

Midcoast Community Council

*An elected Advisory Council to the
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors representing Montara,
Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramar PO Box 248,
Moss Beach, CA 94038*
<http://www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org>

Claire Toutant, Chair
Gregg Dieguez, Vice Chair
Michelle Weil, Treasurer
Len Erickson, Secretary
Jill Grant, Assistant Secretary
Dan Haggerty, Assistant Secretary
Dave Olson

DRAFT Minutes for Meeting of November 9, 2022

Call to Order (7:01 pm) All council members present. This meeting was conducted virtually in compliance with State and County COVID-related orders.

1. (7:02) Board of Supervisors' Report and Reports from other Government Officials

Lena Silberman (Aide to SMC Board of Supervisor Don Horsley): All votes will be counted by Monday. Supervisor Horsley has only three more meetings at the board of supervisors. On November 15th, the minimum wage ordinance will be voted on. We are going to schedule a gun buyback in San Carlos.

Dan Haggerty: Santa Clara Audubon and the Sierra Club of Loma Prieta are putting on a webinar symposium, "light at night, a glowing hazard". Please inform other county departments, specifically the Planning Commission, to attend this webinar.

Steve Terry: I think someone from County Planning should attend this webinar because lights are a big deal on the coast and we have the Moss Beach fire department coming up and we don't want the same problems that we have with the EL Granada fire station in regards to lighting. We want the county to have a good understanding of lighting issues on the Coastside.

Claire Toutant: We need to make arrangements for swearing in new council members for the December meeting.

Harvey Rarback (Half Moon Bay City Council): It looks like Ray Mueller is the next Supervisor for San Mateo County. He has promised to put an office on the coast and staff it personally at least two days a week. Ray has done a lot for our healthcare access and continues to pledge more help. In December the Half Moon Bay City Council will receive its climate Adaptation plan which will include a look at our electrification ordinance. There's going to be an online bill paying method for electrification of appliances up to \$10,000 put on your PG&E bill interest free on your PG&E bill for up to 10 years to repair.

Cid Young: Harvey is that just for a Half Moon Bay? Are there rebates for solar or battery storage? Reply: No, PG&E will give the rebates to any county resident. Rebates will include funds for solar and battery storage.

Jill Grant: Does the ongoing landscaping at the Half Moon Bay fire station include new lighting? Reply: I don't know. I will check. That is part of the "Gateway into Half Moon Bay" plan.

2. (7:15) Public Comment & Announcements

Claire Toutant: The El Granada fire station will have an open house this Saturday from 9 to 12. MCC will take the week of Thanksgiving off with no meeting and will have no meeting at Christmas thus our final meeting for this year is December 14, 2022.

Cid Young: The family of Moss Beach resident, Harold Herman, who passed away recently from a vehicle/bicycle accident, is requesting letters from the community expressing the impact Harold had upon their lives to help the family in civil and criminal trial courts. The letters only need to include the first name and should be emailed to his daughter Selena. Planned Princeton is coming back. Can we reach out to Summer Burlison, who is the County Planner, to ask for a renewed in-person event to engage the community? Flysmcfriendly.com is a new noise friendly approach program for airports to get pilots to conform to noise abatement flight protocols. SMCAAlerts has a new platform, and they want everyone to re-sign up. It's time to stop studying the Moss Beach Corridor and to put in the improvements. The County owned hotel in Half Moon Bay has a delinquent tax notice for sewer fees of \$56,390.

Burnett Silvera: The gun buyback program is quick and safe. I encourage others to take part.

Lisa Ketchum: The Planning Commission will be meeting on the third and fifth Wednesday of this month.

Gus: The newsletter is done and the articles are with the county for translation. I am on the Transportation Authority's Citizens' Advisory Council and our last meeting addressed FasTrak Lanes on 101. Half Moon Bay has three projects for bike and pedestrian funding and is working to get all three funded.

Dan Haggerty: The traffic light at Highway one and CORONADO Street has a problem. Ever since the median island was installed, the light turns red on Hwy 1 in the early morning, sometimes with nobody to trigger it.

3. (7:25) Consent Agenda

3a. Minutes for October 26, 2022, pulled

4a. Recognize National Caregivers Month

Motion to Approve (Diequez), Second (Grant). Approved 7-0

4. Regular Agenda

4a. (7:27) Multi-Agency Planning for Coastal Trail Extension in South SMC [<Link>](#)

Rachael Fay, the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) program manager, introduced the project in south San Mateo County for an 18-mile coastal trail project in conjunction with CALTRANS collaborating with many regional agencies. We have hired Zander design with Liz Westbrook as the project manager.

