Sixteen organizations that represent a diverse range of Redwood City citizens today announced their endorsement of the "50-50" proposal for the future of the Redwood City Industrial Saltworks site. The collection of groups supports numerous activities that benefit thousands of Redwood City participants in youth baseball, soccer and football, gardening, housing, hospital care, bay access, programs for the developmentally disabled and programs for 4-Hers.

The "50-50" proposal for the Saltworks site by developer DMB would set aside half the 1,433-acre property for additional open space in the city, including parks, recreational fields and bay front access. The proposal envisions significant sections of that open space be dedicated to soccer fields, baseball diamonds and other athletic fields for the city's growing population.

"Redwood City has no shortage of folks who want to participate in sports and recreational activities – what we have is a shortage of parks and fields where they can play," said XXX of the Police Activities League, which serves XXXXX. "For PAL, it's very important that our community provide opportunities for all age groups – from our kids to our seniors – so that we can share and enjoy where we live. This 50-50 proposal would create just the kind of places we need and deserve."

Members of the 16 groups have been working closely with DMB as part of its two-year-long community engagement process to determine the best proposal for the site, which has been manufacturing industrial salt for more than 100 years. As a result of that community engagement process, it became clear that a majority of local residents are strongly in favor of a balanced approach that would allocate half the land to open space and half to a mixture of other uses including housing, commercial and retail space.

"DMB has really listened to us as Redwood City residents and they have been transparent about the entire process," said Pete Hughes of Casa de Redwood. "We're excited about this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build the kind of system Redwood City needs for the future."

The organizations supporting the "50-50" proposal are:

Bay Area Gardeners Association

Bair Island Aquatic Center

Cañada 4-H Club

Casa de Redwood

Highlanders Little League

Juventes Soccer

Kainos

Peninsula Soccer League

Police Activities League

Pop Warner Football League

Redwood City Strikers

Redwood City American Little League

Redwood City Girls Softball League

Redwood City National Little League

Redwood City Pony/Colt Baseball

Sequoia Hospital Community Advisory Council