

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, May 14, 2014, at Granada Sanitary District Offices, El Granada, CA

Call to Order — 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Ketcham, Olson, Johnson, Stein, Deinzer, Janoe, and Haggerty. Absent: None

--Aide Nicholas Calderón

--10 members of the public

1. Board of Supervisors' (BoS) Report — Nicholas Calderón

--"Donuts with Don"

-On June 6, 2014, Supervisor Horsley will hold a "Donuts with Don" and "Coffee with Kevin" (District 22 Assembly Member Kevin Mullin) in Pacifica at Mazzettis from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

--Surfer's Beach

-Nicholas spoke with Tami Grove from the California Coastal Commission (CCC) about the scope of work document for an RFP to get a consultant to start the environmental planning and design of a retaining wall, a vertical access staircase, and a 400-foot section of the coastal trail. CCC had some comments on the document, so County is giving CalTrans a chance to review the CCC's comments with their environmental and design teams. When CalTrans gets back to the County, the County will schedule a conference call to discuss next steps.

-The City of Half Moon Bay has allocated \$100,000 in its budget for the Surfer's Beach project.

--Coastside Design Review Committee (CDRC)

-Eight interviews are scheduled for next week; this is the most candidates ever for CDRC.

--Transportation Management plan

-At the BoS meeting on May 20, 2014, the Supervisors will vote on whether to approve a contract with DKS Associates, the lead consulting firm on the Midcoast Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan. Plan will look at how to mitigate existing traffic and how to account for future growth and traffic.

-Will be a collaborative effort between County, Half Moon Bay, CalTrans, special districts, and SamTrans. MCC is explicitly listed as a stakeholder in the RFP.

--Kendall Flint, who is involved with community outreach for Plan Princeton, will be working on community outreach for this project as well.

--7th Street fence, Montara

-County is waiting to hear back from the CCC. The CCC is involved because any project in that area is appealable to the CCC. When County hears back from the CCC, it will let the community know about dates, design, and more details about the fence removal and what will replace it.

2. Public Comment

--Dan Haggerty, El Granada — Speaking as a member of the community, not as an MCC member. Supports local Measure G on the June ballot. Thinks it is needed and will be good for the community.

--Chris Johnson, MCC secretary — Made several comments.

-Notes that County staff announced at the May 8, 2014, CDRC meeting that the Big

Wave project will be on the CDRC agenda in June and the Mavericks Apartments project will be on the CDRC agenda in July. Really appreciates the efforts of MCC Chair Lisa Ketcham, MCC Treasurer Laura Stein, CDRC member Kris Liang, and Nicholas Calderón for their efforts in staffing up the CDRC but very concerned that even if somebody is appointed to be a Princeton representative before the June meeting, this person will have very little time to come up to speed on the CDRC standards used to review projects. Notes that experience is the most critical attribute for a CDRC member.

-Has read that the Harbor Commission is considering removing Romeo Pier from the harbor. Loves the pier but acknowledges that it is an environmental problem waiting to happen. Suggests that the superstructure of the pier, specifically the shack with the crab painted on it, be saved and stored until it can be included in a historical or visitor's center display as part of the PlanPrinceton development. Thinks it would be a nice, authentic touch of history and a way to preserve something that everybody loves.

-Disappointed about destruction of "Spotti" skate park in Moss Beach. Thanks Roy Ramos, the California Schools Employees Association (CESA) property manager, for coming to the last MCC meeting to explain what happened. Also thanks the people in attendance for their passion, decorum, and respect. Feels that not all options were explored, such as prescriptive easement, and questions the rapidity with which the decision to close the property and tear out the skate park was made. Worries that it sends wrong message to the kids. Highlights yet again the lack of opportunities for tweens and teens on the Midcoast.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Agrees with MCC member Johnson about experience being an important attribute for CDRC members and wonders what can be done about the upcoming Big Wave project review given that it will be the very first project reviewed by whomever is chosen as the Princeton representative.

-Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — Wonders if Big Wave is technically in Moss Beach; if it is in Moss Beach, then the Moss Beach CDRC community rep would be able to review the project.

A: Nicholas Calderón — Will check with County Planning staff to see if Moss Beach rep can review this project.

--Per Chris Johnson, County staff Camille Leung and Dennis Aguirre indicated at the May 8, 2014, CDRC meeting that the Big Wave project is in Princeton.

--Leonard Woren, El Granada — According to the official County map books, Big Wave is technically in Princeton.

