

January 13, 2006

Gregory Chew
Community Designer/Program Manager
Sacramento Area Council of Governments
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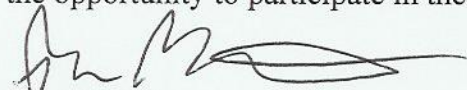
Dear Mr. Chew:

I am writing in support of the Esparto downtown revitalization planning project that Yolo County and its partner Capay Valley Vision have submitted for consideration for funding by the SACOG Community Design Fund grant program. I, as the principal with Esparto Corners, LLC, am the owner of the 2-acre parcel at the Northeast corner of Esparto referred to in this proposal as the Site of former Mast Warehouse and pictured on page 7. My hope for this parcel is to develop a restaurant downstairs and some hotel rooms upstairs. Such a hotel previously existed in Esparto and this would have a similar feel and style to it. I also own the property directly adjacent to this parcel along the east and am working with one of the local non-profit developers to build housing for all income levels.

I believe that this proposed project would lead to a downtown Esparto that is a model of SACOG's seven smart growth blueprint principles. I have been involved in the hopes and plans for downtown Esparto for several years including as the past chair of the Esparto Citizen's Advisory Committee.

This project appeals to me because I believe it will serve as a catalyst for the creation of well-designed, mixed-use buildings that utilize downtown Esparto's historic structures and emphasize the community's agricultural character. Bringing quality compact housing units that are affordable to working families or independent seniors and integrated into our downtown is also important to this effort and something that I am invested in.

There is a great sense of urgency in the community to get started in this planning process. Because of the population growth and the long time that the downtown area has been dormant we are all eager to do type of planning that will lead to the rebirth of our regional business and community center. This project is priority and I look forward to the opportunity to participate in the planning process. Thank you for consideration,



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