

BURNHAM STRIP COMMITTEE  
of  
MIDCOAST PARK LANDS (MPL)  
EL GRANADA, CA 94018  
April 27, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

re: Highway 1 Safety and Mobility Improvement Study  
concerning the Burnham Strip & Surfers' Beach Erosion in El Granada

The subject land for potential Highway 1 realignment is within the Daniel Burnham View Corridor.

The view corridor is an integral part of Burnham's plan which the Chicago Art institute recognizes as a "national treasure of landscape architecture" and is indeed listed in the SMC Inventory of Historical Resources. Granada was designed in 1906 as a showpiece town for Ocean Shore Railroad. Note that the amphitheater design of Granada with its broad ocean front which affords sweeping views has been kept intact with the exception of 4 structures. The view corridor was bisected by Highway 1 but both the East and West sides in their entirety remain a scenic view corridor.

In 1978 The Montara-Moss Beach-El Granada Community Plan established the guiding principle for this land reflecting Burnham's vision by designating it as a community park, thus its zoning as "*Community Open Space Conservation*." The land is designated rural land on the urban Midcoast and was never intended for residential use.

The Burnham Strip Committee of Midcoast Parklands is dedicated to the preservation of the "Burnham Strip" for public use as a park, just as it was designated <http://plan.sanmateo.org/page33.html> in the Montara - Moss Beach - El Granada Community Plan of 1978. <http://plan.sanmateo.org> (click link to view entire Montara-Moss Beach-El Granada Community Plan.) Also note that the Burnham Strip is Rural Designated Land on the Midcoast .

- The Midcoast of San Mateo County has repeatedly voted in surveys to preserve and protect parks, recreation, open space and its semi-rural character and will fight any highway realignment which encourages over development and the destruction of its semi rural character as well as any devaluation of the community's private properties which lie along the strip.
- Erosion control must be implemented along Surfers' Beach, by adjusting the breakwater, before considering highway realignment. The Corps of Engineers and San Mateo County Harbor District are currently studying this problem caused by the improper construction of the breakwater.

- If the highway fails before erosion is corrected, then boulders and repaving or a bridge can be constructed in an emergency which should last many years, and realignment should be done only as a last resort and only in the vicinity of the erosion, as depicted in the “Burnham Strip Park Vision.”

Note: If the highway in the Big Sur area can be rebuilt every year when it fails, then the same can be done here where it's insignificant compared to Big Sur.

- With Federal, State and Local Governments cutting budgets, it is imperative that emergency repairs of our State's infrastructure, especially bridges, public transportation and freeway potholes be completed before any undertakings of a new and larger highway 1 is attempted.
- Trails and safe crossings can continue to be implemented without realigning highway 1.

Note: “A Vision of Fun in the Park” is only a concept of possibilities. Town Hall Meetings will need to be held to solicit a Community consensus of suggestions for the park.

“El Granada is the best-designed community in the country.”  
-- Dan Burden (Walkable Communities, Inc.)

Thank you for your consideration,

The Burnham Strip Committee  
of  
Midcoast Park Lands (MPL)

Other links to the Burnham Strip effort:

