitat will be permitted to fluctuate with sea level rise, providing more protection for shorebirds and wildlife. Healthy wetlands provide an excellent buffer against ocean storms and provide food and shelter for wildlife.

This legislation will permit sustainable adaptation to sea level rise and climate change, help save two endangered species, and provide recreational opportunities that match modern recreation demands.

Please support this important legislation, which is a clear "win" for all parties concerned.

Noel Blincoe, Director
Pacifica Shorebird Alliance

Engage and educate the public about the protection of local coastal birds and their eco-communities.

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