



**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY GROUP**

Of The Ventana Chapter

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March 28, 2013,

John Leopold, Supervisor, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Betsey Lynberg, County Parks Administrator  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Subject: Proposed Change of Use for Anna Jean Cummings Park

Dear John and Betsey,

We are writing to indicate our position with regard to the proposed disc golf course at Anna Jean Cummings Park. We believe that this proposed use will be much more detrimental to habitat, including the rare coastal terrace prairie habitat, than is being intimated by the project proponents. We are of the opinion that this proposed use is not compliant to the Master Plan for this Park, and further that the Master Plan should not be altered to allow it.

The area in which the proposed disc golf course would be sited currently is an open space area and serves a number of important habitat functions for a variety of species of both plants and animals.

The view that open space is an unused space is errant, in our view. Open space provides excellent opportunities for the public to walk through a relatively undisturbed area, viewing, photographing, and observing seasonal changes and successive processes. Many residents currently use this park for exercise with leashed pets and walking with friends. Abundant testimony has been presented that the new proposed use is not compatible with these activities.

In addition, there are opportunities for habitat restoration in Anna Jean Cummings Park that will be lost if further development, such as the current proposal, are implemented.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,  
Mike Guth,

Conservation Chair, Sierra Club Santa Cruz Group