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From: Susan Ornelas, Executive Director, Jacoby Creek Land Trust
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Representing two organizations: Jacoby Creek Land Trust (JCLT)
City of Arcata Open Space & Agriculture Committee (I am on the Committee)

Jacoby Creek Land Trust (JCLT) – Supports Plan Alternative A, particularly because it is the *only* plan that supports the transfer of development rights as a policy. Transferring development rights is a tool the community needs to retain private property rights, yet stem the sprawl that will be inevitable if we are not creative in our house planning.

We have an opportunity to show restraint in our community development, to honor wildlife habitat needs. We should encourage housing where people have already made inroads and where there are community services. In policy, the County should make it easier for people to add a second dwelling onto existing house footprints, and resist the tide of spreading out into the landscape.

JCLT feels that Plan Alternative A supports the natural resource base and moves the County toward the overall goal for natural resources - a sustainable, managed production for people and wildlife.

JCLT appreciates the current County conservation easement program and supports CO-P3: Being proactive in OS policy, and CO-IM1 & CO-IM3: Implementing & funding an Open Space program.

JCLT supports the *community centered growth* concept with *compact development boundaries* as the most supportive of conserving open space for wildlife and people. JCLT agrees with the staff conclusion that the impacts of open space loss will be significant if Plan Alternative C & D are implemented.

JCLT encourages the County to share mapping services with non-profits.

City of Arcata Open Space and Agriculture committee (AOSA):

The Open Space and Agriculture committee supports Policy CO-G1: To provide an overall open space system and Implementation CO-IM1: Secure funding for Open Space program.

AOSA has been discussing the possibility of an open space district and would like to sustain that discussion with the County and the various Cities. We feel forming an open space district and providing a funding stream is a necessary step in an Open Space system.

AOSA supports Policy CO-P1: Greenbelts between towns, avoid merging communities.

The committee would like to see support given to Community Forests—maybe as a combination of the CO-P2 policy of supporting working forests, and CO-P7 developing and maintaining parks.

The committee supports trail linkages and backs the safe, efficient, transportation & trails for bikes, hikers, etc. as stated in Chapter 8. Circulation Element. Trail linkages, such as between Eureka and Arcata, are important to this committee.