

November

Presidio Trust
34 Graham Street
P.O. Box 29052
San Francisco, CA 94129

Att: Michael Boland, Director of Planning. Park Projects and Programs

Dear Mr. Boland,

No matter how well we fare in our battles on a regional and national level within the United States, if we don't tackle environmental problems on a global scale – if we fail to achieve success around the planet - the war to protect our environment will be lost.

- Edgar Wayburn, M.D. *Your Land and Mine*, page 287

We are delighted to submit this letter of intent to respond to your Request for Proposals for the use of Building 103 at the Main Post by cultural organizations. As Dr. Wayburn pointed out in the above quote, we can only achieve the Presidio Trust's mission of creating a sustainable National Park if we work to achieve sustainability globally.

Our proposal is a **public/private funded Global Environmental Hall of Fame** that will assemble, interpret and engage the visitor with the brightest ideas and best practices for conserving, preserving and restoring the Earth's ecosystems. We will do this by creating interactive displays that inform visitors of human impacts on the Earth, honor the hard work and dedication of environmental champions around the world and inspire people to take action and make sustainable choices. The Hall will serve as a gathering place and intellectual crucible for interactions by local, national and international government agencies and NGOs that will complement existing Presidio-based organizations and cultural/heritage attractions, contribute substantially to the visitor experience at the Presidio and further its vision as a sustainable National Park. The Hall will be a significant response to the deep public need for the Nation and the world to develop fully a range of effective options to conserve, protect and restore our environment.

Why a Global Environmental Hall of Fame? Challenge and Response

The most authoritative and comprehensive analysis of humanity's impact on the Earth's ecosystems was conducted by *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* that involved the work of more than 1,360 experts world wide. Its report, *Living Beyond Our Means – Natural Assets and Human Well-Being*, stated that:

Human activity is putting such strains on the natural functions of Earth that the ability of the planet's ecosystems to sustain future generations can no longer be taken for granted...Above all, protection of these assets can no longer be seen as an optional extra, to be considered once more pressing concerns such as wealth creation or national security have been dealt with...The natural balance sheet we bequeath to future generations depends on choices made at every level and in every corner of the planet – from the head of a village in Bangladesh to a corporation board in a New York skyscraper; from international gatherings of finance ministers to consumers in a Brazilian furniture store.

The goals of the Global Environmental Hall of Fame are to:

Inform and Engage the “head of a village in Bangladesh,” “a corporation board in a New York skyscraper”, “international gatherings of finance ministers” and “consumers in a Brazilian furniture store” of the impacts of their choices on the world's environmental health by:

- drawing on the wealth of talent and resources in San Francisco Bay Area's world-renowned universities and institutes and in its vibrant non-governmental and business communities
- collaborating with Presidio-based and neighboring organizations to create participatory exhibitions and experiences in the Hall that demonstrate the consequences of individual and collective choices and the range of effective options for sustainable living
- inviting the United Nations Environment Management Group, the United States Global Change Research Project, and their member agencies to create interpretive experiences of their programs and best practices to conserve, protect and restore the Earth's ecosystems.

Inspire current and future generations of visitors by inviting organizations that award prizes to individuals who have demonstrated exemplary environmental leadership to create interactive exhibitions of these award winners to inspire visitors to take action in their local communities.

Honor outstanding global environmental stewardship by inviting the 192 Member States of the United Nations and the 50 States of the Union to make annual **Presidio Awards** to outstanding environmental leaders in their nation and states and to create interactive exhibitions about these awards at the Hall. We intend to challenge countries to recognize their environmental heroes and to promote awareness within their own countries of their contributions and inspiration.

Connect organizations and individuals in our common quest for a sustainable future for humankind by:

- serving as a nexus of ideas, activities and events that connect local environmental, human rights and labor organizations with each other and with organizations throughout the world
- housing the administrative offices of the Phillip and Sala Burton Center for Human Rights and interpreting their great legislative legacy and honoring outstanding labor and human rights leaders.

