



Audubon CALIFORNIA

Audubon Center at Debs Park
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March 2, 2016

Mayor Terry E. Tornek
100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S228
P.O. Box 7115
Pasadena, CA 91109-7215

RE: Importance of Nursery Facilities in Hahamongna Watershed Park

Dear Mayor Tornek and Members of the City Council:

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter of support for the continued existence of the Arroyo Seco Foundation's Hahamongna Cooperative Nursery (HCN) in Hahamongna Watershed Park. HCN has inspired our new native plant nursery just downstream from you at the Audubon Center at Debs Park. We are so proud to be a part of the conservation movement within Los Angeles and we would not be this far without HCN. Together, we are all a part of this important work and I am so proud that Pasadena is a part of this future legacy. I am even more proud because I am a resident of Pasadena.

Producing this native plant material locally, within the Los Angeles metropolitan area, provides benefits to both the local environment and community.

- **Environmental Impact:** Native plants are better suited for drought conditions and climate change. Growing these natives locally, such as in the HCN, decreases emissions associated with shipping plants in from other cities and states, increases local habitat (especially for pollinators), and produces plants that are likely to be better adapted to the project areas they will be installed, thus increasing survivorship.
- **Community Impact:** The growth of native plants provides hands-on educational and social opportunities to the community. The HCN impacts hundreds of volunteers who participate in the nursery's workdays and educational programs. The nursery offers opportunities for the public to learn about the importance of water, ecological restoration, and stewardship while actively engaging in the transformation of their local community and waterway.

The Hahamongna Cooperative Nursery is a tremendous community-generated project that responds to urgent environmental needs, while simultaneously providing social benefits to the community of Pasadena and greater Los Angeles area. I strongly support the continued existence of the HCN, and urge the Public Works Department and City of Pasadena continue to work cooperatively with the Arroyo Seco Foundation to ensure the continued existence of this important nursery.

Sincerely,

Sarah Miggins
Center Director