



**Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust**  
*for Long Beach and Seal Beach*

PO Box 30165  
Long Beach, CA 90853

562-293-3011  
[www.lcwtlandtrust.org](http://www.lcwtlandtrust.org)

February 1, 2012

**Dear Members of the Long Beach City Council:**

**The Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust enthusiastically supports the motion before the City Council February 7, 2012, to move forward with comprehensive master planning of the SEADIP area. As we have stated in the past, because of the certainty it would bring, a comprehensive and updated master plan for the area will benefit residents, land owners, fragile nearby wetlands and, yes, developers too. We want to express our sincere appreciation to Council members Andrews and O' Donnell for the vision and foresight their motion represents. Their leadership on this proposal underscores what we have said all along, that Los Cerritos Wetlands is a unique community and natural resource that belongs to all Long Beach residents, not just those who live nearby.**

**The Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust is especially pleased to note that input from the California Coastal Commission will be sought throughout the process. Consultation with the Coastal Commission and following the requirements of the Coastal Act are integral to successful planning within the Coastal Zone.**

**And we, as advocates for Los Cerritos Wetlands, hope to have a robust role in the specifics of how this community planning effort moves forward.**

**Regarding the specific motion to come before the Council on March 7th, we would like to share some additional thoughts and suggestions:**

**Retention of a project manager--In order to ensure sincere community buy-in to the process, we suggest the City contract with a project manager that has both strong environmental credentials and a proven track record of working with land owners and the development community. We would advocate for standards and credentials that are equal to those of Terrell Watt Planning Consultants, a company well regarded for success in negotiating land-use agreements in California. And of course, Long Beach's own Heather Altman is a recognized expert on land use planning and the environmental review process.**

**Timeline for community input--Regarding two weeks to produce an outline for an efficient process for obtaining community input, we respectfully request the deadline be extended until at least March 10th in order to take into account the outcome about the community planning process that results from the meeting the LCWLT will be hosting on March 3rd.**

**We look forward to the certainty for developers and protection for wetlands that a comprehensive, updated, and revised SEADIP will deliver.**

**Sincerely,**

**Patricia T. Bliss  
President**