

Guadalupe

River Park & Gardens

A park for many reasons... A park for all seasons

February 28, 2008

MRP Tentative Order Comments

Attn: Dale Bowyer

S.F. Bay Water Board

1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400

Oakland, CA 94612

Via Email to mrp@waterboards.ca.gov

Subject: Comments on the MRP TENTATIVE ORDER

Dear Mr. Bowyer:

The Friends of Guadalupe River Park and Gardens fears that if your agency places newly constructed trails in the same category as New Road Projects (Section C.3.b.i(4)), construction costs will skyrocket, thereby slowing the expansion of new bicycle and pedestrian trails. A requirement to construct trails of permeable materials will increase costs, and will result in fewer miles of trails being built. We support the need to control run-off pollution into our waterways, but this order could saddle trail construction with unnecessary mitigation unless the rule is clarified.

Trails designed to be used by bicyclists and pedestrians should be judged by a different standard than roads used by motorized vehicles. They are a key component of our community's recreation and transportation network, and we strongly support the development of a robust trail network. We ask you to specifically address the trails issue, and to clarify the extent to which trails will be subject to waste discharge requirements.

Sincerely,

Leslee Hamilton
Executive Director