

MidCoast Community Council

P.O. Box 64

Moss Beach, CA 94038

An elected Municipal Advisory Council of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Serving 12,000 Coastal Residents

July 29, 2002

Board of Directors
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

Dear Board Members and District Staff,

At our July 24 meeting, the MidCoast Community Council reviewed the Coastal Annexation Draft Program EIR and voted unanimously to forward the following comments.

We commend the District for the great care taken to solicit public input as this process moves forward. We appreciate the thoroughness of the draft document and recognize that although such extensive work was not required, the District chose to take a proactive approach by producing a programmatic EIR for the proposed annexation.

In 1998, Measure F, the advisory vote taken to determine support for District expansion, passed overwhelmingly in all MidCoast precincts. The many advantages of inclusion within the boundary of MROSD are even more relevant today than they were at the time of that election. The District's ability to provide expanded services for fire safety, management of undeveloped and currently neglected open lands, management of lands owned by private individuals/land trusts and policies to insure the sustainability of local agricultural lands are highly valued and eagerly anticipated benefits to the coastal community,

Because the District must operate under existing County ordinances, annexation would create no new restrictions on legal development. We applaud the policy of acquiring agricultural lands only after a public process to develop a specific agricultural management plan has been concluded.

We found one discrepancy in the demarcation of the northern boundary of the proposed annexation area as shown on Map 3 (topography) and I will work directly with your staff to see that this is corrected.

In closing, we again emphasize the support of the MidCoast Community Council and the vast majority of our constituents for annexation of the coast to the District.

Sincerely,



Chuck Kozak, Chair