--Leonard Woren, El Granada — Regarding ballot Measure G in June, the situation with the Moss Beach skate park highlights the fact that recreational facilities should be publicly owned. A Community Services District (CSD) is one way to get the missing piece in the parks and recreation puzzle here on the Midcoast. Opposition to Measure G appears to come from people who don't like the current makeup of the Granada Sanitary District (GSD) board; points out that the board is publicly elected every two years and current members can easily be replaced if that's how the public feels. Notes that Measure G has been endorsed by many current and past elected officials. Measure G marks a once-in-a-generation chance to get something done for parks and recreation on the Midcoast. Was tried 20 years ago and failed and if Measure G fails, the Midcoast is not likely to see another parks and recreation initiative for another 20 years.

--Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — Made some announcements.

-On Tuesday, May 20, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Half Moon Bay Yacht Club in Princeton, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) and the Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW) will be holding a public

workshop, hosted by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), to gather public input on the Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan (CRSMP) they are currently developing.

-On Thursday, May 22, 2014, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Cypress Meadows in Moss Beach, the San Mateo County Parks Department is holding a community meeting to inform the community about project goals and timelines and to solicit community input regarding its San Vicente Creek Habitat Enhancement and Cypress Grove Management pilot projects.

3. Consent Agenda Approved 7-0

- a. Approved Minutes for April 9, 2014.
- b. Approved Minutes for April 23, 2014.

4. Regular Agenda

a. (7:30) Coastside Emergency Corps Formation and Proposed Organization.

Nick Gottuso, district coordinator, Coastside Homeland Security Division and Office of Emergency Services discussed the proposed formation and organization of the Coastside Emergency Corps (CEC).

--One of his jobs is to reorganize and reinvigorate Coastside emergency services resources, including private citizens trained in emergency response. The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is not totally defunct, as has been reported, but will be subsumed into a new organization being formed, the Coastside Emergency Corps (CEC).

--The County is currently developing the CEC program; it is not yet operational. Nick is not sure what the organization will ultimately look like, but feels this is a starting point towards uniting the community. The County is even open to a different name for the program; if anybody has thoughts, contact Nick.

--The County recently graduated the largest CERT class the Coastside has ever had.

--The CEC network would include Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program graduates, professional first responders, law enforcement, the MRC, pilots, and ham radio operators.

--The purpose of the CEC is to develop a local network of skilled volunteers and professional first responders who can provide assistance in the event of a major emergency or disaster. If something happens that affects the entire region, the Coastside could be on its own for several days. The CEC is intended to ensure that the Coastside can take care of itself during this time. The idea is Coastside self-sufficiency to help save lives.

--The CEC would leverage the Community Emergency Action Program (CEAP), which is a list of local organizations, businesses, and individuals who have agreed to help out and contribute in event of an emergency. List kept by the Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce.

--Initial plans have Coastside organized into three different zones from Montara to Pescadero.

--Jim Sullivan, Pacifica — Is this a County-wide program or just for the Coastside?

A: Nick Gottuso — Just for the Coastside.

--Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach — At CEAP meetings on the first Friday of the month at the Emergency Operations Center in Half Moon Bay, there's always a City of Pacifica Police Department representative present. They have their own plan. The CEAP meetings are open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. At these meetings, announcements are made about upcoming CERT training programs.

--Erin Deinzer, MCC — Where can one get CERT training; is there a cost for this training?

A: Nick Gottuso — About every six months or so the County offers a training program at the Half Moon Bay fire station. There is no cost for this training. Also, on June 7, 2014, at the San Mateo County Fairgrounds, the County is holding its Disaster Prep Day.

--Leonard Woren, El Granada — Are CERT people able to act on scene and are they legally protected? The County might need to offer past CERT grads a refresher course on how the law regarding CERT personnel has changed.

A: Nick Gottuso — As far as he knows, there has been no change in the law regarding protection for disaster workers; they are still protected. CERT workers can act on scene and are in charge on scene until they are relieved by a professional first responder.

--Erin Deinzer, MCC — Are landslides and road closures included in the training and preparation?

A: Nick Gottuso — Yes. No matter what the reason, the Coastside must be able to help itself and be self-sufficient in the event of an emergency or disaster.

--Gael Erickson, El Granada — Have you reached out to local community groups like Surfrider and others?

A: Nick Gottuso — We have not contacted Surfrider specifically, but that's a good idea. We have reached out to other local groups.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — How are PG&E, the HMB Airport, and cellular providers being involved?

A: Nick Gottuso — He hasn't specifically spoken to Comcast or cellular service providers, but the HMB Airport manager and the Harbor Master attend CERT meetings. The HMB Pilots Association has agreed to participate in the CEC. All of these different groups are important. Aviation and marine access will be important if our roads are cut off.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Do you have to be a certain age to be eligible to get CERT training? Has any effort been made to involve HMB High School?

