

# 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

Dave Olson . Chris Johnson . Lisa Ketcham . Dan Haggerty . Erin Deinzer . Laura Stein . vacancy

## Approved Minutes: Meeting on June 10, 2015, at GCSD

**Call to Order.** 7:07 PM

Councilmembers present: Chris Johnson, Lisa Ketcham, Dan Haggerty, and Erin Deinzer.

Councilmembers absent: Dave Olson, Laura Stein

21 members of the public

### **1. Board of Supervisors' Report and Reports from other Government Officials**

Nicholas Calderón:

**Parallel Trail:** June 16 Board of Supervisors agenda includes item to approve contract with consultant BKF to start design process of southern trail segment (Mirada to Coronado).

This is same firm that did Devil's Slide Trail.

**6<sup>th</sup> St traffic counts:** Final report not available yet.

**Surfer's Beach Erosion Protection Project:** CCC will hear CDP for the project on June 12; still on track to finish construction by year-end, barring early El Niño.

**Seton Hospital:** Daughters of Charity anticipates they will have a decision on next steps for the hospital chain by end June.

**Pre-Application Workshops** (Lisa Ketcham):

**Harbor View Inn expansion** Tues, June 16, 6:30 at GCSD: 2-story, 14-room addition next to existing motel at 51 Ave Alhambra in El Granada. Site plans posted on MCC website.

**New El Granada fire station** Thurs, July 16, 7pm at El Granada Elementary School.

**LED streetlights** (Dan Haggerty): Pilot installations are near each Midcoast post office for public review/comment. Guide to LED Lighting, by International Dark-Sky Association, is posted on MCC website (under Public Works, Roads/Streetlights).

**CHP Captain Mike Maskarich:** CHP has initiated more aggressive response to recent traffic complaints -- deployed special enforcement unit to have a presence and educate the public. DPW study on Etheldore between Hwy 1 & Marine showed extensive speeding (well over the posted 35 mph) -- have placed radar trailer to make people more aware of the speed they're driving. While Nextdoor is great social media, it is more effective to email Captain Maskarich directly -- MMaskarich@chp.ca.gov

### **2. Public Comment**

Leonard Woren: Parallel Trail should be on east side of highway – there are wetlands on both sides. Mirada Surf bluff footpath has cracks and is causing erosion. People should be encouraged to not walk close to bluff.

Charlotte Laughon, Midcoast rep on Samtrans Citizens Advisory Committee. Midcoast needs bus shelters. Cost is \$150,000 each, per Samtrans. MCC should write Samtrans for funding.

### **3. Consent Agenda: approved 4-0.**

a. Approve Minutes for May 13, 2015

### **4. Regular Agenda**

a. (7:35) **Midcoast At-Grade Crossings and Raised Medians** – (Nicholas Calderon; Kendall Flint). Preview and discussion of revised design alternatives for Moss Beach and Montara based on feedback received at and since the March 11, 2015, public workshop.

Kendall described format for public workshop on June 23, 2015, at HMB Yacht Club, 7pm:

- Visit displays around the room informally.
- Project team will present differences in alternatives.
- Public comment period.

Alternatives have been amended in response to comments and are posted on MCC website. Matrix summarizes main features of each alternative. For several weeks after the June 23 workshop, there will be a virtual workshop on a special website with large design images. Tonight is a preview of the new designs, to inspire you to read the documents, to get ready for June 23. Regarding request for accident data at specific intersections, a public records request has been filed, and info will be shared when received.

Nicholas presented features of new Alternative 3 for Moss Beach and Montara. New designs are a compromise of previous ones -- will provide minimal raised medians for safe pedestrian crossing refuge islands and traffic calming. Safety and traffic calming are increased from Alt 1. Impacts, cost, and timeline are reduced from Alt 2. There are no flashing beacons in Alt 3, which people had said they didn't like. Proposed traffic-calming raised medians are paved with decorative pavers for low maintenance and so people can wait on them when crossing the highway.

