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March 30th, 2026

The Honorable Christopher Cabaldon
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7320
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Lori Wilson
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6350
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: East Bay Regional Park District's support for the acquisition and restoration of Jersey Island by the Delta Diablo Water District in Eastern Contra Costa County

Dear Senator Cabaldon and Assemblymember Wilson:

I am writing to express East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) support for the acquisition and restoration of Jersey Island by the Delta Diablo Water District in Eastern Contra Costa County. We encourage your leadership in advancing this important investment.

EBRPD's mission is to preserve a rich heritage of natural and cultural resources by providing open space, healthy recreation, and environmental education to residents of the East Bay region and beyond. Proposition 4, the climate bond passed by the voters in 2024, supports the EBRPD's mission providing capital funding for acquisition and park development. Jersey Island presents a compelling opportunity to complement both EBRPD's and Proposition 4's goals in an area that is underserved by publicly accessible open spaces.

The potential future restoration of Jersey Island would support the development of new public amenities in this area including opportunities for outdoor recreation, environmental education, and nature-based experiences within the Delta, which is a natural resource of global significance that is often overlooked by many Californians.

In addition to its recreational value, a restored Jersey Island would protect and enhance important natural resources, support wildlife habitat, and contribute to regional climate resilience. The Delta Diablo Water District's plans to integrate public access with habitat restoration aligns with EBRPD's long-standing approach to park planning and stewardship.

Jersey Island also represents a meaningful opportunity for partnership. As the region continues to grow, collaborative efforts between Delta Diablo Water District and local public agencies such as EBRPD will be essential for delivering projects that provide both ecological and community benefits. EBRPD is committed to exploring partnership opportunities with the Delta Diablo Water District to advance multi-benefit projects in Eastern Contra Costa County.

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For these reasons, EBRPD supports state funding through Proposition 4 to assist in the Delta Diablo Water District's acquisition of Jersey Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Max Korten".

Max Korten
Acting General Manager

CC: Board of Directors