

<p>Midcoast Community Council <i>An elected Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors representing Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramar</i> PO Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038 http://www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org</p>	<p>Claire Toutant, Chair Gregg Dieguez, Vice Chair Michelle Weil, Treasurer Len Erickson, Secretary Jill Grant, Assistant Secretary Dan Haggerty, Assistant Secretary Dave Olson</p>
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Minutes for Meeting of July 27, 2022

Call to Order (7:00 pm) All council members present. This meeting was conducted virtually in compliance with State and County COVID-related orders.

Claire Toutant: Candidate filings are now open for November elections. Cypress Point has filed a Coastal Development permit. Caltrans has released their Highway 1 rehabilitation project.

1. Report from Board of Supervisors and Government Officials (7:04)

Lena Silberman (Aide to SMC Board of Supervisors Horsley): The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will fine PG&E and require better notification for PSPS overnight outages. SMC County Board of Supervisors (BoS) approved discretionary funding: \$50,000 to Abundant Grace and \$80,000 for the Coastside Adult Day Center. Connect the Coastside was accepted by BoS. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve was on the contaminated beach report. No Covid report today. I will attend a quarterly Caltrans meeting later in the month. Email or call me if you have Caltrans concerns to bring up.

Cid Young: HMB received those discretionary funds. Can we get some for the midcoast? We could use a community center and a senior center. Can you look into it?

Dan Haggerty: What is PCPC? What is the purpose?

Lena Silberman: Public Safety Power Shutoff. Used in case of fire or line obstruction. We have a new staffer in SMC working on PG&E stuff.

Len Erickson: What will the \$350,000 allocated for El Granada be used for?

Lena Silberman: Part of the \$350,000 will be used for chipping and part of it for wildfire resiliency projects in EG.

Michelle Weil: August 10th will be a community wildlife meeting.

Lena Silberman: That will be focused on Santa Cruz.

Michelle Weil: The lead airport letter to the BoS asked for installation of an unleaded tank - do you know when that expenditure will go in front of the BoS?

Lena Silberman: No. I will find out.

Harvey Rarback (Half Moon Bay City Council): Our City Manager, Bob Nisbet, will leave on August 19th. It's a great loss. The City Council has approved a 4-story affordable housing project on Kelly Avenue with 40 units built by Mercy Housing. The City will coordinate with the CSUD for solar power and battery backup on City and School buildings to increase our resiliency to power outages. We have endorsed a community oversight committee to the Sheriff. The County has funded the CARES program, increasing the boundary from HMB up the midcoast to Montara. A van with mental health and medical professionals will assist those with mental health issues (suicide, domestic dispute, etc.).

Claire Toutant: We had not been notified of the extension of the mental health program on the midcoast.

Gregg Dieguez: Bob Nisbet will come to MCC to say goodbye at the next meeting.

Len Erickson: How will the committee overseeing the Sheriff be chosen?

Harvey Rarback: The proposal for the BoS draft ordinance for a community oversight committee over the Sheriff will have each supervisor appoint 2 members with the 10 appointed members appointing the 11th member.

Cid Young: What is the lot size of the affordable housing location at 555 Kelly Avenue? Will it take parking from the Ted Adcock Center? Do you have any updates on the Hyatt Hotel Planning or Frenchman's Creek roundabout?

Harvey Rarback: I don't know. The existing housing will be removed. The lot is small so to get 40 units you have to build up. There will be 15 parking spots for residents and some will be parking at the Ted Adcock Center. No updates on the Hyatt. There is talk of getting a grant to improve the Frenchman's Creek intersection.

Jill Grant: MCC received an email regarding the Pillar Point RV Lot. Who is in charge of the lighting at this property?

Claire Toutant: That is HMB. Jill Ekas is responsible for it.

Len Erickson: Do you know who is responsible for the stem?

Harvey Rarback: That is District 2, my district.

Dan Haggerty: Is it really a 4-story building at Kelly? This doesn't really fit into the neighborhood. It will overtower the school and church. It sounds like it's too big of a project. Will there be more opportunities to voice concerns?

Harvey Rarback: Yes, 4-story. There is a nice drawing of the structure in the City Council meeting and there will be more opportunities to voice concerns.

Gregg Dieguez: Bob Nisbet said that Jackie Speier awarded 2 million dollars to study the roundabout at Frenchman's Creek. It will cost 7-8 million to build.

Kimberly: I definitely support affordable housing especially if all are affordable units. Does this change a height restriction requirement in HMB and if so, does this set a precedent?

Harvey Rarback: I don't know if it will set a precedent but it will need a height variance.