A: Nick Gottuso — No age requirement. We are currently working with Michelle Dragono to establish a teen CERT training program.

b. (7:55) SamTrans Proposal to Eliminate Weekend Bus Service on Sunshine Valley Road. SamTrans employees Ashish John, Enrique Silvas, and Samantha Erickson presented the SamTrans proposal to eliminate weekend bus service on Sunshine Valley Road.

--SamTrans is proposing elimination of weekend bus service on Sunshine Valley Road by realigning the route from Sunshine Valley Road to Highway 1 and Main St. for reasons of cost savings, efficiency, and rider satisfaction.

--Main concern is that on weekends, the #17 bus has no ridership along Sunshine Valley Road. On weekdays, schoolchildren ride this segment; that is not part of this proposal. If this segment is removed from the weekend route, it saves four minutes for the overall route. This segment is underused. Remaining segment is a walkable distance from Sunshine Valley stops.

--SamTrans proposes to start this new service on August 10, 2014. Same number of trips on the weekend, same frequency, same span of service.

--Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — Supports plan. Just to clarify: the bus takes its normal route until it gets to Etheldore and then instead of taking Sunshine Valley Road, it heads out to Highway 1 and then up Main Street in Montara. Because the

memo SamTrans provided the MCC mentioned Alhambra. Just need to be sure that Princeton and Airport Road are still going to be served.

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — Alhambra was just mentioned as a point of reference for calculating the overall trip distance of 18 minutes. That part of the route won't be touched.

--Chris Johnson, MCC secretary — What are the savings and efficiencies that this plan will produce? Do you have specific dollar amounts?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — It's hard to say because it hasn't been scheduled out, but it's not likely enough to save an entire bus, and unless you're cutting out an entire bus, you're really not saving that much. The real benefit is time saving for the riders.

--Chris Johnson, MCC secretary — Where is this decision coming from? Is it coming from SamTrans wanting efficiencies and cost savings or it is coming from rider feedback?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — It started with riders complaining about riding a loop where nobody gets on or off at the stops.

--Joel Janoe, MCC — Are you considering adjusting the weekday schedules a little bit to coincide with the school schedules?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — We have tried very hard to reach out the schools to get the bell times in advance. If you know somebody we could work with that could help us with this, please let us know.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Tardiness to school can be a problem.

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — If you're seeing a lot of tardies because of bus service, please let us know.

--Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — On the weekend, since the tunnel opened, have you noticed any increase in ridership? Any anecdotal data from the bus drivers?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — No, we're still waiting on ridership data. It is hard to gauge whether core ridership is increasing.

-Enrique Silvas, SamTrans — We have seen a slight uptick in usage but the majority of riders are weekday students, so those numbers are not likely to move much.

--Dave Olson, MCC vice chair — Is the #17 bus now stopping at Devil's Slide Trail Park?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — At the south portal, yes.

-Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — Why do they not stop at the north portal?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — Because it is only safe to do so in one direction and there you would need to have stops in both directions. CalTrans went ahead and painted the words "Bus Stop" there on their own; it is not a SamTrans stop.

--Chris Johnson, MCC secretary — Opposes plan. Feels it is important that in a semi-rural community, that extra effort be made to make transportation options available to people. Feels that this part of Moss Beach/Montara is particularly rural. Doesn't feel that it is appropriate to ask people to walk for up to over a mile on Sunshine Valley Road to get a bus stop, especially when the CHP has been monitoring Sunshine Valley Road for speeding and unsafe driving as reported by residents. Feels strongly that even if ridership is low, this is a service that needs to be provided to rural folks. Doesn't feel that the purported savings and efficiencies justify eliminating all weekend service. Asks if instead of eliminating all stops all weekend, maybe SamTrans can eliminate every other trip down Sunshine Valley Road or two of every three trips. Doesn't like the trend toward less SamTrans service on the Midcoast.

--Leonard Woren, El Granada — Opposes plan. Reducing the number of buses changes people's ridership usage. Reducing options reduces overall ridership.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Will the money saved from the reduction of service in this area be reinvested in the Midcoast?

A: Samantha Erickson, SamTrans — Yes.

--Enrique Silvas, SamTrans — The SamTrans Service Plan (SSP) implemented in January for the #17 bus has increased revenue hours and service on the Coastsides by more than 50 percent, seven days a week. We doubled our budget to provide service on the Coastsides. We see there is a need for service, but there is also a need to increase efficiency. We've increased ridership since last April by 50 percent.

--Erin Deinzer, MCC — This decision was motivated and informed by customer feedback?

A: Enrique Silvas, SamTrans — Yes, we had lots of customer input on this on both sides of the issue.

