

June 8, 2008

Mid-City Community Action Network
4275 El Cajon Blvd., Suite 101
San Diego, CA 92105



Dear Mid-City CAN Oversight Committee Members,

San Diego Coastkeeper earnestly supports the Mid City CAN's 10-year strategic plan to build communities that promote healthy lifestyles and environmentally-responsible behavior in the City Heights community.

Coastkeeper is an ideal support organization for the Mid-City CAN's Track 4 in which residents will live in healthy communities by promoting land use, transportation, and community development. With more than a decade of experience fighting to improve our water quality in San Diego, Coastkeeper is fortified with expertise in collaboration, volunteer recruitment, community outreach, and policy work. Our monthly water quality monitoring and our curriculum-based environmental education program works to grow community engagement and improve the environmental health of the Pueblo watershed upstream, downstream and within City Heights. Our robust volunteer base and our community-led research science approach to protecting public health, generating and using water quality data and implementing low impact development, can provide constructive guidelines and rigid support in the planning process for the Mid-City CAN's ambitions.

Additionally, Coastkeeper is spearheading the coordination of the newly-formed Chollas Creek Coalition (CCC), which is a collaborative group of experts and stakeholders coordinating to implement structural improvements and community efforts in the Pueblo watershed. The coalition seeks to improve community health, ecosystem restoration, and responsible development in the area. With bi-monthly meetings, the Coalition enables the Mid-City CAN to benefit from the knowledge and resources of joint efforts of all 15 local representatives in the Coalition. Coastkeeper will work to incorporate the priorities of the Mid-City CAN strategic planning process into the efforts already underway within The CCC. To us, it seems like a necessary collaboration to maximize effectiveness in City Heights!

Coastkeeper is willing to commit staff involvement and management of an intern, to the best of its ability, throughout the 10-year process to support the Mid-City CAN. The intern may draw on the expertise and guidance of Coastkeeper's staff which range from Environmental Lawyers, Educators, Environmental Scientists, and Marketing Experts to provide information. Furthermore, our offices are equipped with a Water Quality Lab, copy machines, computers, and work space that will be available for the intern to use at the Mid-City CAN's request.

As San Diego faces growing challenges to public health and natural resources, Coastkeeper will gladly render the support needed for the Mid-City CAN to achieve the goals that the California Endowment has set forth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Reznik", is written over a horizontal line.

Bruce Reznik
Executive Director
San Diego Coastkeeper

San Diego Coastkeeper is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) organization (Tax I.D. #33-0647946).