

May 11, 2012

Chancellor Blumenthal  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz, CA

Re: Support for Implementing UC MBEST Center Vision


Dear Chancellor Blumenthal:

Reuse of the former Fort Ord offers both challenges and opportunities for the Monterey Bay region. A key reuse element is the University of California (“UC”) Monterey Bay Education, Science, and Technology Center (“MBEST Center”). The original MBEST Center vision called for establishing a 437-acre R&D Center. Now, after 15 years of development experience and a changing market, UC is repositioning UC MBEST to be an R&D Center of approximately 70 acres. In partnership with the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, UC convened a stakeholder group to update the MBEST Center vision and to explore ideas for moving forward with job creation and revenue generation on remaining developable UC land at the former Fort Ord.

The MBEST Center visioning process engaged leadership of regional institutions of higher education, local jurisdictions, the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, and the 17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. After several months of meetings the final report, dated November 29, 2011, was issued, summarizing the salient points of the visioning process, which include the following:


1. UC will retain and continue to manage the 605-acre Fort Ord Natural Reserve as protected habitat while the MBEST Center footprint will be focused on the 70-acre Central North campus.
2. Other developable UC-owned lands at the former Fort Ord will be available for job-generating uses consistent with the Fort Ord Base Reuse Plan that are compatible with the UC MBEST Center.
3. UC will continue to seek research-related and educationally oriented uses on adjacent developable lands.
4. UC Santa Cruz will invite local higher education institutions to establish an advisory group to help guide the MBEST Center and to expand the range of potential research activities.
5. UCSC and CSUMB will collaborate on a path forward for UC’s Eighth Street Parcel.
6. UC Santa Cruz will partner with the City of Marina to complete entitlements on the Central North Campus to better position the MBEST Center to respond to R&D opportunities.

The following stakeholders support UC in its efforts to implement this updated MBEST Center vision and commit to working collaboratively with UC to bring this important effort to fruition.

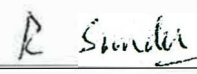
1.   
Sam Farr, Congressman  
17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District


2.   
Dave Potter, Chairman  
FORA Board

3.   
Dianne Harrison, President  
California State University  
Monterey Bay

4.   
Doug Garrison, President  
Monterey Peninsula College

5.   
Jane Parker, District 4 Supervisor  
Monterey County

6.   
Sunder Ramaswamy  
President  
Monterey Institute of  
International Studies

7.   
Bruce Delgado, Mayor  
City of Marina

The Naval Postgraduate School has a significant and continuing interest in the progress of the MBEST Center's movement forward under the revised vision.

8.   
Dan Oliver, President  
Naval Postgraduate School