- c. **(8:15) Devil's Slide Ride.** Parca CEO Diana Conti, Jim Sullivan, and Elias Olson discussed the route, timing, and preparations for the Devil's Slide Ride, a recreational bicycle ride and Parca fundraiser that is scheduled to pass through the Midcoast via Highway 1 on Saturday, June 28, 2014. See <http://www.midcoastcommunitycouncil.org/storage/mtgs-com2014/2014-05-14-DSR-Parca-memo.pdf>.

--This is the third year Parca has organized and held this event on this course. Last year, the event had 500 riders; this year, it could have as many as 700 riders.

--This is a recreational ride, not a race. There will be no pelotons and no race tactics and no road closures except for one bore of the tunnel early in the morning.

--Safety controls, course marshals and monitors, SAG personnel will be in place. There will be volunteers helping out at the aid stations. Event personnel will pick up race litter afterwards.

--CalTrans was split on whether a permit was needed to close the tunnel. Not clear if it will actually be closed for the southbound run in the early morning; it will be open for the small amount of riders returning to Pacifica via Highway 1 in the early afternoon.

--Dave Olson, MCC vice chair — According to the route maps, there is only one crossing of Highway 1 and that is at Verde Road?

A: Diana Conti, Parca — Yes.

--Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — You said that the riders doing the short course who will be returning to Pacifica via Highway 1 can use the Devil's Slide Park (DST) trail if they want?

A: Jim Sullivan, ride organizer — Yes. San Mateo County Parks has OK'ed this for riders returning to Pacifica via Highway 1. We estimate this will be about 75 to 100 riders. They have the option of using the tunnel, which will not be closed to cars, or the Devil's Slide Park trail. There is going to be traffic in this area at this time of the day, but these are experienced, skilled riders and we expect them to ride safely.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Can you explain the routes again?

A: Jim Sullivan, ride organizer — Reviewed the routes. See <http://www.girodipacifica.org/index.php/rides-and-routes>.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — What do you expect will be the biggest downsides for the Coastsides?

A: Diana Conti, Parca — Probably litter, traffic, and crowd control. We have plenty of volunteers to handle litter and we've talked to first responders about crowd control and traffic and they've expressed no specific concerns.

--Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — Concerned about the approach to either end of the tunnel because the road has no shoulder. Won't traffic slow to the pace of the bikes? Sees the return trip for the short-course riders as the biggest potential problem.

A: Diana Conti, Parca — In past years, we've had a CHP escort through the tunnel/Devil's Slide.

-Elias Olson, ride organizer— There have been no issues in the past. There will only be 100 riders taking this route. No different than the hundreds of riders who do this route unofficially every weekend. We will have no CHP escort this time because so few riders will be taking the short course back through the Slide.

--Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach — There is no shoulder along the road on either approach to the tunnel. Motorists either have to cross the yellow line to pass cyclists or proceed at the cyclists' pace. This event impacts 25,000 Coastsiders residents and even more now that the tunnel is open. On any given day, cars are parked along the shoulders, people are walking, cyclists are riding. This means Coastsiders are looking at another Saturday where we have to work our lives around an event. Where and what is the event permitting process for the Coastsiders? The issue is what rights do the rest of the taxpaying citizens have to their own roads and lifestyle?

A: Jim Sullivan, ride organizer — One thing to look at is the tourist impact, which is good. We want the tourists to come here. Cyclists do this route every day.

A: Nicolas Calderón — Chris Hunter from Supervisor Horsley's office is working with multiple agencies to address the Coastsiders event permitting process. The County is aware of the problem and is working on it.

--Gael Erickson, El Granada — Works as a volunteer at DST. Notes that it gets very crowded on the weekend and riders who use the DST Park on their return trip will encounter multiple other trail users.

--Leonard Woren, El Granada — Agrees with the comments of Bill Kehoe. The road needs to have usable bike lanes from Half Moon Bay to Pacifica. Please tell event participants to ride in single file and not to pass, especially when traffic is pending.

-Elias Olson, ride organizer — We will definitely tell them. This instruction is in the handout materials and our event website. However, cyclists are humans and will do what they do. We have had zero complaints in the past years of this event.

--Dan Haggerty, MCC — Will CalTrans be using their electronic signs inside the tunnel to inform motorists?

A: Diana Conti, Parca — They did last year.

--Chris Johnson, MCC secretary — Supports the event. Given the uproar on the Coastsiders resulting from the triathlon last month, have event organizers made any specific outreach to the City of Half Moon Bay or the Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways to better involve Coastsiders residents in the event and give them a sense of ownership and/or participation in this event? Events like this provide an opportunity to develop the ecotourism reputation that the Chamber of Commerce wants to develop, but it requires a synergy between event organizers, local government, and local businesses.