- inviting the Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve, associated with the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) MAB Program, to programmatically connect the Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve with the other 506 Biosphere Reserves in 102 countries.

The concept of our proposal has been endorsed by the Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club and by Edgar Wayburn, M. D.

I think that the proposal for a Global Environmental Hall of Fame is a good one. Phil Burton and I discussed this possibility before he died and Phil had intended to push it.

- Edgar Wayburn, M.D. June 1, 2007 Tribute to Phillip and Sala Burton, panel discussion on the Human Right to a Clean and Safe Environment, Fort Mason Officers Club

The Phillip and Sala Burton Center for Human Rights is now seeking public and private funding to engage professional, experienced assistance to create and implement this project:

- William H. Hough, Acting President, Director and cofounder of the Phillip and Sala Burton Center for Human Rights, will coordinate the project. Mr. Hough will use his international, political, business, environmental, and non-profit experience and leadership to guide the project to completion. He has been an avid environmentalist and informed internationalist since his youth and is a member of the Sierra Club's National Human Rights and the Environment Committee. His resume can be found at http://psburtoncenter.org/about_us.htm.
- ATELIER Kathleen Brown will work with the Burton Center to:
 - a) Develop a financially responsible business plan to restore and operate Building 103 or 105 for public use as the Hall,
 - b) Create the visitor experience concept and experience master plan, defining the activities in and corresponding physical layout of the Hall's visitor experience, and
 - c) Develop and execute a plan to secure public and private funding to restore the building for public use and operate the Hall.
- Page & Turnbull architecture will work with the Burton Center and AKB to prepare an architectural plan for restoration and use by the public of Building 103 or 105 that meets the requirements of the Presidio Trust's *Cultural Institutions at the Presidio Main Post Request for Proposals* and responds to the goals identified above.

Our vision for the planning process and its outcomes is to lead by example and apply the benefits of adaptive reuse of the historical barracks as a model of sustainable building practice — where the building itself is an inspirational interpretive tool. We will employ the most advanced holistic and collaborative program and facility planning approaches and aspire to the highest standards of LEED™ certification. We will push beyond the basics of a sustainable “shell” to include exhibition and programmatic materials, furniture, equipment, fixtures and management practices, landscaping and exterior elements to create an integrated operating model for ready export.

About the Phillip and Sala Burton Center for Human Rights

The Phillip and Sala Burton Center for Human Rights at the Presidio National Park is a nonprofit human rights research, education and training center dedicated to the legacy of Phillip and Sala Burton. Our mission is to promote international human rights, labor and environmental norms to enhance economic and social justice locally, nationally and internationally. The Burton Center fulfills its mission by:

- Providing a forum for examining and promoting the role of international human rights, labor and environmental norms in our increasingly global economy,
- Promoting education about international human rights, labor and environmental norms to increase understanding of the relevance of these rights and norms in our daily lives through collaboration with local, national and international educational institutions, government agencies and non-governmental organizations,
- Supporting the training of human rights, labor, environmental and other professionals to monitor and promote international human rights, labor rights and environmental agreements and by developing an international network of non-governmental organizations committed to human rights, labor and environmental awareness and protections, and
- Supporting research initiatives to investigate the interdependence and interrelatedness of international human rights, labor rights and environmental norms and their role in enhancing security at the local, national and international levels.

Core Programs of the Burton Center include:

Education for Global Citizenship Program, which aspires to implement key recommendations of the February 6, 2006 Report by the Committee for Economic Development - *Education for Global Leadership* and consider the implications of the new central mission of Harvard College “to educate its undergraduates to be intellectually acute citizens of the world.” We seek to achieve our goal of promoting education about international human rights, labor and environmental norms and to help better prepare our youth for the global challenges they face:

Education for Global Citizenship in California Project

On February 28, 2005, the Phillip and Sala Burton Center invited the deans of the nine colleges/schools of education in the San Francisco Bay Area to a roundtable meeting at the Presidio. The purpose of the dialogue was to consider significant gaps in the California education frameworks that had been identified by the Center that hinder the ability of our teachers to prepare our youth for the global challenges that they face. We asked the deans to consider our contention that Education for Global Citizenship has four essential elements:

- Developing tolerance through an understanding of other people’s cultures and customs.
- Advancing awareness of sustainable development defined by the World Commission on the Environment and Development as development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the capacity of future generations to meet their own needs.

