From: Ron Chesshire

To: <u>Michael Houlemard</u>; <u>FORA Board</u>

Cc: John Papa; Mark Van Den Heuvel; Steve MacArthur; Rod Smalley; Manny Pinheiro; Kathleen Lee; Nicole

Hollingsworth; Erica Parker

Subject: Re: Blight Clean Up

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 3:59:41 PM

Attachments: Scan0139.pdf

Hey, maybe I should include the letter?

In Solidarity,

Ron Chesshire

Monterey/Santa Cruz Counties Building & Construction Trades Council

10300 Merritt Street Castroville, CA 95012 (831) 869-3073 ron@mscbctc.com www.MSCBCTC.com

From: Ron Chesshire

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2019 3:58 PM

To: Michael Houlemard <michael@fora.org>; board@fora.org <board@fora.org>

Cc: John Papa <John.Papa@dc16sj.org>; Mark Van Den Heuvel <Mark@smw104.org>; Steve MacArthur <Steve@PipeTrades62.com>; Rod Smalley <rsmalley@oe3.org>; Manny Pinheiro <Manny@mscbctc.com>; Kathleen M. Lee <kathleen.lee@mail.house.gov>; Hollingsworth, Nicole <Nicole.Hollingsworth@sen.ca.gov>; Parker, Erica <erica.parker@asm.ca.gov>

Subject: Blight Clean Up

We have sent this letter to Congressman Panetta in hopes that if FORA can move forward and bring fruition to the Bond proposal for clean up he can lobby Congress for money to finish the job. We will assist at whatever level we can.

In Solidarity,

Ron Chesshire

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FPPC No. 850048

John Papa President

August 27, 2019

Mark Van Den Heuvel Vice President

Honorable Congressman Panetta,

Rod Smalley Treasurer

Steve MacArthur **Recording Secretary**

> Ron Chesshire Manuel Pinheiro

Boilermakers #549 Bricklayers #3 Carpenters #505 Carpenters #605 Carpet, Lin. & Soft Tile #12 **Elevator Constructors #8** Glaziers #1621 IBEW #234 Insulators & Asbestos #16 Ironworkers #155 Ironworkers #377 Laborers #270 Millwrights #102 OP & CMIA #300 Operating Engineers #3 Painters & Tapers #272 Plumbers & Steamfitters #62 Roofers & Waterproofers #95 Sheet Metal Workers #104 Sprinklerfitters #669 Teamsters #890 UA #355

The blighted areas of the former Ft Ord inhibit re-development of the area. Antidevelopment groups use the blight as an excuse to not develop until it is cleaned up, developers have trouble marketing to businesses that may want to move into the area but are reluctant because of the blight, and cleanup is costly.

Clean up has been a piecemeal operation funded through land sales therefore it is a pay as you go endeavor. What is needed is an up-front effort to remove the blight, which in turn will remove the obstacles to redevelopment.

We are aware that a proposal is before FORA to float a bond for money to remove a major portion of the blight. This is a proactive approach on their part and we endorse it. Unfortunately it is not enough to do the whole job. Considering what is at stake we believe it is time for you to consider lobbying Congress for an appropriation to finish the job.

As has been discussed in the past with Congressman Farr, yourself, and FORA blighted land is worth X, cleaned up land is worth X+. If FORA moves forward with the bond, the amount needed to complete the job would become the appropriation amount. Once the funds are received the funds would aid in removing the blight. Once the blight is removed the land value should increase. Once the land parcels are sold the appropriation would be returned to the Federal Government.

We understand this is a concept and work needs to be done to identify parcels to be cleaned, cost, and the value added to the cleaned up parcels to determine payback. We are sure FORA has a significant amount of data on hand. We are willing to do our part to move this effort forward. The issue is whether you are willing to consider this to see if it is feasible, viable, and if so, worthy of your effort.

Kindest regards and In Solidarity,

Ron Chesshire – CEO MSC BCTC

Cc: FORA