

COMMUNITY VOICE

of the Midcoast Community Council

DEVIL'S SLIDE BYPASS COMMUNITY MEETING


Wednesday,
October 20, 1993
7:30 pm

FARALLON VIEW SCHOOL

San Mateo County Supervisor Ted Lempert will moderate a Community Meeting to hear about the Devil's Slide Bypass. The meeting will be held at Farallon View School in Montara on Wednesday, October 20, 1993, beginning at 7:30 pm. CPR1, the Committee for the Permanent Repair of Highway One, and Cal Trans will make short presentations, the balance of the meeting will be devoted solely to public comment.

Currently, Cal Trans, having won the latest legal challenge in its program to construct the Bypass, is gearing up to spend \$100 million to bring a four lane highway over Montara Mountain beginning in

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CALENDAR

MCC Meeting Schedule

Oct 20	Dec 8
Nov 10	Dec 22
Nov 24	

(second and fourth Wednesday)

All MCC meetings are held at St. Catherine's Hospital Community Room at 7:00pm.
Check your post office and other community locations for copies of the agenda.

ELECTION November 2, 1993

This year the Council has four seats open for the upcoming election. Two incumbents have chosen not to seek re-election: Nadia Bledsoe and Kit Dove.

Three individuals, Joe Fitting, Suzanne Hays-Kane and David Spiselman join incumbents Sally Campbell and James Marsh in the search for the four seats.

The Council wants the public to have some exposure to these five candidates for the four seats and has included short statements from them.

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EL GRANADA QUARRY PARK MOVES CLOSER TO REALITY

by Bob Brown

The County Board of Supervisors will soon consider purchasing the former El Granada Quarry for a community park. The 40 acre parcel was sold as part of the bankruptcy proceedings of the former J.L. Johnston estate. The County's purchase, however, is intended only to give residents time to arrange for community acquisition of the property. Funds would have to be obtained within a limited period

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COASTSIDE OFFICE

Supervisor Ted Lempert has established a mid-coast office.
See page 3 for details.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nadia Bledsoe, Chair
728-3363

Angela Meyer, Vice-chair
728-7504

Susan Ayers
726-5199

Robert Brown
726-7836

Sally Campbell
728-8005

Kit Dove
726-3752

James Marsh
726-3589

Call us anytime
with your ideas

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COMMUNITY VOICE

October, 1993
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El Granada

QUARRY PARK,

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of time to reimburse the County for the purchase price, now estimated to be approximately \$230,000. An organization must also be formed to own and maintain the site.

Supervisor Ted Lempert, who has been instrumental in assuring that the property was not sold for private development, stated "The Quarry Project presents an outstanding opportunity for the residents of the Midcoast to have a community park. I certainly look forward to working with residents to develop a funding mechanism, whereby this park can become a reality at an outstanding value."

The Quarry property is located at the base of the El Granada foothills with access from Columbus Street. It is presently used to stable horses. The former quarry, with its steep cliffs and surrounding eucalyptus grove, has been compared to San Francisco's Stern Grove, although it is presently a "diamond in the rough."

As local author and historian Barbara Vanderwerf notes in her book "Granada, A Synonym for Paradise," the quarry was originally used around the turn of the century to produce the crushed granite for El Granada's streets. Interestingly, the 1905 town plan for Granada, by the famous landscape architect Daniel Burnham, showed the quarry site plus 600 acres of adjacent hillside land as park land,

and predicted "in years to come this will be the picnic ground of the coastside." Although 1990 land costs make acquisition of 640 acres financially unfeasible, purchase of the quarry for a park site would at least realize a portion of the vision of the town's original planners.

A community survey conducted two Saturday mornings at the El Granada, Montara and Moss Beach post offices found exceptional support for acquisition of the site for park land. Of nearly 400 surveyed residents, 96% favored community purchased of the property.

Asked how much they would be willing to pay for purchase of the park site, 65% indicated a willingness to pay up to \$50, and almost half of those surveyed were willing to pay up to \$100. In terms of desired park improvements, 89% wanted trails, 73% desired picnic facilities, 34% favored fields or sports courts, and 36% wanted play equipment for children.

Next steps include finalization of the County's agreement to purchase the property, which should be concluded in October, and community study on desired park improvements and the best means of funding the purchase and continuing operation costs. To help determine possible costs, the County has hired landscape architect Peter Callander. Callander will prepare three park plans and cost estimates, ranging from minimal improvements

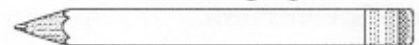
to more extensive facilities. To direct Callander's efforts, a community meeting is planned for late October or early November. All Coastside residents are welcome to attend and offer their input as to desired improvements and design ideas! Watch postings at the post offices for meeting details.



Worth Noting . . .

AGENDA MAILINGS:

If you would like to receive copies of the agenda for MCC meetings, send us your self-stamped, self-addressed envelopes. Sorry, no checks or cash please, since we cannot charge for our meeting agenda.



PLEASE VOTE

ON

NOVEMBER 2!