- Understanding of the international human rights, labor, environmental and commercial norms adopted by the nations of the world in the past century, and the institutions established to promote and defend them.
- Learning to be an active global citizen by working with a community-based non-governmental organization.

The Deans recommended that the Burton Center develop a strategy of multiple interventions in the California education system to achieve our goal, focusing on a pilot project in California first. Accepting this advice, the Burton Center has been working with the California International Studies Project to promote its *Strategic Partnerships for International Competence: School and University Collaboration* project to achieve our goal of promoting education about international human rights, labor and environmental norms.

Related programs and events of the Burton Center include:

Reclaiming May Day: Fundamental Rights & the Law of Nations

Tuesday, May 1, 2007, 5:45 pm

Berman Room, Fromm Hall, University of San Francisco (*on the corner of Golden Gate Ave. & Parker Street*)

sponsored by the Phillip & Sala Burton Center for Human Rights & the University of San Francisco, Center for the Pacific Rim

Celebrating nature and honoring the working men and women who fought for and won the eight hour day.

Moderator: Justice Harry Low, former California Insurance Commissioner

Panelist: Michael Theriault, Secretary-Treasurer, San Francisco Building and Construction Trade Council

The Role of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trade Council (SFBCTC) in winning the 8-Hour Day

Panelist: Professor Connie de la Vega, Director, International Programs, University of San Francisco School of Law

Advocates Should Use Applicable International Standards to Address Violations of Undocumented Migrant Workers' Rights in the United States. Hastings Race and Poverty Law Journal, Volume 3, Issue 2

Cosponsors: University of San Francisco, Center for the Pacific Rim and School of Law, Sierra Club, San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council, San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Environmental Education Roundtable with Assemblyman Jared Huffman

November 27, 2006

The PS Burton Center organized a roundtable discussion among the leaders of the most significant environmental education initiatives in California to introduce them to newly elected

California Assemblyman Jared Huffman. The organizations represented included the Sierra Club, CREEC, (California Regional Environmental Education Council), Project Wild, California State Park System, and the State Environmental Education Roundtable. The focus of the discussion was including education about international human rights, labor and environmental norms in the California History-Social Science and Science Frameworks and Content Standard.

June 1st, 2006 - Tribute to Phillip & Sala Burton

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors declared June 1, 2006 as "**Phillip and Sala Burton Day**" in San Francisco. Our honorary host committee paid tribute to this remarkable couple on their 53rd wedding anniversary and Phil's 80th birthday. Followed by a Public Panel Discussion - Fort Mason Officers Club:

Keeping the Legacy Alive - The Human Right to a Safe & Clean Environment with Edgar Wayburn, MD, Dolores Huerta, Justice Harry Low, and Michelle Leighton

We would be delighted to discuss this proposal with you and look forward to working with you to achieve your mission of creating a sustainable National Park.

We have enclosed the following documents for your reference:

The Challenge

- *Living Beyond our Means, Natural Assets and Human Well-Being*, Statement of the Board, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, cover, board, preface and pages 3 & 5

A Response

- Graphic rendering, Global Environmental Hall of Fame
- Phillip and Sala Burton Center for Human Rights, 2006 Annual Report
- Statement of Qualifications, Page & Turnbull
- Statement of Qualifications, ATELIER, Kathleen Brown
- Environmental Awards administered by the United Nations Environment Programme
- International Intergovernmental Agencies in the United Nations Environment Management Group
- Federal Agencies in the United States Global Change Research Project
- Golden Gate Biosphere Reserve

Very truly yours

Bill Hough
Acting President and Executive Director