Slide presentation by Liz Westbrook [<Link>](#)

Questions from Public and the Council

Gregg Diequez: I've been getting feedback from bicyclists that they don't want to ride on Highway 1 because the traffic moves too fast. Will the completed route allow continuous bicycle use from Half Moon Bay to Santa Cruz? What will be done about the parking?

Reply: Liz Westbrook: This is a feasibility study and the vision is to achieve continuous cycling from border to border of Californian. This study does not include parking.

Jill Grant: I love this vision and I support it.

Cid Young: Whatever happened to the Coastal Trail from Devils Slide to Princeton?

Reply: Liz Westerbrook: I looked at that study. The Multi-Modal Trail is part of that. The Green Valley Trail that connects Devils Slide to Gray Whale Cove is also part of that. I believe it still needs funding.

Len Erickson: Have the projects at Gray Whale Cove been dropped completely?

Reply: The southern area does not have active planning completed like the Gray Whale Cove trail to the beach which has been designed and hopefully CALTRANS will build it. This plan looks South where planning has not yet been done.

Dave Olson: Will the trail be braided for hikers, bicyclists and beach-goers?

Reply: Yes

Len Erickson: Caltrans will bring the trail across Highway 1 at Moss Beach and you should review their documents for your feasibility study.

Dan Haggerty: Will the majority of the trail be separated from the road? I am an advocate of exploring underpass crossings which will reduce wildlife kills and human accidents.

Reply: There are pinch points where the trail will be on Highway 1 and I think barriers will be proposed to protect the bicyclists from the cars. There's an area near Pomponio where an underpass could be installed which would support wildlife movement. Underpasses are a great solution when it's a possibility.

Kimberly Williams: I am concerned the trail will become a raceway. Sometimes the existing bike trails feel that way.

Reply: A lot of people say they want a natural surface trail. I will take that note.

Claire Toutant: this is in the early stage in the parts closest to the Midcoast are at a later stage. You are not up surfing our turf.

Reply: Yes, and everyone should apply for coastal conservative funding because they have a lot right now. For projects that are already designed this is a great opportunity. We are at an early stage and are not competing for these funds.

4b. (7:58) Quarry Park Master Plan Review Process

Assistant Parks Director Hannah Ormshaw gave an update on the Quarry Park Master Plan and environmental review including changes to the plan since the September 28 presentation to the MCC. [<Link to presentation>](#)

Len Erickson: There are two project lists in this letter submitted by parks [<Link to letter>](#). The first list includes projects that have already received CEQA. The second list has not received CEQA yet.

Questions from Public and the Council

Dan Haggerty: The presentation was a bureaucratic report. Quarry Park is a Eucalyptus jungle and the talk should be about reducing the hazards (wildfire, falling limbs) of the jungle. I hope that parking will not turn into a giant rectangular parking lot and will be more like veins in Golden Gate Park. I don't think an additional bathroom for the pump track is needed. Sierra Club and the Audubon will have a Lighting Symposium on November 16th from 1-4pm. Can Nicholas or Hannah or someone from Parks attend this?

Reply: I will look at my schedule. We have made significant progress in eucalyptus

reduction. Parking was recently approved by the San Mateo County Planning Commission.

Gregg Dieguez: Erosion is not part of CEQA plans and DPW is responsible for drainage?

Reply: Projects and activities within Quarry Park that could potentially have an effect on runoff or erosion would be included in the CEQA review. This doesn't include existing conditions. The runoff is more than just Quarry Park. The entire watershed needs to be looked at. Our consulting firm, PWA, did look at existing concerns in the Master Plan though.

Lisa Ketchum: The 2018 biological report refers to Deer Creek within Quarry Park but the map is not correct. Deer Creek is a separate watershed and it does not cross Mirada Surf. Can you change this?

Reply: Yes.

Dave Olson: Is the plan not to do CEQA on the Master Plan itself? The next step and the only remaining step is adoption by the board of supervisors? There is a new fire road. The wildfire fuel reduction project has identified a new fire road in East Miramar which is a major impact and should be communicated to the community.

Reply: Yes. We will only be doing project specific CEQA review, no CEQA on the master plan itself. It will be on the Board of Supervisors Agenda for December 13th. We will update our Quarry Park page. The South Ridge fire road is mentioned in the Master Plan. Nicholas Calderon: This road will not be available for use by the public. Dave pointed out that it's nearly impossible to keep hikers and bikers from using a fire road.

