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August 15, 2013

Ralph Rubio, Mayor Seaside City Council 440 Harcourt Avenue Seaside, CA 93955

Subject: State Parks Amended and Restated Water Assignment Agreement for American Youth Hostel

Dear Mayor Rubio and City Council Members:

LandWatch Monterey County supports executing an Amended and Restated Water Assignment Agreement ("Water Assignment Agreement") with the State of California Parks and Recreation Department ("State Parks"). The term of the Water Assignment Agreement would be extended for an additional three (3) years, from August 28, 2013 to August 28, 2016.

The amended agreement would allow the Youth Hostel to complete the proposed project at Colonel Durham Road to the north, Sixth Avenue on the east, Gigling Road to the county, and other former military buildings to the west in the former Fort Ord. The youth Hostel Parcel is adjacent to CSUMB to the north and the Department of Defense Manpower Data Center building to the south.

LandWatch supports development on existing urban areas within the Former Fort Ord, and we urge the City to approve the amended agreement. The American Youth Hostel Project is a great opportunity for the city of Seaside to attract tourists and revitalize a dilapidated part of the former Fort Ord.

Sincerely,

Amy L. White Executive Director