

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0529

July 24, 2013

Dear Ms. Takata:

I would like to thank you for your letter expressing support for the continued existence of open space land on the NASA property in the Santa Susana Field laboratory. It is always a pleasure to hear from those who care passionately enough about an issue to reach out to elected officials.

I am a strong proponent of our national park service and understand the need to create more parks and open spaces throughout our communities. I value the time and effort that you and your colleagues have devoted to the preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills, and I would like to thank you and the Association for years of public advocacy on behalf of environmental causes. SSMPA's extensive work in the protection of these lands is truly commendable. It is essential that we work to preserve and protect native plant and animal habitat while creating environmental education and recreational opportunities. We cannot neglect the importance of nature and wildlife to our nation, and we must take action to sustain our environment through the creation and conservation of open spaces and parklands.

As a member of the Natural Resources Committee, I value and take seriously all efforts to improve and sustain the environment, and will make sure to keep a strong focus on your proposal. I look forward to working in partnership with Congressman Brad Sherman and the rest of my colleagues on this matter. I commend your mission of preserving sites rich in natural and cultural history, and will be sure to make a well-informed decision on this issue.

Thank you again for sharing your thoughts with me. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information or additional assistance.

Sincerely,



TONY CÁRDENAS

Congressman, 29th District of California