

3471 California Street
Eureka, CA 95503

August 15, 2023

Tom Mattson, Director
Humboldt County Department of Public Works
1106 2nd Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Proposal: \$25,000 Contribution for development of Equestrian Trails at the McKay Community Forest in memory of Seferino (Sef) Raul Murguia

Dear Tom:

Our family would like to donate \$25,000 to the County of Humboldt in support of the development of equestrian trails at McKay Community Forest in memory of my late husband, Sef Murguia. As you know, Sef was a former Humboldt County Supervisor (1972-1976) and Humboldt County Planning Commissioner (2000-2009). He had a deep love for the outdoors and was a lifelong horseman. Near the end of his life, we established a fund at the Humboldt Area Foundation in his name. The funds were specifically set aside to support a public conservation corridor within the Humboldt Bay watershed.

The formation of the McKay Community Forest represents the values Sef embraced throughout his life and public career: outdoor recreational opportunities for families to enjoy; watershed, forest, and resource conservation. The development of the McKay Community Forest certainly represents these values with the added benefit of sustainable forest management with the potential to support more conservation and recreational opportunities.

Our family had been looking for opportunities to donate the funds, and with the development of Northridge parking lot with equestrian parking and access to trails, it seemed the right place for us. We'd like to donate the funds to be used specifically for future equestrian trail development. I've met with Hank Seeman and we have discussed various options the family might want to consider to honor Sef, i.e., a plaque, bench or trail naming opportunity. One proposal would be for plaque at the Northridge parking area. See attachment for what it might look like. Of course, we'd welcome ideas from county staff as well.

Hank suggested I contact you directly to figure out what our next steps should be. A few years ago I reached out to Supervisor Mike Wilson, Supervisor Rex Bohn and then Supervisor Virginia Bass with the idea of a contribution for the forest, and specifically as a naming opportunity for Sef. At that time, they were supportive.

I appreciate your consideration, Tom. The development of the McKay Community Forest is an exciting project with the promise of bringing enjoyment to the public for generations to come. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Murguia

cc: Hank Seeman

Attachments: 1) Plaque Sample Photo; 2) Suggested Language

VISIONARIES GROVE

*Dedicated to the visionaries and
activists who sacrificed countless
days, months and years to protect the
Headwaters Forest Reserve. And to
the future generations who will help
steward their legacy in Headwaters
and beyond.*

*50 Redwood Seedlings Planted
June 19, 2015*

Equestrian Trails

McKay Community Forest

In Memory of Seferino Raul Castro Murguia, 1942-2009

Humboldt County Supervisor, Planning Commissioner,
equestrian, and lifelong advocate for public access to wild places,
where 'a good horse and a long trail are all you need.'

(Note: bronze plaque, approximately 14" by 16" mounted on fabricated metal stand.)