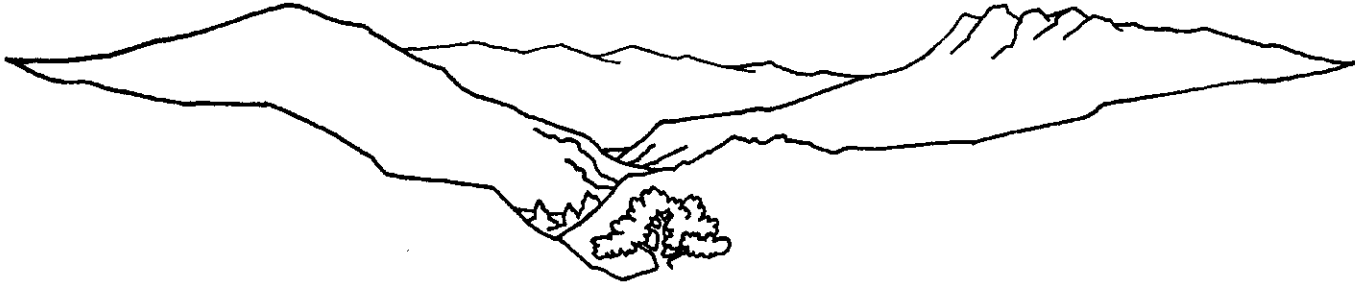


# CONEJO OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION AGENCY



**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** COSCA Staff  
**DATE:** September 10, 2008  
**SUBJECT:** Status Report on COSCA's Good Neighbor Policy

On March 14, 2007, the COSCA Board approved COSCA's Good Neighbor Policy. The purpose of this policy is to foster positive and mutually beneficial relations between COSCA and its neighbors. This involves working with neighbors on matters of mutual interest, providing neighbors with information regarding open space resources, and resolving negative impacts that could affect either party.

In addition to general rules about being a good neighbor, one of the main issues addressed in the policy is encroachments. Staff has been working with the City Attorney's office to finalize the details of the process for addressing encroachments onto COSCA-owned open space. In an effort to help resolve this issue, COSCA and the City Attorney's office have partnered with Pepperdine University to create an externship program whereby students in the Schools of Law and Dispute Resolution can earn credit while working with Staff to resolve open space encroachments.

The first Pepperdine student to participate in this program recently began his externship. He is a third year law student who is concurrently pursuing his master's degree in dispute resolution. He is working with the City Attorney's office on legal research and preparation of documents necessary to proceed with resolution of encroachments. Externs who participate in this program will have an opportunity to assist in all stages of encroachment resolution, including mediation efforts, gathering, documenting and properly maintaining evidence, preparation of case files, drafting case correspondence and documents and assisting the City Attorney with handling certain cases.

Submitted by:

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