



September 18, 2023

City of Petaluma  
City Council Members  
11 English Street  
Petaluma, CA 94952

RE: Oyster Cove Housing Development

Dear Petaluma City Council Members,

The McNear Peninsula has long been an open space area and home to Steamer Landing Park, a place to connect to and learn about the Petaluma River and Marsh. The historical David Yearsley River Heritage Center sits at the entrance to the Park and serves as a hub for events and programming linking our community to the wonders of the Petaluma Watershed. It is the site of the much-beloved Green Heron Nature Camp, a summer camp for youth, as well as field trips for Petaluma students and a hub for River cleanup activities.

It is a key part of the mission of Friends of the Petaluma River to protect and conserve the habitat within Steamer Landing Park and throughout the Peninsula and riparian zones along the Petaluma River. With that in mind, we recognize and appreciate the work the Oyster Cove Mixed Use project has done to integrate the Petaluma River into its design.

The natural character of Steamer Landing Park is fundamental in preserving sensitive riparian habitat and providing open space and recreation opportunities for the community. The Oyster Cove project's enhancement of riparian features and its improvement of community access along the waterfront will be a benefit to our river community. We are writing today to ensure that this project continues to support a vibrant riverfront habitat, especially in interface areas between the development and the Park. Friends looks forward to continuing our work with Urban Mix to ensure that project landscaping will integrate with the natural habitat of the Petaluma River riparian area.

Steamer Landing Park will provide a ready amenity for residents of Oyster Cove. With a dock being installed this summer and ongoing recreational and cultural activities, it offers many opportunities to enrich the neighborhood and greater community. It is Friends' hope that we can continue to work together with the Oyster Cove development to improve this area into the future.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stephanie Bastianon".

Stephanie Bastianon, Executive Director