Cid Young: In the budget, there is 16 million to remodel Flood Park. What is the budget for Quarry Park Capital improvements? Is roundup used by County workers in Quarry Park? I think the Master Plan should address stormwater runoff and the Parks Department should partner with the Department of Public works to install a retention pond or something to capture stormwater.

Reply: Nicolas Calderon: The Master Plan does not include these numbers.

Len Erickson: I would like to have an MCC document to give to the board of supervisors prior to their December meeting.

Burnett Silvera: Residents sent correspondence to MCC regarding Community health and safety concerns need to be addressed before the Quarry Park Master Plan receives approval including Quarry Park drainage and flash flooding risk from a compromised dam, wildfire, evacuation, parking, and off leash dogs.

Fran Pollard: I am looking for support from the Midcoast Community Council to support the residents' concerns stated by Burnett. The MCC should vote it's an urgent item and discuss it tonight.

Dan Haggerty: I support this.

Gregg Dieguez: We could hold a special meeting and have a subcommittee draft a letter for the BoS meeting.

Jill Grant: I support this.

4c. (8:58) Community Public Works Workshops. Follow-up on issues in Montara and El Granada

Gregg Dieguez summarized progress on the workshops. One of the community workshops and not the other. In Montara, DPW did a traffic study and found that due to the lack of traffic volume the current code will not allow them to post traffic signs. The school is frustrated that

they're not getting what was in "Safe Routes to School". DPW is proposing another transportation study costing \$300-\$500,000 to consider the overall traffic flow and safety issues in the area. We could write a letter supporting this traffic study. Meanwhile DPW will send a letter to residents to cut vegetation and improve visibility. We found a code stating, "1000 feet from schools you can erect certain signage" but DPW needs a transportation study to implement this. We could write a letter to CALTRANS requesting a pedestrian barrier. We could contact the sheriff for help.

Comments and Questions from the Council

Dave Olson: I support all of them. We should thank DPW.

Michelle Weils: I support all of them. I have questions about the barrier from Moss Beach.

Len Erickson: I support all of them and also have questions about the barrier.

Jill Grant: I support all of these. Can you expand on the code regarding schools and supplemental traffic controls?

Gregg Dieguez: We found in the code that you can install specific supplemental traffic controls within 1009 feet, some within 500 feet, of any school. They need to do the traffic study in Montara to establish if those are needed.

Dan Haggerty: We need to focus our efforts to communicate with the County as the lead.

Claire Toutant: I support all of these except the barrier. I envision the pedestrian barrier being more of an obstacle.

Gregg Dieguez: I will contact the sheriff and write a letter thanking DPW. I will also work on a subcommittee for a comment letter to present at the next meeting. (Jill, Dave, Lisa will help Gregg write a letter.)

Gregg Dieguez: Khoa has proposed a community session to address sidewalk concerns. DPW will hold a community workshop if they receive a petition. The residents just want a few homeowners to clear the sidewalks and reduce safety concerns on Avenue Portola.

Len Erickson: I believe sidewalk repair can be set up by segments.

Claire Toutant: Can we defer this until the new year when we have new MCC council members? Let's put it in the newsletter.

Dan Haggerty: I think we're opening up a can of worms, but it is proper for the MCC to discuss this.

Dave Olson: The MCC has been involved with similar situations regarding paper street access. You need to be careful in wording because we are part of the county.

Claire Toutant: When you put this together you should consult with the county attorney.

Public Comments

Lisa Ketchum: The MCC is on record asking for a guardrail as a near term solution.

Cid Young: I support K-rail to protect children. We've had that at Miramar and there have been accidents. A traffic Study could take a year so I am in favor of implementing K-rail right now to protect pedestrians.

4d (9:25). Approve minutes for October 26, 2022

Edit comments presented.

Len Erickson: comments have been addressed.

Motion to Approve as amended (Olson), Second (Dieguez), Approved (7-0)

5. (9:27) Council Activity – Correspondence and meetings attended

Len Erickson: The County is ready to share an update to the Moss Beach Corridor \$1 million study to the MCC. The multi asset project Sequa document will be completed and released next week and will occur early next year.

Gregg Dieguez: At the Fire Safe Council meeting they discussed a California fire insurance commission new regulation that if you create defensible space and fire hardening around your property you can qualify for reduced insurance rates.

6. (9:31) Future Agendas

MCC Officers, swearing in of members, statements by departing members and retiring Chair.

(9:40) Adjournment

Motion To Adjourn (Gregg), Second (Dave), Approved (7-0)