

Attachment A – Letter Requesting Quimby Fee funds

C.A.T.C.H. FUND

(Creston Activities Town Center Helping-Hands)

**P.O. Box 14
CRESTON, CA 93432**

January 29, 2015

Greetings from the Community of Creston,

On behalf of the Creston Community, I would like to introduce the C.A.T.C.H. Fund to you. We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) Organization that was formed for the specific purpose of raising money to provide Creston with a Community Center and Recreational Area.

Our organization was founded in 1994. At that time, all of the Service Clubs in Creston joined together to support a single Organization. The purpose was to gather funds that could be used for the development of a Community Center for the residents and youngsters of Creston. The Member Organizations of the C.A.T.C.H. Fund are: The Creston Women's Club, the Creston Garden Club, the Creston Community Association, the Creston Volunteer Firefighters Co. 43, the Friends of the Creston Library, the Creston Advisory Body, the Creston 4-H, and the Creston Classic Rodeo, of which the Rodeo is the main contributor. While the individual Clubs have their own charitable causes, they all agreed to come together in this common effort.

In the San Luis Obispo County area, Creston is one of the few communities that does not have a recreational park or Community Center. We, as residents of Creston realized we had to make this happen ourselves. So over the period of years we conducted local fundraisers and raised \$120,000 to be used exclusively for this purpose.

In 2012, we entered into a lease agreement with the County of San Luis Obispo to acquire the former Creston Firehouse. This will house our new Community Center. By using the funds raised over the years, we have begun construction to renovate that building, but we need a lot of help. There are many items to be remodeled and brought to code. **See Expenses Statement

At this time, we are requesting financial donations and grants to continue this project.

Our investment into the Project so far is \$107,788.00. Our costs for the completion of the remodel is approximately \$95,500.00. Due to a recent Sponsor Drive, we have raised enough funds for the interior completion. So we are still approximately \$70,000.00 short. **See Completion Needs Itemized List.

We are requesting the County of San Luis Obispo Parks & Recreation Department grant the C.A.T.C.H. Fund any available Quimby Funds (\$70,000.00) for the completion of our project. Our Expenses Statement gives evidence of our dedication and commitment to the creation of our Community Center and the betterment of the Community of Creston.

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In review of the County's Capital Project Rating Criteria, Appendix D, (section 3), it is evident that a Community Center in Creston would definitely provide significant reduction of unmet needs in Creston and surrounding areas. Additionally, (section 7), it is in keeping with fair allocation of unused funds collected for the betterment of that area. Section 9 addresses the needs for additional funds to complete a committed project. It should be noted, County Building permits are already in force for the Creston Community Center.

In review of the El Pomar-Estrella Planning Area (Table 2 (b)), it is indicated that a Creston Neighborhood Park has been included in the Plan for the County. Our current Demonstration Garden, complete with landscaping, concrete walkways, a Gazebo, and benches, has been in operation for over 20 years. And has been beautifully maintained by the Creston Garden Club. This Park-like-Garden (approximately 1 1/2 acres) shares the property with the Community Center, and will be further developed as an integral part of the Center as a whole. It is beneficial to the County, that the Creston Community Center will be managed, cared for and maintained by a non-profit entity, the C.A.T.C.H. Fund. Thus a no cost item for the County.

For your benefit, I have attached the following documents to give you a better picture of our commitment:

- **Tax Exempt Status 501(c)(3)
- **Corporate Mission Statement
- **2-Year Operations Reserve
- **Project Transactions Sheet
- **Expenses Statement
- **Completion Needs Itemized List
- **Proposed Community Center Usage

HISTORY OF THE C.A.T.C.H. FUND

A TRADITION OF DOING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE "BY OURSELVES" CAME TO CRESTON THROUGH OUR PIONEER ANCESTERS. WE BUILT A SCHOOL HOUSE IN THE 1880's, A COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL IN THE 1960's, A FIRE STATION IN THE 1980'S & A DEMONSTRATION GARDEN IN THE 1990's. THESE ARE EXAMPLES OF CRESTON'S PRIDE IN GETTING THE JOB DONE IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF OUR PIONEERS. OVER THE YEARS, THE CITIZENS OF CRESTON AND THE NUMEROUS SERVICE CLUBS HAVE DEMONSTRATED AN EXCEPTIONAL TRACK RECORD, BYWAY OF THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THOSE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS .

IN RECENT DECADES, MANY AVENUES HAD BEEN EXPLORED TO PROVIDE A COMMUNITY BUILDING AND A RECREATIONAL AREA IN

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CRESTON. WE NEEDED ONE THAT WILL BE LARGE ENOUGH AND FOR FULL USE BY OUR GROWING POPULATION. **SEE COMMUNITY CENTER USAGE STATEMENT AND **CORPORATION MISSION STATEMENT

IN 1994, ALL OF THE CRESTON COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS JOINED TOGETHER IN THIS COMMON PURPOSE, AND ESTABLISHED THE C.A.T.C.H. FUND (CRESTON ACTIVITIES TOWN CENTER HELPING-HANDS). SHORTLY THEREAFTER, CRESTON "TOOK THE BULL BY THE HORNS" AND CREATED AN ANNUAL FUND-RAISER: THE CRESTON CLASSIC RODEO. IN 1995, THE "CCR" BECAME A REALITY, AS WELL AS THE MAJOR SOURCE OF DONATIONS FOR THE C.A.T.C.H. FUND, WHICH HOLDS ALL MONEY IN TRUST, TOWARD THE COMMUNITY GOAL.

THE C.A.T.C.H. FUND HAS THE FULL SUPPORT OF ITS MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS, LISTED ABOVE. EACH ORGANIZATION SUPPLIES A BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT THEIR VOTE ON ANY ISSUE. ON AUGUST 21, 2012, THE C.A.T.C.H. FUND ENTERED INTO A LEASE WITH THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO TO DEVELOPE THE "OLD" FIREHOUSE AS A COMMUNITY CENTER.

WE BEGAN OUR REMODEL IN OCTOBER 2013 /EST. COMPLETION 2015

OUR MOTTOC.A.T.C.H. THE DREAM

We appreciate your consideration of this request. For more information on the C.A.T.C.H. Fund, see the enclosed statements.

Fed Tax I.D. # 59-3839276 (Copy of Tax Exempt Status attached)

Sincerely,

Rosie Hebron
C.A.T.C.H. Fund: Chainnan of the Board
Phone: 805-610-0220