

Midcoast Community Council

*An elected Municipal Advisory Council to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Serving 12,000 coastal residents*

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January 23, 2012

President Adrienne Tissier and Members
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
400 County Center
Redwood City, CA 94063

Subject: BoS Consent Agenda Item 27 (1/24/12) – Resolution in support of the application for Priority Development Area status for the Midcoast Urban Area.

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The staff report for this item states that the “concept of a PDA for the Midcoast was discussed with the MCC in 2011”. None of the four continuing councilmembers who were on the 2011 MCC, feel that an adequate discussion of the PDA concept occurred. We have received public comment with the same concerns.

We don’t see the urgency to bypass the public process due to potential delay in one possible funding opportunity. The Hwy 1 Mobility Study conceptual plan has not yet received public comment and approval, following which development of an Action Plan would still be needed. Therefore, the prospect of a delay of one year on project funding does not seem critical. It is also important that project reviews and permitting not be rushed due to the pressure of grant-spending deadlines.

The staff report states that the County proposed the Midcoast Urban Area as a Mixed-Use Corridor type of Growth Opportunity Area (GOA) in 2011, but this was not included in the ABAG 2011 Vision Scenario. When the “Rural Corridor” place type was created in September 2011, the County determined to apply for Midcoast PDA status under that definition. There was abundant time to bring this idea to the MCC for community discussion.

We note that applications for Priority Development Area designation are received and reviewed on a quarterly basis. We ask that you delay consideration of application for Midcoast PDA designation for 45 days in order to give the community time to study and thoroughly understand the ramifications of this step.

Thank you for your consideration.
s/Bill Kehoe
Chair, Midcoast Community Council