



Friends of the  
**DUNES**

January 17, 2008

Humboldt County Planning Commission  
3015 H Street  
Eureka CA 95501

Dear Planning Commission Members,

Friends of the Dunes (FOD) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to conserving the natural diversity of coastal environments through community-supported education and stewardship programs.

As you are aware, FOD recently acquired a total of 61 acres at 200 Stamps Lane in Manila that will be developed as a public access area and facility designed to conserve coastal habitats while providing public access trails and educational programs. The property will serve as a "Gateway to the Dunes", connecting to other nearby public owned coastal dunes and serving as a destination point on the peninsula. We would like to see the project included in trail planning in the region.

We are requesting that the Planning Commissioners direct the County Planning Department to include the FOD Stamps Lane Project as a destination on the peninsula and develop pedestrian and bicycle facilities, including multiple use trails that increase connectivity between Arcata, Manila and Eureka and provide for safe travel in Manila. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities in Manila are described in the Manila Community Transportation Plan, Phase II, the Humboldt Bay Trails Feasibility Study (2001), HCAOG's Pedestrian Needs Assessment (2003) and Regional Bicycle Transportation Plan (2004).

The addition of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and trails to safely access the FOD Stamps Lane property will be a great asset to the community and is consistent with the County's Local Coastal Plan, which encourages providing opportunities for increasing public understanding of coastal ecological processes.

Thank you for considering our request. Please let me know if you would like more information about our project.

Sincerely,

Carol Vander Meer, Executive Director