

Midcoast Community Council

*An elected Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
representing Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramar*
P.O. Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038-0248 - www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org

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Chair Vice-Chair Secretary Treasurer

Date: May 25, 2016
To: Nick Gottuso, Coastside District Coordinator,
San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services
Cc: Supervisor Don Horsley
From: Midcoast Community Council/ Chris Johnson, Chair
Subject: **Midcoast tsunami evacuation routes & signs**

The MCC would like to have an up-to-date map showing recommended Midcoast tsunami evacuation routes and sites that we could post and distribute where appropriate. We have the local inundation map, sirens that are tested monthly, and some street signage that is confusing or counter-intuitive.

Tsunami signs currently direct the 227 families at Pillar Ridge to go north on Airport, east on Cypress and then south on Highway 1 past Surfers' Beach, which is a very indirect route from the periphery of the evacuation zone into the heart of it. Likewise people are directed out of Princeton on north Capistrano, then south on Hwy 1 past Surfers' Beach. Everyone in the harbor is directed south on Hwy 1 from the Capistrano intersection.

It is understandable that if an evacuation of the inundation zone is announced with a generous estimated lag time, people may choose to leave the Midcoast by going south past Surfers' Beach, but it doesn't seem wise for tsunami signage to direct those unfamiliar with the area further into danger, downhill to the water's edge and a likely traffic jam.

There is a marked tsunami evacuation site at California and Weinke Way (thank you for that), but very few local people living in the tsunami zone are aware of it and none of the evacuation signage mentioned above directs people to it. We would like to remedy that.

Thank you for your assistance, and please let us know how we can be of help.