



October 31, 2013

Presidio Trust Board of Directors
Presidio of San Francisco
103 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94129

Dear Members of the Presidio Trust Board:

On behalf of the Student Conservation Association, please accept this letter of endorsement for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy's proposal for the Presidio Commissary site, and for the programs envisioned by the Presidio Exchange (PX).

As one of Northern California's leading institutions providing conservation service, leadership development, and informal science and natural history education to youth, the Student Conservation Association knows how an institution whose programs are rooted in history, nature, and science can give important lift to the experiences of those students in the classroom. The Parks Conservancy – through thoughtful partnerships with park partners and schools – is known and respected in the Bay Area for its work to create these experiences in the national parks, and especially at the Presidio.

Stemming from this, we believe the Parks Conservancy's PX proposal is, hands down, the best option for the site. In addition to supporting the connection of school children and young people to the parks, the PX will be a tremendous resource for families from local communities and from around the world, providing workshops, performances, exhibits and ties to park-wide programs that draw from its national park setting.

The recent government shutdown exemplified how important the national parks are to the American public. The best fit for the Commissary is the option that has an unbreakable role in the relationship between the public and the national parks.

Sincerely,

Jay Thomas Watson

Jay Thomas Watson
Regional Vice President

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