



CITY OF RIO VISTA

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May 5, 2017

Senator Bill Dodd
3rd Senate District
State Capitol, Room 5064
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Legislation for Solano County Regional Park and Open Space District

Dear Senator Dodd:


I am writing this letter in my role as the Mayor with the City of Rio Vista to express our support of the special legislation that would allow Solano County to take the next steps toward the formation of a countywide dependent Regional Parks and Open Space District. The formation of such a district is intended over time to facilitate greater public access to open spaces and hiking trails in Solano County.

Our understanding is that the special legislation is necessary for the County to pursue a "Dependent" form of a district with the potential for conversion to an "independent" district at some point in the future. The special legislation also includes a provision precluding the potential future district from utilizing the "powers of eminent domain" which is a power otherwise provided for in the current state statutes applicable to regional park district formations, and is a sensitive property rights issue in Solano County.

We understand that this process may ultimately lead to placing a measure on the County wide ballot for the formation of the district. Any City decision to support such a measure will ultimately be determined once all the details of a measure are further known, and the level of public support is better understood.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (707) 374 - 6451 or via email at nrichardson@ci.rio-vista.ca.us.

Sincerely,


Norman Richardson
Mayor
City of Rio Vista