



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN
VOTERS**

LOS ALTOS - MOUNTAIN VIEW
Hillview Community Center
97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA
(650) 941-4846

Ms. Sandy Olliges
NASA/Ames Research Center
Environmental Services Office
Mail Stop 218-1
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000

August 7, 2002

Dear Ms. Olliges:

The League of Women Voters of Los Altos-Mountain View has concerns about the restoration of NASA-Moffett Field that it hopes you will address.

The League recognizes the complexity of both the technical decisions to be made and the political challenges associated with the responsibilities and authorities of the multiple public agencies involved. However, the complexity of the situation does not mean that the outcome should be other than an environmentally sound and a socially equitable plan for the facility. It is critical that the resource management decisions being made must be based on a thorough understanding of the implications of the projected uses of the lands being restored. Such understanding requires that all the parties involved collaborate with one another, and not be bound by existing jurisdictional constraints.

The need for improving the patterns of interaction among the agencies is already evident, and will become even greater when the Cargill lands become a consideration and U.S. Fish and Wildlife takes on a significant role in the decision-making. Thus we suggest that the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) be restructured in the style of a Coordinated Resource Management Program (CRMP)— a model that has been used very successfully for more than a decade in aligning entities with divergent jurisdictions, roles, and resources. While we are not aware that any of the agencies within the Department of Defense have yet participated in a CRMP, both U.S. EPA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have experience with this process. We feel that a restructured RAB is essential if the outcome is to be healthy, safe and economically viable. To that end, one or more

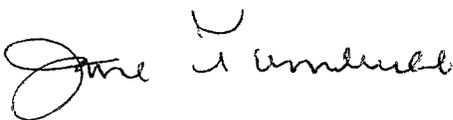
members of our local League would be pleased to serve on a committee to foster restructuring.

The League also is concerned about the likelihood that the areas presently designated for future housing may prove to be unsuitable for such use – even after extensive clean-up. Furthermore, we wish to raise the issue of the potential for future pollution of Stevens Creek if excavation of contaminated land goes ahead at the Orion Park site. While we will look forward to the results of the technical assessment of levels of contamination at the proposed sites, we also suggest that the agencies involved promptly begin consideration of alternative sites that would be appropriate for housing.

We note that the most recent development plan calls for an increase in the number of proposed housing units and therefore reduces the jobs to housing imbalance of the earlier plan. Concerns about the ratio of jobs to housing availability are very legitimate, but we suggest that publication of a figure be postponed until better information is available regarding the suitability of the locations being proposed for the construction of housing.

We look forward to reviewing the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement in the next month or so. Following review, we intend to provide further comments to you and your organization.

We appreciate your attention to the concerns we have raised, and trust that, given increased collaboration among all parties involved, the outcome of restoration and revitalization of the Moffett site will truly benefit the people and communities of Santa Clara County. A successful restoration outcome is certainly everyone's goal, thus we look forward to working with you on the issues laid out in this letter.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Turnbull". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Jane Turnbull, Co-President