

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

November 12, 2001

Supervisor Rich Gordon
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Dear Supervisor Gordon,

At our meeting on October 12, 2001, the MidCoast Community Council reviewed our prioritization of the recommendations contained in the ABAG Coastside Subregional Planning Project. We appreciate your willingness to participate in ongoing discussions with the goal of implementing the recommendations contained in the document. We have been informed that approximately \$5000 of the original grant money remains for implementation efforts. Arranged in order of importance, we recommend action on the following elements contained in the report.

We begin by emphasizing that the organizing principal which has guided our discussion is the importance of improving countywide awareness of the Coastside's unique character, irreplaceable resources and special needs.

1. The MidCoast needs a regional transportation plan which includes a Master Plan for Highway 1 as well as a traffic management plan within local communities. The Council requests that staff time be allocated for this endeavor. A parallel trail along Highway 1 for non-motorized vehicles, an investigation of the feasibility of a park and ride lot at the Half Moon Bay Airport and the organization of carpools for public and private school student transportation should be included.

Also a top priority is the completion of the sensitive habitat mapping project currently underway and the creation of mapping which includes open space.

2. The Local Coastal Program Review should address land use revisions necessary to alleviate traffic congestion and preserve coastal resources. Items to be investigated include the possibility of rezoning some residential land and the specification on parcels which should not be rezoned for commercial development.

3. We urge the development of specific proposals which address the construction and completion of the Coastside Trail and the creation of neighborhood parks and pocket parks in areas that are steep and hilly.

We support a review of beach access and support facilities to establish priorities for the development of future coastal recreational facilities. The current Midcoast Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment is a potential vehicle to move forward on these issues. Improved recreation facilities can positively affect tourism and economic vitality within the region.

4. We support the improvement of communication and coordination between local governments and State agencies to meet the goals outlined in #3 above.

5. Regarding commute solutions, we discussed the possibility of involving SAMCEDA in helping to provide information on the availability of high speed internet services, thus encouraging telecommuting. In addition we stress that transportation solutions must be evenly weighted between ride sharing/commute alternatives and land use policy revisions.

6. Economic vitality remains an item of importance but in the view of a majority of the Council members, it is not of immediate concern at this time. The need for additional office space in the region should be assessed. The Half Moon Bay/ Coastside Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau is working on an Economic Sustainability plan. Varying points of view must be acknowledged as this process moves forward.

Again, we appreciate your encouragement and your assistance. We are aware that the best policy decisions are those that are made through a process of careful consideration, ample public input and solution-based innovation.

I look forward to our next meeting with the Mayors of Half Moon Bay and Pacifica. Please call me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Laura Stein, Chair
MidCoast Community Council
650-712-0225

cc: Hon. Deborah Ruddock, Mayor, City of Half Moon Bay
Hon. Jim Vreeland, Mayor, City of Pacifica
Project Planner George Bergman
Superintendent of Parks Gary Lockman