<http://www.savethestrip.org/index.html>

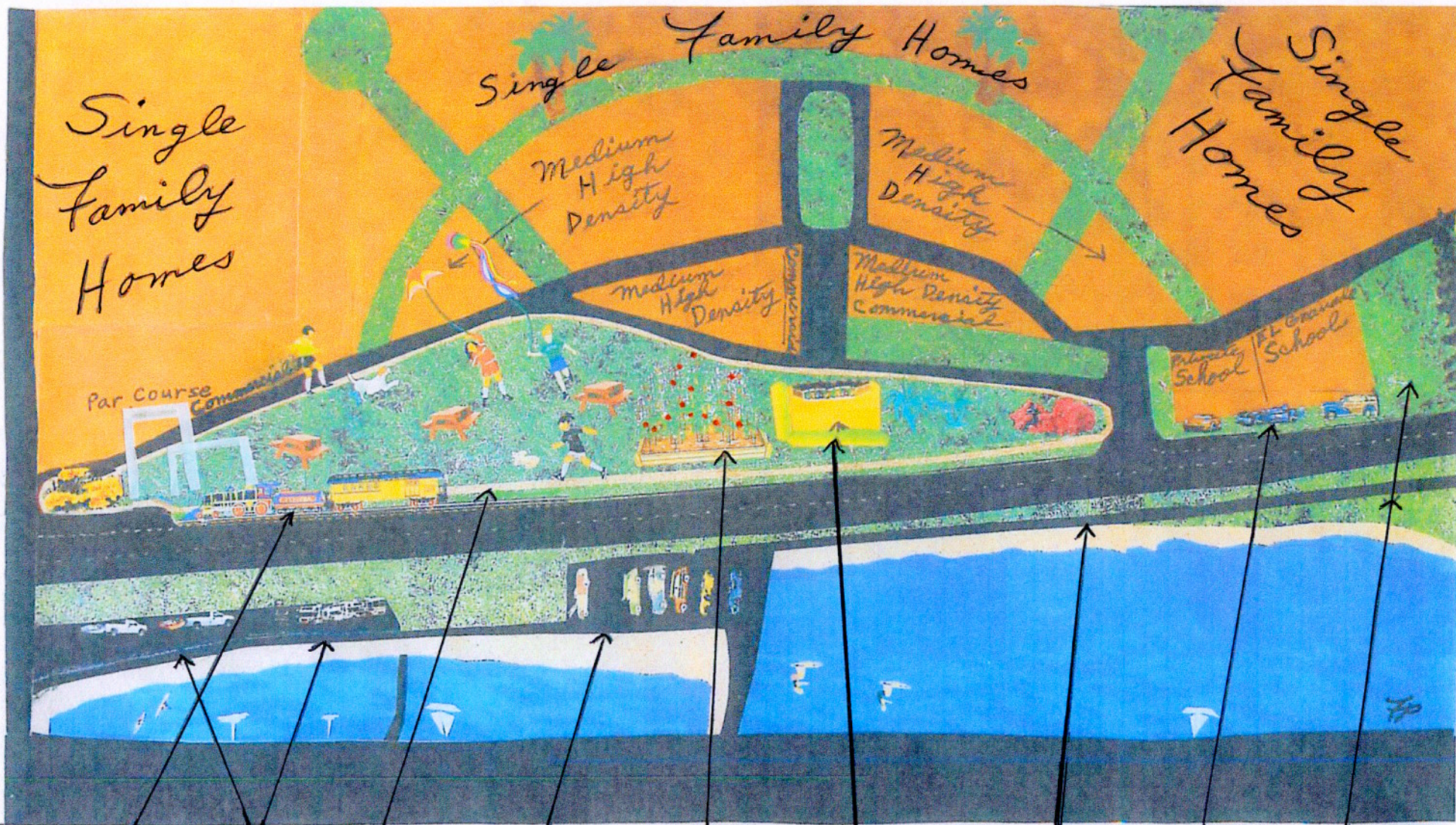
[http://savethestrip.org/files/Focus\\_application-Final.pdf](http://savethestrip.org/files/Focus_application-Final.pdf)

