Thoughts on Follow-up from MCC Retreat

Note: these are MY thoughts and not necessarily those of the Council, nor inclusive of all issues our constituents have and may raise. They are submitted as a starting point for discussion and the formulation of actions to follow. It is likely several more meetings will be required to reach a formal Council position on most of these items.

- 1. Note: Mueller seemed more accepting of CRISP infrastructure items than other, normal Council issues.
- 2. The County has provided no budget for how much can be spent for Midcoast issues.
- 3. <u>Telecommunications:</u> the discussions that the Supervisor has had with vendors are not minuted and no written commitments are visible. The concept of a redundant cable via the Lantos Tunnel is a solid one, but does not resolve the many other communications vulnerabilities identified in the report, which are now being ratified by other local agencies. Further, there are other initiatives at the State level, such as the Middle Mile Broadband Initiative and Caltrans' work proposed for Highway 1 which may be duplicative, or even interfere. I suggest we continue to:
 - A. Gather endorsements for the report and forward it with a request for County funding for a feasibility study to create a reliable Community Fiber Network (est. \$100K)
 - B. Request MCC participation in oversight of the Communications efforts proposed for our area, up to and including the State level.
- 4. <u>Fiscal unsustainability:</u> this is now showing up at the SAM plant, where member agencies are looking at borrowing to fund replacements which have been known pending for a decade. At this time, I can recommend no MCC action, but I suggest an analysis of the depth of this problem and its impact on our residents is merited.
- 5. <u>Water In-Security:</u> this issue (and/or the COST of water) is being exacerbated by every new dwelling on the Midcoast. Two obvious policy changes are unlikely to be feasible in the short term:
 - A. Stop adding population
 - B. Grant only secondary water rights, at the higher marginal costs of new water, to New Joiners
 - For the present, this issue should be evaluated in the context of the Cypress Point Development, which will provide a near term discussion vehicle for the problem.
- 6. <u>Unfunded Stormwater Management:</u> Await the report of the MCC Stormwater Work Group, and evaluate options at that time. As was evident from the C\CAG presentation on April 26th, there will be a request for funding of both a study and infrastructure.
- 7. Wildfire:
 - A. Request a County plan to follow up on the RCD Scoping Project.
 - B. Request MCC oversight of wildfire plans and actions in our area.
 - C. List and track the several issues related to wildfire, with letters as appropriate to request action (Form an MCC work group to study e.g. evacuation; removal of eucalyptus, FireWise Communities, etc.)
 - D. Create a Wildfire Work Group of concerned residents to develop a report similar to those produced for other infrastructure.
- 8. Overly Intrusive Lighting:
 - A. Have an MCC Dark Skies Work Group pull together existing complaints into a report and forward it for action (note: Bill Sofkey of MWSD as resource).
- 9. Lack of Code Enforcement by Building Department
 - A. Log and track the numerous issues reported by residents

- B. Consider letter(s) requesting remedy
- C. Note: this lack was noted with disappointment by former Supvr. Horsley.
- 10. Cabrillo School Under-funding
 - A. Work with Cabrillo to document their needs and support their efforts
- 11. Cypress Point Housing Development
 - Though this was not presented as an issue directly, it bears on several topics discussed at the meeting: stormwater, traffic, earthquake liquefaction, harbor/beach pollution, fire risks, water supply, etc. Form an MCC work group to study the impacts of this development and request the necessary remediations in advance of the project.
- 12. <u>Shoreline and Harbor Issues</u>: Form an MCC work group to study and document the issues faced and recommend solutions up through the County, State and Coastal Commission.
- 13. <u>Midcoast Flow of Funds:</u> Write a letter requesting a report of the 5 year flow of funds from and to the Midcoast, which can inform budgeting and priority-setting for many of these Midcoast issues. Even better, obtain that information for every City and Town, for comparison.
- 14. <u>Transportation:</u> There already is a Work Group, led by Len Erickson, on this topic. It will present some immediate thoughts on June 10th. List and track the several issues related to transportation, with letters as appropriate to request action.
- 15. Numerous other issues mentioned in passing. List and track the several issues, with letters as appropriate to request action. We need a repository for these issues. Assess the features and costs desired and consider creating a web vehicle under our control, but shared with the County and other stakeholders.
- 16. <u>Staff Support for the MCC.</u> We are unpaid, and invest significant time performing administrative duties that a City or Town would have staff for: taking minutes, updating web posts, creating and distributing agendas, newsletters, etc. Request a staff person for those routine duties so that we can focus our efforts on researching, communicating, and deciding what matters, and acting on it.
- 17. <u>Prioritization</u>. Requests for information or policy changes cost no money and should not require prioritization. Funding requests require prioritization only if they are unfunded and unanticipated. Establish a Midcoast Budget and prioritize as needed within that, and within the grants and other Measure K funding which can be obtained. Follow-up actions which are part of established County department duties might require prioritization at levels above the MCC, and the MCC could rank issues pending within each department affected.

Gregg Dieguez Chair, MCC May 23, 2023