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Oakland City Council Oakland City Hall 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza Oakland, California 94612

Dear Council Members:

I am writing to urge you to protect a very special public park in your City from development and destruction. Knowland Park offers everything from peaceful walks in natural open space and spectacular vistas overlooking the San Francisco Bay to native wildlife habitats worthy of casual as well as professional scientific study. Unusual in their variety as well as their proximity to each other, these habitats—oak woodlands, maritime chaparral, native California grasslands, and coastal scrub along a riparian corridor—provide sustenance for a rich array of wildlife. The fact that this parkland exists in the middle of a densely populated urban environment makes it even more special—to Oakland residents and visitors alike.

The Oakland Zoo's choice of location in Knowland Park to build a California conservation exhibit reveals its complete lack of commitment to authentic principles of conservation and conservation education. The Zoo can provide exhibits and education programs to the public without destroying this parkland. Instead, it has opted to bulldoze acres of sensitive and important habitat to build artificial exhibits to show what has been lost from the destruction of wildlife habitat.

You have the opportunity to put an end to this ill-conceived development project and preserve a wonderful local natural resource. As urban areas get denser, these natural parcels become more important—both in terms of quality of life for people and crucial sustenance for native plants and animals. Please do the right thing and refuse to allow the Zoo's destructive project to go forward.

Sincerely,

(signed) Levaldine & Mollina

(print name) GERALDINE C. MORRISON

(date) 24 april 2014

(city/state) ORINDA CA 94563

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Sincerely,

(signed) The Will

(print name) Julia Wenk

(date) 4/24/2014

(city/state) Berkeley, CA

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(signed) Judy Gordon

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(date) 4/24/14

(city/state) Berkeley, CA

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(print name) Itaudel Prussin

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(city/state) Keusingfon, CA

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Sincerely,

(signed) May - Ellis Valenus

(print name) Mary-Ellis Adams

(date) 4/24/14

(city/state) Berkeley, CA

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(signed) ally Elicens

(print name) SALLY STEVENS

(date) Oph, 24, 2014

(city/state) Deb, Cr

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Sincerely,

(signed) Grace M. Willey

(print name) SRACE WAHLOSERG

(date) 4/14/Jo14

(city/state) Barkely, CA.

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Sincerely,

(print name) Yukiko Kohoyashi (date) Derheley, CH.