DEVIL'S SLIDE BYPASS COMMUNITY MEETING

continued from page one

Linda Mar and reconnecting to the existing alignment near the Chart House.

The Bypass has spurred considerable controversy over the years but little if any comment has been sought from our Community. This is your chance to SPEAK UP and to MAKE YOUR VIEW HEARD. We invite you and your neighbors to attend. □

TED LEMPERT'S COASTSIDE OFFICE

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Supervisor Ted Lempert has established a MidCoast office for the Board of Supervisors in the Princeton Maintenance yard on California Ave. Office hours are 2-6 pm on the second and fourth Wednesdays (to match the MC3 meetings) and the first and third Tuesdays (to match the HMB City Council meetings).

Supervisor Lempert's office phone number is 415-728-0372



PHONE NUMBERS

HMB Fire Protection	726-5213
Montara Fire	728-3022
St. Catherine's Hospital	728-5521
Sherriff	911
HMB Police	726-2022
Highway Patrol	557-1094
Board of Supervisors	363-4123
Airport	726-1203
Cal Trans	510-286-4578
Harbor District	726-4723
Midcoast CC Jim Marsh	726-3589

CHAIR'S Column by Nadia Bledsoe

As my term as MCC member and chair draws to a close, I recall the time when we launched our campaigns. To precinct door-to-door, I requested from the county a roster of those who had voted in the last "small" election, and I was amazed at its brevity. It seems many don't vote unless there are statewide or national races.

On November 2, just such a "small" election will be held. It would be a shame if there would be low turn-out, as some critical decisions will be made at your polling place. Proposition 172 will have a great effect on public safety in the county, and Proposition 174 will greatly influence the future of public education. The race that most directly affects us is the Midcoast Community Council one; five coastsiders are running for four seats.

Over the next two years I hope that more community members will come to decide to run for this office, when three more seats are available. It has been a rewarding and educational experience for me to serve this community and I look forward to seeing some new faces on the MCC.

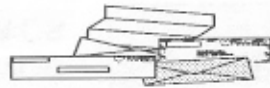
The Candidates' Forum on October 27th should be an interesting one, and please vote on November 2nd!

SO WHAT HAS THE COUNCIL DONE FOR YOU LATELY?

- Put together a road survey administered by the DPW—the discussions are just beginning.
- Negotiated with the County to help us provide a park at the El Granada Quarry.
- Wrote the first-ever county wide "View & Sunlight" ordinance.
- Received funding from the County to pay for communication/community development.
- Stopped the State Park Service from paving over the Chart House bluff.
- Worked with Pacifica residents' Pedro Point Improvement Assoc. to influence Cal Trans about Devil's Slide.
- Sought to educate the County Planners, and Administrators about the big view of the MidCoast: transit, transportation (highways, carpooling, safety, stoplights), water, land use, utilities, community standards.

What can you do? Become involved in both the Community and the Council in those areas in which you have an interest. The Council needs to know what our Community needs and wants. Communication is a two-way street. We need to hear from you; we'd like to make use of your skills and energy. MCTV airs the Council meetings, and St. Catherine's Hospital has provided their Fireside Room to us for our meetings.

LETTERS



MIDCOAST STREET IMPROVEMENTS

After much discussion, many meetings, and input from members of the community, the Board of Supervisors put their stamp of approval on the street improvement survey to be mailed to property owners in the unincorporated area of the coast. The Department of Public Works expects the actual survey to be in the mail around September 16, and is requesting that it be completed and returned by October 1.

Although longer than originally planned by members of the Ad Hoc Street Improvement Committee, the survey is very comprehensive and will give all of us a chance to voice our opinions on the type of street and road improvements we would like to see in our community. As many of you are aware, present road standards call for the placement of sidewalks and parking bays if any improvement is made to the roadway. While many residents would like to eliminate the dust problem by having their streets paved, they do not necessarily want to see sidewalks and parking bays implemented as part of the paving project.

Hopefully, the results of the survey will enable the Board of Supervisors to get a clearer picture of the wishes of the property owners of the Mid Coast, and incorporate a community street improvement plan more in keeping with the special ambience of this area we are lucky enough to call "home."

PLEASE complete the survey when you receive it, and return as requested. You live here, your voice is important, and you can make a difference.

Fay Rudio, Montara

VIEW PROTECTION

An MCC subcommittee has been formed to work on an ordinance to protect scenic views from being blocked by certain fast growing trees.

Recently, council members have received an increasing number of complaints from homeowners who are gradually losing their ocean views because of the growth of neighbors' trees. Unfortunately in many cases, the homeowners have been unable to negotiate a mutually satisfactory solution. Currently, there is nothing in the County ordinances which would regulate this, leaving those whose views are blocked with no legal recourse.

The proposed ordinance would be mindful of the County's Significant Tree Ordinance, which provides protection for certain trees and a permitting process for tree cutting. Under the proposed views ordinance, neighbors would be encouraged to try to settle on their own, but, if that fails, there would be provision for mediation and arbitration. A civil suit would be last resort.

The MCC is expected to review the ordinance in October, and vote on whether to recommend it to the Board of Supervisors for adoption as a County Ordinance. As always, Coastside residents are urged to write a Council members and come to MCC meetings to express their opinions on this and other issues.