- Moss Beach southern gateway & Cypress: Raised median south of Marine with streetlight at each end. Painted acceleration lane at Cypress.
- Moss Beach town center: northern gateway raised median north of Vallemar for traffic calming (requiring road widening). Raised median closes cross-highway traffic at Virginia and provides crossing refuge island. No road widening required at crossing due to using center turn lane.
- Montara town center: Southern gateway raised median at 9<sup>th</sup> St provides traffic calming and prevents left turns at 9<sup>th</sup> which are currently not allowed anyway. At 8<sup>th</sup> St, as proposed in Hwy 1 Mobility Study, center lane striping is changed to left in, left out turn pockets for added vehicle safety. Raised median and pedestrian crossing north of 7<sup>th</sup> St. Streetlights at raised medians and crossing.
- Montara Beach (2<sup>nd</sup> St): 3 raised medians from north of 1<sup>st</sup> to south of 2<sup>nd</sup> with breaks for traffic movements provide one long traffic calming device, plus refuge islands for crossing with a crosswalk at 2<sup>nd</sup>. Acceleration lane is retained for northbound turn out of northern restaurant parking lot. South beach parking lot opening is reduced to better control ingress/egress. Road widening is required to accommodate the medians and standard shoulder/bike lane. 4 streetlights.

Lisa: Great presentation.

Dan: Median south of Marine seems unnecessarily long. Opposed to closing highway median at Virginia -- move crossing to north side of intersection. Add some vegetation to raised medians to give more body. PPS design pages provided to MCC load too slowly -- hard to see details such as streetlight locations. Kendall said scalable PDF's of the designs would be posted on the special project website.

Erin: Crossing not needed at 7<sup>th</sup> St. -- has never seen anyone crossing there.

Chris: Appreciates the new alternatives in response to previous comments. Hopefully people will find alternatives that are pretty close to what they want.

Leonard Woren: Medians don't need to be so long or so well lit. Approach to raised median induces speed reduction, not the time it takes to pass it. Road widening is OK as long as traffic lanes are not added or widened. Painting narrower lane serves for traffic calming. Put 2-stage crossing mid block.

Gus Peterson, Moss Beach: Likes this project (as opposed to Connect the Coastside). We have to learn to live with Caltrans design manual standards.

Charlotte Laughon, Montara: Wants no crossing at 7<sup>th</sup> St -- feels it would only benefit the few homes on the west side. No expanded shoulders or raised medians in Montara. Opposed to new streetlights along the highway due to their effect on dark night skies.

Bill Kehoe, Moss Beach: Weight public opinion more for people in those communities.

Prefers crossing at California, and don't close off Virginia. Mid-block crossing is safer.

Thomas Sheffield: Big Wave traffic mitigation at Cypress should be required before that project is built.

**b. (8:30) New Coastside Library Update –**

Friends of the Library members Hope Atmore (HMB) and Brigid O'Farrell (Moss Beach) described the planning and fundraising for a new library to be built at the current HMB location to better serve the Coastside from Pescadero to Montara. The service area is 270 square miles, population 29,000. The existing library is a county library on city property, built in 1971 when the population was 4,000 and before the internet. Current 7,800 s/f is inadequate. Library is heavily used, ~640 visitors/day. County pays for staffing. City pays for maintenance. City narrowly failed to obtain grant funding for 33,000 s/f library 12 years ago per 2002 library needs assessment and concept plan.

New library concept plan has been updated to 25,000 s/f, with estimate of \$22 million for entire project including temporary quarters during construction. Won't know actual budget until designs are further along. The County will contribute 50% of the cost to cover the unincorporated Coastside. The City has set aside \$6 million so far. Goal is for construction to start in 2016.

Second Coastside branch library is not an option, per Library Joint Powers Authority.

Staffing is paid by County at 60 hrs/week per district. A second branch would have to split that, with only 30 hrs open for each location. Pacifica has 2 branches with this system, and would prefer to build one consolidated library. The bookmobile will continue to make weekly rounds. It's much easier and quicker to build on a site already set up as a library. Rooms are planned to be flexible.

Project Manager Griffin Structures has been hired by City to take conceptual plan to actual plans and new set of cost estimates. RFP for architect went out ~3 weeks ago. Final selection will be made in August, with opportunity for public comments, changes between now and then. Current conceptual design is on the table.