Public Comment & Announcements (7:32 pm)

Maureen: The new oversight committee is not needed. The devil is in the details. These committees have been in 20 cities in California. Former drug addicts, former juvenile delinquents and the incarcerated. This is another attack on the sheriffs. The sheriff should be on the streets and not filling out forms.

Mark Wilbanks: I submitted an email regarding sidewalk safety. I hope it will make the agenda for the next meeting.

Cid Young: The Fire Board had a proposal for the Moss Beach Fire Department. They also will tax weedy lots for not clearing. A woman killed a cyclist on highway 1. There are no safe bicycle lanes on highway 1. Caltrans should improve this.

3. Consent Agenda (7:37)

Dieguez moved, Erickson seconded. Approved (7- 0)

4. Regular Agenda

a. Presentation on Seamless Transit by Adina Levin, Advocacy Director, Seamless Bay Area. (7:40)

Cid Young: Your slide of the transit map does not include the coastside. Parents are concerned because children use Samtrans to get to school and there are not enough routes. Your map does not include us in the plan. We get a lot of visitors and it would be great if they could use a bus because we have enough cars on the road. Thank you for presenting to the coastside.

Adina Levin: The graphic does not show every transit route. It is just conceptual and focuses on the inner Bay Area. That graphic is not intended to show where routes

should be. I've taken the bus over the hill to the beach because the car drive is miserable and more people should do it.

Claire Toutant: We have had Samtrans come to MCC meetings.

Maureen: Is this just another bureaucracy, another council, another organization, another big deal? How many people are on your staff? Who funds this? One of the slides quote 26 million to 17 million but no costs are shown. Maybe connect your project to Connect the Coastsides that has been receiving public feedback for the last 3 years.

Adina Levin: We are a non-profit. We do education and advocacy to help people and groups support a more coordinated system. We support Connect the Coastsides in SMC and support better transportation on the coast by having free transfers and standards for the region so everyone can use public transport for daily needs and recreation.

Kimberly Williams: Does your group facilitate collaboration with other agencies? I think this will be useful post-pandemic, especially the route to the BART station which now requires multiple transfers and lots of time lag. There are a lot of people that drive into SF or to the BART from the coast. This sounds like a good idea and would benefit all people including the coastsides.

Dave Olson: Samtrans has come to council meetings to discuss routes and needs of the coastsides and the coastsides is represented. They've also distributed lots of transportation surveys. Please do not spread the word that the coast is not represented because they are. Adina, I really appreciate the work you and others have done and your presentation. I am in favor of a letter of support for your organization.

Dan Haggerty: I have used public transportation from the coastsides to the BART and agree with Kimberly's statement. Adina, do you know if there is a proposal for an express bus route from SF to the coastsides?

Adina Levin: No, I am not aware of an express bus route proposal but I think it would be useful in terms of where there should be a fast transit route throughout the region.

Jill Grant: I am very interested in the free transfers and regional fare integration. I grew up in Washington state and they had free transfers so you could ride a bus everywhere. Many people still do not have a car because they can get around easily on public transport. And Dan, that is a great idea to have an express bus, one that goes from parks to parks and one that goes to BART.

Claire Toutant: Can we write a letter of support for your group?

Adina Levin: There is a standard resolution used in support of our organization. Do you make resolutions?

Claire Toutant: We write letters of support and we cannot support legislation.

Adina Levin: We can add your group as a supporter.

b. El Granada Wildfire Resiliency Scoping Project Discussion and questions about the final report and future action items (8:17)

Kellyx Nelson (RCD): Update on the process of hiring a new Program Manager to replace Sheena who went to Stanford. We are interviewing 5 people next week. The scoping study is not enough to get funds. We will need project designs to get funding. Some funding generated will be for planning, some for design and some for implementation. Some are restricted for certain types of land. There is no project template. Each area will require a different method.

We will be talking about advancing these scoping recommendations. We have received some funding. The RCD has what it needs to go forward. We are developing priorities and reaching out to landowners. We would love help from the MCC or letters of support or to help find someone who can coordinate a grant application. We do not need further study or simulation to justify funding.

Joe Issel (RCD Stewardship Director): We have effective guidance with this scoping study to get funding. The next step is to do this work throughout the rest of the county.

Kellyx Nelson: There are a lot of wildfire projects all over the state. RCD provides non-regulatory technical assistance and helps people with management of resources. We do not require implementation. There are many demands on landowners such as County Parks and National Parks. The scoping study focuses on implementation costs, not environmental compliance, project management, permitting or post-project maintenance costs. I would prefer to spend funding on high priority areas and their maintenance. Each grant application costs 5-10 thousand dollars. Project design will include how to manage biomass and access to the sites. The RCD does not plan on a robust formal plan but uses opportunities to advance the scoping recommendations. Effectiveness will be determined by zones. Treatment zone work may be combined for methods - goats to eat veg, hand-cut vegetation, etc.

