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California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)
Office of the Secretary
Environmental Justice Small Grants Program
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812-2815

Re: Letter of Support for Climate Action Internship Program at National School District Schools

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is submitted in support of the project proposed by Mundo Gardens, in partnership with BCK Programs, for the CalEPA Environmental Justice Small Grant.

The Portside Steering Committee consists of stakeholders including community leaders, universities, industries, and government agencies, working together to improve air quality in the Community of Portside Environmental Justice Neighborhoods (Portside Community) within the cities of San Diego and National City, following the guidance of our Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP).

In accordance with the CERP, reducing exposure to air pollution at schools and residential areas is a priority for the community. The proposed project, the Climate Action Internship Program, aligns with our goals by providing education and training to students and their families impacted by air pollution in the Portside Community, specifically at and around Kimball Elementary School.

Anticipated outcomes of the program include a reduction in transportation emissions through walk and bike to school campaigns, additional outreach for the “Branch Out San Diego” tree-planting campaign to increase tree canopy and improve air quality, as well as a greater community awareness and knowledge of impacts due to poor air quality. These results are consistent with our mission and we are pleased to support the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Portside Steering Committee