

# RICHARD GORDON

Board of Supervisors  
County of San Mateo

*Postmark  
4/9/98*

April 9, 1998

David Spiselman, Chair  
Mid-Coast Community Council  
P.O. Box 64  
Moss Beach, CA 94038

Dear David,

At the beginning of March I met with you, Laura Stein, and Paul Perkovic to discuss a number of issues that were of concern to the Mid-Coast Community Council. The purpose of this letter is to review those concerns and identify progress being made to meet them.

## 1. Notice of County Actions:

You were seeking to have a more timely notice of actions pending with the County, especially those actions related to planning, building, and zoning. On March 19th Paul Koenig sent you a letter detailing a response to your request. In that letter he suggested that the MCCC adopt a delegated case management approach for projects. It is my understanding from your comments last night at the MCCC meeting that you are moving forward to establish this form of approach.

## 2. Appeal Fees:

You asked about options for the waiver of appeal fees. I would first like to clarify that as a member of the Board of Supervisors I cannot request that an item from planning, zoning, or building be appealed and thereby cause an appeal to occur without the imposition of a fee. Should I request an appeal, I would have to do so as a private citizen and would be subject to the fee. Further, if I file an appeal I have taken a position of advocacy and would be precluded from being involved in final action on such an appeal in front of the Board of Supervisors.

Further, we have no mechanism for waiving appeal fees for anyone.

In relationship to having the Mid-Coast Community Council file an appeal, I would hope that by increasing communication between the Council and the County that we can significantly reduce the number of issues which in the thinking of the Council require an appeal. I believe that if we work together on issues such as Floor Area Ratio and Design Review we can have an impact on some areas of possible appeal. I am also hopeful that the process of discussion of incorporation/annexation will provide us with a better understanding of the development needs and issues. I am not naive enough to believe that increased communication will eliminate the community's need to appeal certain decisions. In those cases I believe that it is best if the appeal come from an individual in the community (perhaps with a community contribution mechanism to cover the cost of the appeal). I believe that having the appeal come from an individual as opposed to the Mid-Coast Community Council frees the Council to maintain its advisory role to the Board of Supervisors. That advisory role should be to help us understand the direction desired by the community in a pro-active way which would hopefully reduce the need to react to County activities.

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**3. Publications Order Form:**

You requested that fees be waived on the Annual Publication Order Form from the Planning and Building Division. It is my understanding that this has been done.

**4. Incorporation/Annexation Study:**

In early March you raised concerns about the timing of the study. I believe that last night's discussion of the draft of the fiscal section of the study has initiated the process of consideration. We promised last night that you would get a copy of the draft of the full report within a month and that the final report would be ready in two months.

**5. Mirada Surf EIR Scoping:**

You had requested a delay in the scoping session. As you know we did move the date and a group from the Council met with Paul Koenig and Terry Burnes to review the scoping process.

**6. Budget Issues:**

Joe Caruso is working with Mary Hobbs to clarify the issues related to this year's budget. I have asked the County Manager to establish a distinct budget center for the Mid-Coast Community Council so that we can establish a more user-friendly budget and reporting process for next year.

**7. Parking and Business Cards:**

Joe Caruso has taken care of both of these issues.

David, if I have missed something or there remains any outstanding concerns relative to the issues discussed in this letter, please contact me. My goal remains to work in a positive and collaborative manner with the Mid-Coast Community Council.

Sincerely,



Richard Gordon