Danny Terwey: Should there be a County coordinator for wildfire issues?

Kellyx Nelson: There is Brian Kelly at the County and the Fire Safe Council. SMC is part of a regional effort that RCD is helping to lead.

Lena Silberman: Brian Kelly's role will be assumed by Dave Cosgrove. That role was built on a grant from the Fire Safe Council for implementing coordination for good work to be done in the County but not a taskmaster requiring landowners to act.

Dan Haggerty: I was expecting more attention to Quarry Park and that the scoping project would simplify the process. I'm hearing that the Deer Creek area will be the focus of the attack and Quarry Park is not? I'm glad you are thinking of how to deal with

the debris and control the costs when dealing with Biomass with controlled burns, etc. I still think most attention should be given to Quarry Park.

Kellyx Nelson: I was also expecting more attention at Quarry Park. There is some work recommended at Quarry Park. A lot of variables went into the analysis, some were based on topography and orientation.

Joe Issel: The original vegetation at Quarry Park was at a lower level than it is now. It was reclassified based on recent treatments.

Len Erickson: The homeowners in El Granada were concerned with wildfire in 2020 but your study does not deal with structures, correct? CalFire is in charge of protecting structures.

Kellyx Nelson: This model was mostly the risk of wildfire getting to the community. CalFire was involved in the study's variables. RCD has no expertise in wildfire and structure protection.

Jill Grant: I found the scoping report fascinating. I really like the Vegetation Action Cards which can be used in the field once projects are up and running. All the information is usable. I work with vegetation crews all the time. I'm concerned with the multiple partners involved (landowners), some are national agencies so that may involve NEPA and CEQA. I am also concerned with the recommendation of using goats in Area 1 which is native coastal scrub which goats don't generally like to eat but that will be figured out later. Overall I found the report usable and very well done and I thank you for presenting it tonight.

Dan Haggerty: What were the findings of concern in the Deer Creek area?

Kellyx Nelson: The consultant imputed data into the model, used variables (topography, vegetation type, weather, assets at risk, etc.) then broken up into 200 acre pieces. The modeling program was run many times to assure the same findings.

Michelle Weil: Now we need to move forward and implement the recommendations in the scoping report.

Kellyx Nelson: I want to come back to discuss wind and how it affected the recommendation.

Len Erickson: I live on Balboa where there is more wind risk. If the client redid the project would they look at the Eucalyptus on the medians and their proximity to homes?

Kellyx Nelson: We did not steer clear of the medians during the scoping project. They did not find these an area of large concern. The model is using the best available science but there is nothing predictive of wildfire. Even if all this work was done this may still not reduce the risk of wildfire to the community.

c. SMCAAlert and the Role of emergency alerts on the Midcoast by David Cosgrove, Office of Emergency Services. (9:13)

Michelle Weil: 441,000 people are signed up for SMCAAlert which is much more than before. One of the findings in the Grand Jury report was that the community will be able to get data from public agencies like PG&E but I wonder if that has happened yet.

Cid Young: I am most concerned with road closures and alerts. Maybe there should be a community outreach to get more people signed up and you cannot sign up for Zonehaven unless you are signed up to SMCAAlert.

David Cosgrove: CHP has jurisdiction over highways. They often use only SigAlert.

Gregg Dieguez: I agree that SMCAAlert should provide notification on traffic. So when you sign up, you put in your location and locations of alerts?

David Cosgrove: When you sign up, list your location and other areas you want to get alerts from. The agency usually uses a radius to notify people of an area where the alert was issued. So it's dependent on the user's location and where they signed up to get alerts.

Michelle Weil: You can add up to 5 "My Locations" on your SMCAAlert so you get notified of issues in those areas.

Len Erickson: Does disruption mean both lanes of traffic are blocked? Evacuations involve complexity. How is that managed?

David Cosgrove: Disruption is under review for timing of the traffic block. I will research this further. The tsunami project is ongoing. The sound system is not at full volume and a vendor is going to do maintenance on it. An audio comes after the siren. A tsunami alert will use all sirens in the county as well as the alert system.

Jill Grant: Who can issue an alert and how do they get the alert on SMCAAlert. Is there a central person who coordinates or each agency puts the alert on the system?

David Cosgrove: There are 32 agencies in the County that have access to SMCAAlert including fire departments, police, even municipalities. Some have limited access. The issued alert says who it is from? There is no central person.

Michelle Weil: When the system is updated later this year will it affect users?