Friends of the Library is a non-profit that funds library programs (about \$20-25K per year), with membership dues and book sales. Their goal is to raise \$2 million in private funds for the new library. Right now in quiet stage looking for big donors, possible naming rights for rooms; will start grass roots efforts in fall. Have 2 funds – people can donate to just the new library project or to programs. Friends of the Library meets every month on 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, at 7pm, usually at EOC.

Erin: Library serves important community function.

Dan: HMB location is difficult for Midcoast to access. Need community center in Midcoast.

Lisa: If Midcoast had a community center, people would probably not resent new library.

Chris: Concerned about parking for large meetings. Would like to see future public meetings in Midcoast focused on Midcoast issues with the library.

--Hope: Onsite parking falls within City-required parking requirements. Will tell Griffin that we need to have outreach in Midcoast.

Leonard Woren: Instead of library functions, the focus seems to be on meeting space which won't benefit the Midcoast. \$900 per s/f is too much. Supports internet access for those who don't have it. Should have full onsite parking.

--Hope: \$900 per s/f number is disingenuous. \$22 million estimate covers design, permitting, 18 months of temporary library space during construction, contingencies, new fixtures and furniture. Construction cost is more like \$550 per s/f.

Gus Peterson, Moss Beach: Proposed new El Granada fire station is really big and half the cost of new library. Would prefer new library closer to Midcoast, then repurpose old building. When did County funding contribution get approval? Would like to see Supervisor Horsley's aide for libraries at future Midcoast meetings on this issue.

Bill Kehoe: Concerned about cost, and that County will look at this as contribution for Midcoast and won't provide money for Midcoast Community Center. Location is congested and getting worse. Current building is still usable – wasteful to tear it down.

Charlotte Laughon, Montara: HMB location is not fair to Midcoast.

--Chris suggested she write to Supervisor Horsley.

--Bill suggested MCC write a letter.

--Chris said we could put that on our future agenda list.

--Lisa said Dave Olson was MCC rep on library planning stakeholder committee and reported back to MCC on those meetings during 2014.

Pamela Fisher, HMB: Would like a suggestion of 21<sup>st</sup> century library for field trip – put on your website. After-school kids may shift to Ted Adcock Boys & Girls Club. Build library in more central location.

Sabrina Brennan, Moss Beach: Questioned process for RFP for architectural firm; would like to see proposals from all respondents. Who will choose the architect?

--Hope: Project Manager reached out to every Bay Area firm that has done a library in last 15 years -- received 28 proposals – will gradually whittle down selection by August.

Dave Schorr, HMB, Friends of Library Treasurer: Friends of Library are not the decision makers, don't have seat at table for design process, parking, etc. Suggest public go to City and County with these questions/concerns. Survey was a Coastside statistical sample, did not reach out to everyone. County funding contribution works out to \$16 per person. Decision group for architect contract is probably County library staff, library JPA, City staff, and Project Manager.

Jerry Steinberg HMB: Not possible to build library at Beachwood property. Appreciates the openness and discussion at MCC meetings. Supports new library, but not enough discussion on the costs or use of bonds that don't require voter approval.

**5. (10:06) Council Activity – Correspondence received & meetings attended –**

**Short-term rental ordinance:** Report from Dave (read by Chris): At May 27 Planning Commission study session Jennifer Kraske, Deputy County Counsel presented background, issues, and ideas for an ordinance on short-term rentals. It would initially apply to the unincorporated coastal zone. Permits would be required, and Transient Occupancy Tax would be collected. It does not include duration and density limits. There will be an MCC meeting on this subject sometime in the next few months.

**RV Park at Harbor Village:** Chris reported on May 27 pre-application workshop. Most of ~45 attendees were against that use at the very visible harbor gateway. Tone was contentious. Lisa added a plea for civility at public meetings.

**MWSD:** Erin attended meeting on rate hikes. District has difficulty in retaining employees; wants to offer better benefits.

**New riprap on Princeton shoreline** reported by Lisa near the foot of West Point Ave. CCC staff replied it is located in County LCP jurisdiction and County should address it.

**6. Future Agendas:** Short term rental ordinance, new library, bus shelters

**Adjourn – 10:15 pm**