

# Midcoast Community Council

*An elected Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors*

*representing Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramar*

PO Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038-0248 | [midcoastcommunitycouncil.org](http://midcoastcommunitycouncil.org)

**Len Erickson | Michelle Weil | Claire Toutant | Barbra Mathewson | Dan Haggerty | Dave Olson**

Chair

Vice-Chair

Secretary

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Date: November 18, 2020

To: Nina Hofmarcher, Environmental Planner, Caltrans

Cc: Don Horsley, San Mateo County Supervisor  
Erik Martinez, Coastal Program Analyst, California Coastal Commission

From: Midcoast Community Council

Subject: **Caltrans SR1 Traffic Operational Systems Improvements Project**

We appreciate the changes that Caltrans has made to the SR1 Traffic Operational Systems Improvements Project in response to the Midcoast Community Council's letter dated October 28, 2020. This letter summarizes the changes agreed upon and the Council's approval of the project as revised.

The overall purpose of the project has been reconsidered to concentrate on safety-oriented traffic management, including a focus on emergencies. The Variable Message Signs (VMS) on the Midcoast will be reserved for critical advisories such as evacuation instructions, incident information and tunnel or road closures. They will not be used for non-emergency communications such as travel time, weather advisories, or local events.

The signs will be off most of the time, and a Dark Sky Friendly approach will be used. If it is necessary to light the signs at night, a dimmer will adjust the brightness for the surrounding conditions.

Because the Variable Message Signs will need to operate in an emergency where power may be out, they will include emergency battery backup power.

Finally, we look forward to working with Caltrans to determine the ideal locations for the Variable Message Signs, including potentially relocating the two VMS to more developed locations on the Midcoast rather than the proposed locations at Coral Reef Road (Location 5) and South of Moss Beach (Location 6).

Thank you for responding to the concerns stated in our previous letter, and we look forward to working together on this and future projects.

MIDCOAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
s/Len Erickson Chair