

3 March 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.

The HCN is proactively helping to bridge the gap between the plans for, and actual implementation of, local restoration projects that are coming down the pipeline, which are of great importance at this time. The HCN is one of a small number of native plant nurseries located within the Los Angeles area, and is the only nursery solely devoted to native plant production for restoration projects associated with the Arroyo Seco. Its continued existence is imperative.

Producing this native plant material locally, such as at the HCN, provides benefits to both the local environment and community. The growth of native plants provides hands-on educational and social opportunities to the community, while simultaneously greening and improving the environmental health of our metropolitan area. The HCN produces thousands of native plants and impacts hundreds of volunteers who participate in the nursery's workdays and educational programs. Not allowing the nursery to continue its operations in Hahamongna Park would rid the people and natural areas of Pasadena from the opportunities they deserve.

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,



Mia Lehrer
President, FASLA
Mia Lehrer + Associates

Cc: Pasadena City Council