

Morro Bay Open Space Alliance Announces Challenge Matching Grant From Castle Wind LLC

The Morro Bay Open Space Alliance (MBOSA) has received a challenge grant from Castle Wind LLC worth up to \$20,000. MBOSA must earn this money by obtaining an equal amount of local matching donations by June 30, 2019.

Morro Bay, CA (January 22, 2019): MBOSA has received a challenge matching grant from Castle Wind LLC worth up to \$20,000 toward the organization's goal of preserving Eagle Rock (aka Cerrito Peak) as a permanent open space conservancy. MBOSA must earn the \$20,000 by getting local matching eligible contributions, with gifts during the period between January 1, 2019 and June 30, 2019.

Eagle Rock, a 24 million-year-old volcanic dome that has been part of human habitat for at least 8,000 years, is still vulnerable to development. MBOSA has a tentative agreement with the City of Morro Bay to place the parcel into permanent open space if the organization can raise sufficient funds to reimburse the City for the initial purchase price.

MBOSA Board Chair Glenn Silloway says "Castle Wind shares the values of conservation and environmental stewardship with us. They have been generous with our town in many ways, and we are certainly grateful for this challenge. Now we need to earn it—every donation no matter the size will help us towards our goal."

Castle Wind LLC is a wind energy company based in San Francisco. It is in the planning stages of a large floating wind generator array off the coast of Morro Bay with the eventual potential of producing two gigawatts of power per year. This sustainably produced power will be brought onshore through the mothballed natural gas power plant on the Morro Bay Embarcadero and fed into the power grid at that point.

About the Morro Bay Open Space Alliance

MBOSA is a 501 c 3 corporation whose mission to enhance the quality of life of current and future residents and visitors through the conservation of open space in and around Morro Bay. It works to engage the community actively to support land conservation for appropriate human uses, habitat preservation, view shed protection and education.

For more information about MBOSA, see <u>www.mbopenspace.org</u>.

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