Attachment



# A Vision of "Fun in the Park" Burnham Strip, EL Granada, CA

Mar, 2007



Return of  
The Train  
or  
Trolley

Preferred  
Public  
Parking  
in Harbor

Perimeter  
Trail

Public  
Parking

Community  
Garden

Town Square  
and Stage

Coastal  
Trail

Overflow  
or Park  
Parking

Mirada Surf Park  
East & West

\* Must address beach erosion

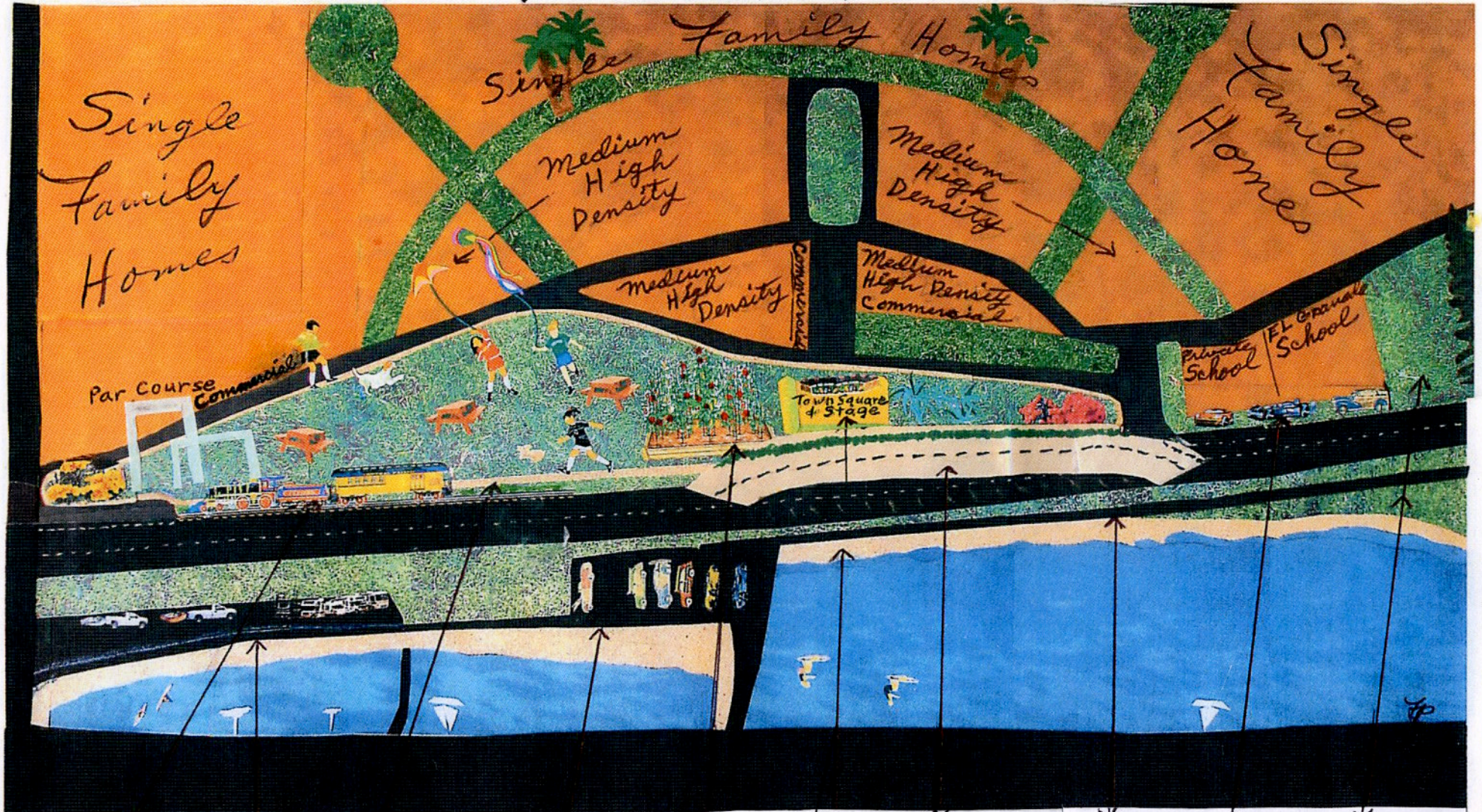
Note: Most of El Granada is already developed

by Burnham Strip Committ  
of Midcoast Park Lands (MPL)



# A Vision of "Fun in the Park" Burnham Strip, EL Granada, CA (with Highway 1 Realignment, only if necessary)

April 2011



Return of  
The Train  
or  
Trolley

Preferred  
Public  
Parking  
in Harbor

Perimeter  
Trail

Public  
Parking

Community  
Garden

\* Important: Must Address Beach Erosion, First  
Note: Most of El Granada is already developed

Realigned Hwy 1  
on Hwy  
Right-of-Way &  
West-side  
Parking

Coastal  
Trail

Overflow  
or Park  
Parking

Mirada Surf Park  
East & West  
Parking

by Burnham Strip Committee  
of Midcoast Park Lands (MPL)