Angela Meyer, Moss Beach

DEVIL'S SLIDE

The history of the Devil's Slide project is long, difficult, and hard to understand why Cal Trans has fought so strongly for a highway that would ravage and destroy our wondrously beautiful Montara Mountain, with its magnificent views, rare plant and animal communities, and its precious quietude. Doubly precious because it is so very close to heavily populated parts of the Bay Area.

Is it for safety's sake as Cal Trans claims? No, that cannot be, since the Bypass would be so steep, lost in fog for many days each year, and a much faster road than our own highway 1. For years, Cal trans has neglected the repairs and improvement needed on the current alignment. It took a subsidence of the slide in 1983 for them to dewater the slide, and since that time it has not moved. What is it that causes Cal Trans to tell untruths about the M.D.A. design and the effects of the M.D.A. on the ocean environment (Is the tunnel also "impossible"?) and to be silent about the dangers of the Bypass; to ignore the policies of the Local Coastal Plan, which says that all we need on the current alignment is an uphill passing lane and more bus service to the Midcoast.

The Bypass was designed in 1958 to bring a population of 110,000 people to the Coastside. The current project is essentially the same road, graded wide enough to become four and eventually six lanes. Cal Trans will wait patiently for the right political climate and then widen the road, there is no doubt of that. Cal Trans looks backward to when unbridled growth was America's aim, to the era before the environmental movement began. We hear the bypass described as "Neanderthal," a "Dinosaur," and a project that is dead but "won't lie down." We have learned our lesson, but Cal Trans has not. Nor do they care to save us money by widening the much less expensive M.D.A. modified version.

Who will prevail in this battle for the mountain—this gigantic government agency or the people, those of us who desire to preserve, protect and defend the few remaining glories of the Bay Area before they too are covered over with houses, shopping, industry and highways. It can happen and it *will* unless thousands of us become the foot soldiers who say "No! not here!" There is much you can do to help, so join CPR-1 and get busy. Time is running out!

Nancy Maule, Montara

CANDIDATES ' PAGE

SALLY CAMPBELL

The first two years have been spent to a large degree in establishing and opening up lines of communication with the various departments and supervisors, which at the onset was vital to the success and longevity of the council. Growing community involvement and support is the flip side of the coin, which needs focus if we are to continue to move forward in a positive direction. What we must not lose perspective on is that we are elected by the people of our communities to represent them. Along with this I pledge to continue to work with our communities, forming positive solutions to the issues that face us all, and to present the wishes of our communities effectively to the Board of Supervisors, who set policy and make decisions that affect all of us.

JOE FITTING

Having just recently moved to the mid coast, though I've lived in the greater bay area for most of my adult life, I am aware of some of the issues facing this council. My interest in serving on the council is to bring my training as a Biologist and educator to the community in the hopes of preserving our open spaces and preventing the loss, waste, and contamination of our natural resources. But most assuredly, to acquire support for our schools, libraries and parks.

SUZANNE KANE HAYES

No statement available at press time.

JIM MARSH

The MidCoast Community Council has made great strides since its inception two years ago.

The Council has listened and spoken up for our concerns.

What do we want for our community?—park(s), standards for roads, viewshed, and open space; improvements in services: fire, life, safety, hospitals, libraries?

There is much to be done. We have a wealth of talent, ideas and energy here and with the continued support of the Community, the MidCoast can become "the Jewel of the Coast."

I would be proud to serve the people of the MidCoast for a second term.

DAVID SPISELMAN

David Spiselman has over twenty years business experience, including small business startups. He earned an MBA in finance and taught at New York University. He has proposed that the MCC set guidelines for determining what is in the best interest of the community. As a midcoast home owner, he is concerned about property values and midcoast life style. As a voter he feels that the Council frequently misses the concerns of voters on issues brought before them. He is interested in promoting better communications between the residents and the Council. He has attended almost every meeting of the Council since its inception.

Mr. Spiselman represents disenfranchised voters who feel that their views are often misrepresented and underrepresented by the council. He wants Council policy based solely on community views. He proposed installing a telephone answering machine at the Council office, to request opinions from residents on issues pending vote by the Council. Mr. Spiselman believes that he can effectively represent the community's views on the Council.

Self-Mailer: Please fold in thirds so that address panel is on the outside. Staple, stamp and mail.



Midcoast Community Council
PO BOX 64
Moss Beach, CA 94038

Place
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Here

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Tell us what you think the most important issues are so we can better serve you.

Subscribe to the MCC Newsletter . . .

The Midcoast Community Council is operating on donations in the form of volunteers and financial contributions from you. We need your support and welcome your contributions. Please fill in the form below and return to Midcoast Community Council, PO Box 64, Moss Beach, CA 94083.

- \$15 basic subscription \$50 sponsor \$10 seniors/students
 additional contributions of any amount welcome

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____

If you can volunteer your time/services, please list what you would like to do: _____

Midcoast Community Council

% Richard L Silver, Clerk
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Redwood City, CA 94063

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