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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Date: January 12, 2015

To: James Porter, Director SMC Public Works

Cc: Supervisor Don Horsley, Parks Director Marlene Finley

From: Dave Olson, Chair, Midcoast Community Council

Subject: Request for removal of streetlight on Beach St, Moss Beach

A streetlight at the end of Beach Street in Moss Beach was recently replaced after an extended period of non-operation.

This light shines brightly on the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve, and negatively impacts public enjoyment of the Reserve. It may also have an impact on the marine life at the reserve.

Several council members have been contacted about this streetlight by multiple residents of the area. I have seen it's impact myself. The Department of Public Works initially installed one of the proposed new LED streetlights, but after resident complaints, replaced it with an older low pressure sodium light. Even with the older and visually dimmer light, the light pollution on the Reserve is quite noticeable.

It seems that the streetlight at this location (#19408) has little benefit for safety, either for residents or visitors, since the street is a dead end, with very little vehicle traffic. The small amount of traffic present on this section of street is typically very low speed, since it is short, and a dead end. A guard rail with reflectors is installed at the end of the street, and reflector posts are installed between the street and the swale on the east side.

The Midcoast Community Council therefore requests that this streetlight (#19408) be removed, to benefit public enjoyment of the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve in the evenings.

We understand from discussions with the Department of Public Works that there is no current process for requesting removal of streetlights, and we are therefore making a direct request for removal of this streetlight.