

Midcoast Community Council

An Elected Municipal Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
P.O. Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038 www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org
Lisa Ketcham . Dave Olson . Chris Johnson . Laura Stein . Erin Deinzer . Dan Haggerty . Joel Janoe

Approved Minutes: Meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at Granada Sanitary District (GSD) Offices

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

- Present: Councilmembers Ketcham, Olson, Johnson, Stein, Deinzer, Haggerty, and Janoe
 - Legislative Aide Nicholas Calderón
 - Five members of the public
- Absent: None

1. Board of Supervisors' Report — Nicholas Calderón

- Measure A funding: Grant application process is going well.
- Board of Supervisors (BoS) leadership: Supervisor Dave Pine took over as president of the BoS at a ceremony last night, replacing Supervisor Don Horsley.
- Parks Department: BoS increasing their focus on County parks. Marlene Finley is the new Parks Director; she will be at the 1/22/14 MCC meeting.
- Radiation concerns: The recent YouTube video showing elevated Geiger counter readings at "Surfer's Beach" (may have actually been in Pacifica) not a reason for concern. The readings are higher than normal but there is no threat to public safety. All standard protocols have been followed, including readings taken by State officials. There is no link between the Fukushima accident and the elevated radiation levels that have been recorded.

2. Public Comment

- Captain Mike Maskarich, CHP: Noted significant improvement in the Sunshine Valley Road speeding situation. Through the collaborative efforts of the CHP, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, and the San Mateo County Department of Public Works (DPW), including striping, additional street signs, and visible enforcement presence, the speed threshold has been significantly lowered. A traffic survey is currently underway to determine whether the posted speed limit will be raised or lowered.
- Leonard Woren, El Granada: Attended the BoS change-of-leadership ceremony last night in Burlingame; worth watching on video.
- Laura Stein, MCC: Announced two Design Review Committee openings: alternate architect and Montara community representative alternate.
- Lisa Ketcham, MCC: Mentioned that changes in SamTrans service will begin on January 26. Specifically routes 294 and 17 will be affected. See the MCC website for details.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes from December 11, 2013, MCC meeting - approved 7-0
- b. Moved consideration of memo to Public Works Department regarding unsafe condition at narrow mid-block section of Prospect Way in Princeton where parked vehicles block the eastbound lane to Regular Agenda.

4. Regular Agenda

a. Postal Service Protection Act — Presentation by Brigid O'Farrell on how U.S. Senate Bill S. 316 would help sustain the Postal Service and protect 6-day delivery and rural post offices. MCC reviewed draft letter to U.S. Senators Boxer and Feinstein requesting their co-sponsorship of this bill.

- Nicholas Calderón, SMC: The County's Federal lobbyists are currently studying this issue and will give a presentation to the BoS when study is concluded. We will be notified when the date for the presentation is established.
- Leonard Woren, El Granada: Does not support S. 316 and doesn't think that the general public supports the Post Office. Leonard will not support the Post Office until they stop subsidizing First Class junk mail.
- Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach: Does support S. 316. Mentioned that the Internet/email is not supplanting physical mail delivery. Pointed out that the Post Office would actually be turning a profit if not for the prefunding mandate.
- Chris Johnson, MCC: Must tie S. 316 to local issues and concerns. Beyond jobs and mail delivery, post offices in rural and semi-rural communities have great intangible value as sources of community identity, representation, and pride. Serve as community gathering places and make each small community a player in the national dialogue. Concerned that if S. 316 doesn't pass, Midcoast might lose El Granada, Moss Beach, and Montara post offices. Pointed out that S. 316 requires USPS to publicly announce when post offices are being considered for closure and outline the reasons for such consideration, and that whether a post office is turning a profit cannot be a consideration for closure.
- Laura Stein, MCC: The Post Office is not a business, it is a service of democracy. Important as a local gathering place.
- Dave Olson, MCC: Current process for determining post office closures is unclear.
- Councilmembers voted 7-0 to approve the draft letter to Board of Supervisors urging support and copied to U.S. Senators Boxer and Feinstein requesting their co-sponsorship of this bill.

b. Color of Tactile Paving at Pedestrian Curb Ramps — Presentation by MCC Councilmember Dan Haggerty on different types of tactile paving pads currently installed on Midcoast and elsewhere and compared them with the yellow ones installed by DPW in El Granada. MCC reviewed draft memo to DPW asking for black, grey, or brown to be used for future installs.

- Chris Johnson, MCC: Do we know why yellow pads were installed in El Granada? Do we have a list of future install sites? If different colors were used on the Midcoast in the future, would the patchwork quilt of different colors be distracting?
- Dan Haggerty, MCC: In response to MCC councilmember Johnson's questions: No. No. No.
- Laura Stein, MCC: Is there any way the MCC could be brought into the process before any more installations?
- Joel Janoe, MCC: Should we ask for additional colors in the memo?
- Dave Olson, MCC: Supports the memo. Memo would benefit from a stronger request statement in the first paragraph.
- Nicholas Calderón, SMC: Certain that yellow is the County standard. MCC needs to include the following questions in the memo: 1) What are the County standards for tactile paving pads at pedestrian curb ramps? 2) Who designed the standards (BoS or DPW)? 3) Why is yellow the County standard? 4) Can DPW provide the MCC with a known future project list?

