



"Direct experience in nature is critical and diminishing. Nature is important to children's development in every major way - intellectually, emotionally, socially, spiritually and physically."

- Children and Nature Network

Jessica Diermier
3781 Circle Drive
Loomis, CA 95650

T (916) 316-3781
lochnessie@thegreentoolbelt.com

www.thegreentoolbelt.com

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June 27, 2012
Loomis Town Council
3665 Taylor Rd.
Loomis, CA 95650

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JUN 29 2012

TOWN OF LOOMIS

Madame Mayor and Councilmembers,

My name is Jessica Diermier and I am a small-business owner and resident of Loomis. I have been following the progress of the Heritage Park Land proposals and would like to urge the council to consider ear-marking some of the towns financial reserves [now famous] for the Heritage Park land.

While researching nature centers and preserves in our region I came across Auburn's Placer Nature Center. According to Linda Desai, PNC's Education Director, they are an integral resource to their community, serving toddlers to elementary students, high school students, community college students and families.

By planting wildlife habitat and implementing an unprogrammed park on the Heritage Oaks land, the Town of Loomis has great potential for reaching out to its 8 pre-school, 7 elementary school and high school aged students, not to mention its additional residents and surrounding communities.

Dr. Stephen R. Kellert of Yale University urges designers, developers, educators, political

"Passive parks or unprogrammed spaces accommodate change of use over time, as the needs or interests of the community who uses the space change. These spaces do not rely on active participation, but rather accommodate it." - City of Costa Mesa CA

www.ci.costa-mesa.ca.us

leaders and citizens throughout society to make changes in our modern built environments to provide children with positive contact with nature – where children live, play, and learn. (Original Research and Synthesis, adapted from www.childrenandnature.org)

Many thanks for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

July 6, 2012,

Loomis Town Council
3665 Taylor Road
Loomis, CA 95650

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TOWN OF LOOMIS

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

As a citizen of Loomis, I am urging you to provide funding to continue the development of Heritage Park as a mitigation tree planting site and passive park.

Such an amenity will provide significant value to the town of Loomis. The worth of acreage for mitigation tree planting can be easily measured in economic terms. However, the value of a woodland habitat, a passive park, an outdoor laboratory for local students, and a place of natural quietude for members of the community cannot be so easily quantified. But, it is the presence of just such places that become emblematic of communities.

Loomis prides itself on the "Loomis way." I can think of no better demonstration of the "Loomis way" than to have the town of Loomis to provide funding to assist local neighbors in bringing their skills, productivity, and passion to turn a degraded site, into a natural area and park which will truly become a Loomis Heritage.

Regards, Steve Davis