A: Diana Conti, Parca — We have reached out to Pacifica but not to the Coastsiders. Thanks for the suggestion. We do see this ride as promoting ecotourism, and we think this event will help put this event on the ecotourism map and help all of the Coastsiders.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Supports the event. This definitely puts the Coastsiders on the map, but some Coastsiders don't want to be on the map. This event sounds exciting and the times seem right for minimal impact.

--Lisa Ketcham, MCC chair — Loves the ride concept and route. Concerned only about impacts of the out and back route.

-Elias Olson, ride organizer — This event has passed through the Coastsiders the last two years and nobody has complained.

--Erin Deinzer, MCC — The difference this year is that DST Park was not open for the last two years, so you can really only speak to how the event has impacted the community in the past without really knowing what this year's impact might be. Working with the Sheriff's Department to enforce traffic and parking violations will help. Please tell riders to patronize the communities they are riding through.

A: Diana Conti, Parca — We are happy to do that. If any members of the MCC want to come and speak at our party after the event, we'd love to have you. In the future, we would have packages for discounts and offers for local businesses. This could really turn into a great help for the Coastsiders.

-Elias Olson, ride organizer — We've heard people tell us after the ride that they love this area and will come back for other things.

--Laura Stein, MCC treasurer — Can you get the electronic sign at 92/Main Street to list information about this event?

A: Diana Conti, Parca — Yes, who do we contact about that?

-Note: There was some general discussion about who the sign at 92/Main Street belongs to and who to contact for messaging. There seemed to be no clear consensus or action plan.

--Dan Haggerty, MCC — Supports the event. Wonders if cyclists could use the old-style rally flags for higher visibility and safety. Maybe some of the stronger riders could use these flags and get a trend going.

A: Diana Conti, Parca — We have a group of ride ambassadors who will be interacting with riders during the event. We will talk to them about this idea.

-Elias Olson, ride organizer — We also have a special ride kit for sale that includes some items with very bright colors that riders can wear to increase their visibility and safety.

--Dave Olson, MCC vice chair — Supports the event. Most riders are safe, but we just want you to stress the single-file advisory to your riders.

--Diana Conti, Parca — If any MCC members would like to participate in the event as ride ambassadors, we are willing to comp your entry fee in exchange for helping out on the ride.

--Chris Johnson, MCC secretary — Dan's idea for greater visibility is right on, but no cyclist doing a ride of more than five miles is going to use a rally flag. Instead, ride organizers should mandate that all riders wear an electronic rear flasher light and a rear view mirror. These items are light and pretty ubiquitous for regular cyclists.

A: Diana Conti, Parca — Thanks for the suggestions.

--Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach — Somebody should review the incident operations report from the event organizers to see how well they've planned the logistics. Where are the traffic resources focused?

-Laura Stein — That document sounds like it would be good to review and then to communicate that information to the community.

-Note: There was some general discussion about the formal name of this document, who develops it, and to what entity it is delivered. There seemed to be no clear consensus on answers to these questions. Nicholas

Calderón agreed to take this issue back to Chris Hunter in Supervisor Horsley's office.

--Jim Sullivan, ride organizer — In addition to the cycling routes, this year, the event features two walking loops through private Shamrock Farms trails for hikers and dog walkers.

5. Council Activity

--MCC Secretary Chris Johnson reported on a couple of activities.

-Attended the Coastsides Design Review Committee (CDRC) meeting on May 8, 2014. Feels that CDRC is working very well for the Midcoast right now.

-Attended the GSD town hall meeting regarding the upcoming ballot Measure G on May 1, 2014, with fellow MCC members Dave Olson and Dan Haggerty. Felt the decorum of this meeting was more positive than the GSD town hall meeting on this topic in October 2013. Not sure if the community is well-informed enough about this issue.

--MCC Vice Chair Dave Olson attended the Half Moon Bay Library stakeholder meeting on May 7, 2014. The final meeting will be on June 4, 2014, and the final plan for the library will be presented at the Half Moon Bay City Council special meeting on July 15, 2014. Comments have been submitted from more than 700 people. Feels that library development is headed in the right direction but the ideas look expensive and we'll have to wait for the project budget to see what actually can be done. Parking will be an issue; there is a plan to share parking with Cunha Middle School.

6. Future Agendas

--05/28/14 — County Department of Public Works staff will give a presentation on unpermitted encroachments in the public right of way. County Vector Control District staff will give a presentation on their use of rodenticides.

Adjournment — 9:05 p.m.