

June 29, 2005

Jeff Crone
Department of General Services
707 Third Street, Suite 6-130
West Sacramento, CA 95605

RE: Purchase Offer of State Property called BAREC in Santa Clara by a non-profit for State and local agency/government usage and benefit.

Dear Mr. Crone:

As a California non-profit corporation, VIVA (Valley Initiative for Values in Urban Agriculture and Horticulture) would like to make an offer to purchase the 17 +/- acre Bay Area Research and Extension Center (BAREC) at 90 to 125 Winchester Blvd. in Santa Clara. It is our desire for BAREC to remain permanently in agricultural open space and to continue contributing to the community as it has done for 150 years. We plan to be a center for agriculture, horticulture, and environmental issues in the Santa Clara Valley. Nothing like this exists in the Valley and it is a much-needed balance to the building construction everywhere.

We are prepared to pay BAREC's value reported in the University of California Regents Committee on Finance March 15, 2000 minutes. This price is \$10,000 per acre. We request that before we purchase the property the State inform us of any contamination issues so together we can determine how it will be cleaned up with the most organic and sustainable process as possible.

All local and State agencies have not received a Department of General Services written notification of intent to sell BAREC. We have letters from several local and State agencies and governments stating that they need BAREC for their programs and goals. We have attached a list of some of these organizations, governments, and non-profits that would benefit as BAREC in agricultural open space. We plan to work and support the mission statements of these organizations:

Sincerely Yours,
Kathryn Mathewson,
President, VIVA

For more information on BAREC visit <http://www.savebarec.org>