



For Immediate Release:
December 13, 2010

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Architects of OC's Green Vision on Radio KSBR

Jean Watt, President of Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks (FHBP) and Melanie Schlotterbeck, its Green Vision Outreach Coordinator, discuss the legislation and cultural shifts that support preservation of natural lands in Orange County today (December 13, 2010) on FM 88.5 at 7 PM.

The 30-minute conversation with broadcast host Dawn Kamber covers FHBP activities as a coordinator of county-wide land preservation projects, including funding for land acquisition through the Orange County Transportation Authority's mitigation program, and recent environmental legislation that has focused FHBP's work on sustainability.

Renewed Measure M was approved by voters in 2006 and provides funds for land acquisition and restoration to counter acreage lost to freeway projects. Many of the properties being considered for acquisition are identified in FHBP's Green Vision Map. The Map, created in 2000, is a comprehensive guide to existing parkland and open space and includes wish list of unprotected properties in and around Orange County.

Watt and Schlotterbeck also explain how state mandates to reduce carbon emission have given open space advocates new influence, credibility, and opportunities for involvement. Evolving public perception regarding air and water quality and environmentally friendly products enhances the role of FHBP and the improved and sustainable quality of life it works to achieve for Orange County. The group will release a General Plan Resource Directory early next year that outlines sustainable policies.

KSBR is a commercial free contemporary jazz and community information station broadcasting from Saddleback College in Mission Viejo.

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Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks is a countywide non-profit organization focused on protecting the natural lands, waterways and beaches of Orange County. Learn more at www.FHBP.org.