

# Midcoast Community Council

*An elected Municipal Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
Serving 12,000 coastal residents*

**Len Erickson**  
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July 27, 2011

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors  
400 County Center  
Redwood City, CA 94063

Re: MCC Purpose and Functions

Dear President Groom and Members of the Board,

At the regular MCC meeting on July 13, 2011, the council conducted a discussion on the [Purpose and Function of the MCC](#) (attached). The Council has the following objectives in pursuing this topic. We would like the Board of Supervisors to:

- Insure there is a correct interpretation of the MCC's relationship with the County's Departments and Agencies when these entities conduct business in the unincorporated Midcoast.
- Insure recognition of the MCC's role to represent the community to various levels of government
- Insure acknowledgement and acceptance by the county of the Midcoast communities desire to maintain their current character

The following references support these points:

- From SMC BoS Resolution 55042 (5/21/1991) three bullets from the establishment clause refer to the MCC's responsibilities and duties:
  - *3. The Midcoast Community Council is established to advise the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors on matters including, but not limited to, public health, safety, welfare, public works and planning which affect the Midcoast.*
  - *4. The Midcoast Community Council shall hold regular meetings to provide a forum for community concerns. The Council may conduct surveys, determine community positions, disseminate information to and from county departments, serve as liaison for county services, commission studies and reports and develop community support for County activities and County support for community activities.*
  - *5. All meetings of the Midcoast Community Council shall be open and public and be subject to all requirements of the Brown Act, Government Code §§ 54950 et seq. (Slide 11 in the presentation)*

- A Municipal Advisory Council is defined in the California Government Code 31010, one pertinent segment states:
  - *Unless the board of supervisors specifically provides to the contrary, a municipal advisory council may represent the community to any state, county, city, special district or school district, agency or commission, or any other organization on any matter concerning the community. (Slide 12 in the presentation)*
  
- The MCC Bylaws reflect the charter and code in the following section:
  - *SECTION 1.03. GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTIONS. The Community Council is established to advise the Board of Supervisors on such matters which relate to the Area concerning services which are or may be provided to the Area by San Mateo County or other local governmental agencies, including but: not limited to advice on matters of public health, safety, welfare, public works, and planning and, unless the Board of Supervisors specifically provides to the contrary, to represent the Community to any state, county, city, special district or school district, agency or commission, or any other organization on any matter concerning the Community. (Slide 20 in the presentation)*
  
- The Bylaws express community sentiment going back to the community charter prior to the formation of the MCC and express the current view of the Midcoast communities:
  - *SECTION 1.02 Purposes, Part 3. To seek to preserve the rural small-town character of the Area by protecting the existence of agricultural lands, commercial fishing activities and the natural marine environment; supporting the retention of a greenbelt around urban areas of the County of San Mateo; maintaining the coastal protections afforded by the County Local Coastal Plan and Measure A (1986), and seeking to manage growth in a manner which is consistent with the present character of the Area; (Slide 27 in the presentation)*

The MCC is conducting a series of public hearings at its regular meetings to review the history of the MCC's formation. This will enable us to reach a better understanding with the County of the "Roles and Responsibilities" of the Council when dealing with all issues that affect the residents of the Midcoast.

We would like a committee of the Board to set aside time to meet with some Council members and community residents to discuss these points and come to a better understanding of our community's needs and provide a better channel of communications between the community and the County. Further, to facilitate all aspects of its mission, the MCC needs attendance by a representative of the Board of Supervisors at its regularly scheduled meetings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
 s/Len Erickson  
 Chair, Midcoast Community Council