

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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October 5, 2011

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

Re: Highway 92 Pedestrian Crossings

Dear President Groom, Supervisor Horsley, Director Jim Eggemeyer and other Members of the Board,

We believe that the annual expansion of what are essentially “small, holiday themed amusement park facilities” amidst the collection of businesses on Highway 92 is an issue that impacts both business life and the quality of life on the coastside.

The Midcoast Community Council (MCC) has not in years past been asked to provide, nor provided, comments on the impact that pedestrian crossings and vehicles stopping to turn into and out off private parking lots on Highway 92 have had on Midcoast residents. These impacts are attributable to a handful of private businesses operating road side attractions year round, but pose a particular nuisance and danger to health and safety during the Halloween and Christmas seasons.

It is our understanding that these businesses have been granted, via a special use permit issued by the San Mateo County Planning Commission (PLN2000-00711), an opportunity to stop traffic at 15 minute intervals in order to allow their patrons to cross outside of marked crosswalks and that they are not being required to provide turn-out lanes for vehicles to access their facilities such that traffic can continue to flow as vehicles enter and exit their lots.

As this impact has widespread quality of life and safety implications for the residents of the Midcoast, but appears to benefit only a handful of private business concerns, and as there is no evidence that the businesses are being reconfigured or moved to a more suitable location despite years of escalating impact, the Midcoast Community Council kindly requests:

- (1) That the MCC be included as an interested body and be requested to provide comment on any and all future permit applications and renewals on this topic.

- (2) That any traffic studies and plans concerning the Midcoast, including but not limited to the Traffic and Trails Mobility Study and the Traffic Management Plan designated in the LCP update, create a priority item for addressing these concerns.
- (3) That the Director of Planning and Building and/or a person designated by him provide the MCC with a status update regarding plans and identification of any permits which address this matter including:
 - Whether there is a plan to address this problem
 - Identifying possible actions that can be taken prior to next years festival
 - Identifying how to insure there is a long term improvement in this matter

Thank you for your attention to this matter

Sincerely,

s/Len Erickson
Chair, Midcoast Community Council