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Congress of the United States  
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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
READINESS

OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATION

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND  
GOVERNMENT REFORM

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER: ENERGY POLICY, HEALTH CARE,  
AND ENTITLEMENTS  
NATIONAL SECURITY

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
TASK FORCE

Vice Chair

May 24, 2013

California Coastal Commission  
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105

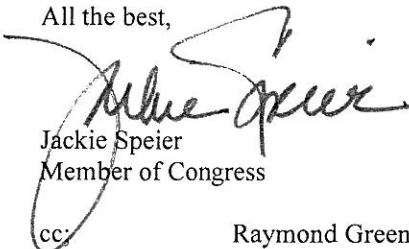
Dear Coastal Commissioners:

I am in receipt of the enclosed letter from the Department of Homeland Security and I wish to lend my support to the department's message. The boat launch ramp at Pillar Point Harbor needs to be dredged and I urge you to do what is necessary and appropriate to ensure that dredging happens in a timely manner.

If someone informs the commission that other choices for disposal of the dredged materials exist and that these options are superior to the current proposal, this might be their opinion. However, if such a choice even remotely relies upon as-yet unappropriated federal funds then the likelihood of that option happening within even a few years is non-existent. If existing funds might be used for some other plan, I'd be very leery of accepting that line of reasoning. Existing funds for all federal agencies are being cut significantly through the actions of the sequester and priorities of federal agencies change regularly so that even longstanding commitments made by federal agencies are often delayed or cancelled. In short, anyone who seriously believes that a funded project is something that can be delayed or transformed into something new is not realistic in their beliefs about the current federal budget situation.

I am concerned that the operations of the Department of Homeland Security may be impaired. The Coast Guard commander for our area recently explained to me the impacts of the sequester upon deployment of his ships. The harbor plays a role in marine rescue and law enforcement activities and while these operations might be possible from more distant points we also face the simple reality that time and distance matter in law enforcement and search and rescue operations. We must, as state and federal government agencies, work together to maximize the public's interest.

All the best,

  
Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

cc:

Raymond Greenlee  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
Department of Homeland Security  
630 Sansome Street, Suite 890  
San Francisco, CA 94111

San Mateo County Harbor Commission  
400 Oyster Point Blvd.  
South San Francisco, CA 94080

KJS/bp

*Homeland Security Investigations*  
*Office of the Special Agent in Charge*  
630 Sansome Street, Suite 890  
San Francisco, California 94111



Homeland  
Security

May 6, 2013

California Coastal Commission  
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: PERMIT WAIVER FOR SAN MATEO COUNTY HARBOR DISTRICT  
MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF BOAT LAUNCH RAMP AT PILLAR POINT HARBOR

Commissioners:

Homeland Security Investigations, Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST), San Francisco in partnership with San Mateo County Sheriff's Office is among the users of the Pillar Point Harbor boat launch ramp. Our joint effort with state and local law enforcement agencies allows us to protect, secure and respond to situations that threaten public safety and national border security. The Pillar Point boat launch ramp is essential to carry our mission.

As one of the many users of the Pillar Point boat launch ramp, I urge you to approve a permit waiver for the Harbor District to immediately dredge its Pillar Point boat launch ramp before it is completely silted up and closed. I have been advised that there are currently no other sites available and permitted for disposal and that the Harbor District is committed in identifying other sites for future dredging needs.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Group Supervisor Lee Brown at (415)844-5924.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond D. Greenlee".

Raymond D. Greenlee  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge