

City of Camarillo

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December 12, 2022

Board of Supervisors County of Ventura 800 S. Victoria Avenue Ventura, California 93009

RE: Growing Works Nursery – Support for County Supervisor Linda Parks

Dear Members of the Board:

I am writing in support of the proposal to name the Lewis Road Park at the Growing Works Nursery in Camarillo in honor of retiring County Supervisor Linda Parks. Supervisor Parks has been a champion for parks and has also been a longtime advocate for mental health issues. As a member of the Camarillo City Council, I had the pleasure of touring the Growing Works Nursery and the future park site and learned about the County's important plans for supportive housing and programs there.

Supervisor Parks served on the Ventura County Behavioral Health Advisory Board for fifteen years and established many vital programs within the County that address the needs of those with mental health challenges. One of her biggest accomplishments is establishing the Growing Works Nursery, a non-profit nursery that provides horticultural therapy and job training for people with mental health challenges. She was also instrumental in the vision, partnerships and coordination for the County's Lewis Road property that includes a mental health rehabilitation center, housing for vulnerable populations including older adults with mental health challenges, Growing Works, and the 2-acre County Park. By naming the park on the Lewis Road property in Supervisor Parks' name, the County would be appropriately honoring one of our region's strongest advocates for both open space and mental health.

Sincerely,

Susan Santangelo

Kessen Santonga

Mayor