- Dan Haggerty, MCC: Another question to include in the memo is what is the process for requesting a change?
- Leonard Woren, El Granada: Doesn't like the yellow pads; bad color choice for a semi-rural coastal zone. The County standard is irrelevant because of specific coastal zone criteria. Suggested strengthening the first paragraph of the memo. Wants MCC to ask DPW to stop installing yellow pads until all questions in the memo have been answered.
- Lisa Ketcham, MCC: MCC Councilmembers Ketcham and Johnson will revise the memo to include the five important questions suggested during discussion. Focus of memo to be changed from request for change to request for information.
- Councilmembers voted 7-0 to approve revised memo that includes the five important questions suggested during discussion and the change of focus to a request for information.

c. Status Review of MCC Issues and Actions 2012–2013 — Presentation by MCC Chair Lisa Ketcham of MCC issues and actions during the 2012–2013 term.

- Chris Johnson, MCC: This would be an excellent opportunity to bring the MCC to the public's attention. Because of the advisory nature of the MCC, it is hard for the public to make the connection between MCC actions and the tangible results that benefit the Midcoast. Need to publicize MCC successes, as with a Top 10 list, to let the public know that the MCC is active and effective. The change in terms offers the perfect opportunity to raise MCC visibility.
- Joel Janoe, MCC: Any publicity should focus on public participation, not on the actions of the MCC itself.
- Lisa Ketcham, MCC: MCC is just a vehicle; the public is the driving force. This is something that the MCC can consider at the upcoming MCC retreat on 2/1/14.

d. Unsafe condition at narrow mid-block section of Prospect Way in Princeton —

MCC reviewed draft memo to Public Works Department regarding unsafe condition at narrow mid-block section of Prospect Way in Princeton where parked vehicles block the eastbound lane.

- Chris Johnson, MCC: At the last meeting, it was agreed that adjacent businesses would be contacted. Has this been done and if so, what was the reaction?
- Joel Janoe, MCC: Talked to owners of Mezza Luna and OPL and they are opposed to anything that would remove legal parking from the area in question. They might be open to a compromise, which might include time zone parking or limited-term parking.
- Dave Olson, MCC: Revise the memo to highlight the safety concerns and send it to DPW to get the issue in front of them.
- Chris Johnson, MCC: Maybe this needs to be a larger agenda item with representatives from DPW, Big Wave, Plan Princeton, and local businesses so that all the stakeholders can discuss a comprehensive solution.
- Leonard Woren, El Granada: Business cannot rely on street parking. It's good to make contact with them about this issue, but it's really out of their hands. Send the memo to DPW in order to bring the safety issue to their attention.
- Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach: Delete the last sentence in the draft memo and don't get into proposing any solutions. Indicate in the memo that the situation is bad and is only going to get worse.
- Councilmembers voted 7-0 to approve revised memo that includes Bill Kehoe's suggested revisions.

5. Council Activity

- Laura Stein mentioned that her daughter wrote an opinion piece for the *Half Moon Bay Review* about the morning commute and school transportation.
- Nicholas Calderón, SMC: The opinion piece by Councilmember Stein's daughter was very good and caught the attention of people at the County.
- Chris Johnson attended the December 12, 2013, Coastside Design Review Meeting and welcomed new architect Willard Williams and new Moss Beach community representative alternate David Schonberg.
- Lisa Ketcham, MCC: Introduced letter from Coastside Fire Protection District (CFPD) in which CFPD asks MCC for input regarding their "Mission, Vision, and Values" statements.
- Dave Olson, MCC: CFPD statements seem fine as is.
- Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach: CFPD is going to do a walk-through of all their facilities on January 15.
- Leonard Woren, El Granada: Wants MCC to ask CFPD to send a representative to speak to the MCC.
- Lisa Ketcham, MCC: The MCC needs to reply to this letter. (Dave Olson volunteered to write the response letter.) Approval of this letter will appear on the Consent Agenda for the 1/22/14 MCC meeting.

6. Future Agendas

- 1/22/14: County Parks presentation, Q&A, introduction of new Parks Director Marlene Finley. MCC Chair Ketcham anticipates large public turnout and wants a special venue. Councilmembers voted 7-0 to allocate up to \$300 for a special venue.
- 2/1/14 (Saturday): Annual Council retreat; Supervisor Horsley to attend at 9:00 a.m. MCC councilmembers agreed that GSD office is a suitable location for the retreat.
- Erin Deinzer, MCC: Last month, the MCC received a letter from Dream Machines organizers requesting assistance with event planning. Will Dream Machines be on an upcoming agenda?
- Laura Stein: I responded to the letter and asked Dream Machines to send a representative to speak at an MCC meeting, but the MCC has not received a response to this letter.

Adjournment: 9:07 p.m.