David Cosgrove: No.

5. Council Activity – Correspondence and meetings attended.

Claire Toutant: Is anyone interested in working on the MidPen event?

Jill Grant: I am interested in working on the MidPen event. I used to work for wildlife non-profits and ran the booths. I know how a booth is set up and I know how to divide up the tasks. I can put something together to discuss at the next meeting.

Michelle Weil: How is everyone doing on their articles? I put out the article list and rough drafts with one photo are due by the 30th. Newsletter will go out on August 11th.

Dave Olson: Since we don't have district elections, if an incumbent doesn't file by the deadline, the filing deadline is extended for 5 days.

Len Erickson: Connect the Coastside was adopted by BoS. Caltrans has proposed a multi asset rehabilitation of SR1 has technology in it but no VMS. They did not send out a notice of the release of the document of the scoping meeting on July 21st. I contacted them and they extended the deadline for comments to August 25th. The VMS project is moving through the BoS process.

Dan Haggerty: In regards to the multi asset rehabilitation of SR1 meeting, I was not informed of it. Another community member informed me at the last minute so I did attend the Caltrans meeting. Comments at the meeting were not accepted and were very controlled. They gave a presentation but little community interaction. One mention was the sand shortage which they brushed over and their pursuit of concrete under guardrails. They are replacing existing guardrails in good condition to replace using a new Caltrans standard which uses concrete to control weeds. Caltrans did not provide sufficient information on the traffic monitoring elements. Caltrans said they cannot provide details until a contractor is chosen.

Dave Olson: I also attended the Caltrans meeting and people did ask for it to be recorded but Caltrans said it was a privacy issue which is a novel interpretation of privacy. Thus the Q/A was not recorded. I attended the BoS meeting where they approved Connect the Coastside 5-0 with most people supportive. The Flood Park landscape plans were approved with less cutting of native trees. There were lots of complaints regarding noise especially at pickleball courts.

Gregg Dieguez: I attended the 75th Anniversary and met Senator Becker. The Department of Public Works mailed me a "no" for traffic signs in Montara and I want to bring this up in a future agenda item. I carried video material from Lenard Warren to Dave Olson who is doing the majority of the work has posted these historical meetings. This email from a disabled veteran in regards to hazardous sidewalks in El Granada should also be an agenda item in the future.

Len Erickson: I will be working on a draft comment letter for the Caltrans multi asset rehabilitation of SR1. Does anyone want to help on the letter? It must be brought to the August 10th meeting. If anyone from the public wants to comment, send them to me.

Dan Haggerty: I'll help you, Len.

Gregg Dieguez: I will also help with the letter.

Claire Toutant: Len, Dan and Gregg will work on the letter for the August 10th meeting.

Dave Olson: Can I ask generally what will be in the letter?

Len Erickson: One of the comments will include two shoulder improvement areas that do not have adequate room for bike lanes but until I read the document I cannot say more.

Claire Toutant: My sense is that we will have more comments than reasonably expected and we will not be able to finalize the letter at the next meeting. I realize they already pushed out the comment period but they did not provide proper notification of this report being issued to the public. Ask them to extend the comment period out significantly. I personally received multiple invitations about the unveiling of this policy but they canceled every one of them and then I did not receive notification of the actual policy unveiling. If you can get them to push out the deadline that would be great.

Len Erickson: Maz Bozorginia, Khoa Vo, and Chanda never received this notice so they want an extension. I'd like to be in the same room at HMB when they discuss it. It's already pushed out.

Dan Haggerty: I thought the session with Caltrans was constrained. Caltrans also acknowledged that they have been overlapping projects and adding/deleting elements. You do not know what each project has because they keep adding and deleting. It is very difficult to follow the process because of this shifting.

Dave Olson: I did not think the session was constrained.

6. Future Agendas: Midpen 50th Celebration Booth, Firewise communities, Cypress Point review, water conservation, Caltrans SR1 Repair Guidelines Comment Letter, Candidate forum for the School board, Sheriff Mental Health Plan for the midcoast, Montara stop signs, the software update, and El Granada sidewalks, mailing lists for agendas and newsletter (9:12)

Dave Olson: We have 200 GB of MCC past meetings which will not fit on Google Drive. Do we want to preserve those videos online? Can we budget money for it?

Michelle Weil: We do not have a logo. I want us to have a real logo. I'd like to allocate budget to create a logo. We tried a contest and no one responded.

Gregg Dieguez: I nominate Len or me to contact Khoa Vo to mediate the Montara stop signs before it becomes a MCC agenda item.

Adjournment (10:19 pm)

Motion to adjourn.

Erickson moved, Dieguez seconded. Approved (7-0)