Recent MCC meetings have elevated resident concerns about traffic safety in Montara and Moss Beach. Herein, we request immediate funding and priority for a traffic study as the first step in preventing the next fatal accident.

Background:

Over the past several years there have been accidents at unsigned intersections in Montara near Farallone View Elementary School, almost - but not quite - involving serious injury to children. School staff and residents requested stop signs and/or additional traffic controls at 5 intersections near the school. The MCC unanimously endorsed that request in a Feb. 23, 2022 letter. In response, San Mateo County Department of Public Works conducted a STOP Sign Warrant Study and determined that the requirements for 4-way stop signs were not met, according to the required traffic code. The MCC held several additional discussions of these matters at regular meetings during 2022 and in calls with DPW staff, and held a separate Montara Traffic Safety Workshop on Nov. 1, attended by Ann Stillman and Khoa Vo of DPW.

While DPW is receptive to community concerns, they state that the desired signage, or a lesser equivalent such as 2-way Stop signs or Yield signs, cannot be installed without a comprehensive traffic study to evaluate the overall traffic operational impacts of the entire community. Since the school traffic safety issue was raised, further safety concerns have been raised about Sunshine Valley Road and the eastern side of Highway 1 between Moss Beach and Montara both involving bicyclists as well as pedestrians.

The County has already endorsed several initiatives which bear on this matter: Safe Routes To School, Complete Streets, and the Connect the Coastside plan.

Request:

We request the County fund and/or seek funding from Federal, State, and/or Local sources to conduct a community-wide traffic study to address the traffic operations and bicycle & pedestrian concerns throughout the community, specifically, at Farallone View Elementary School, Sunshine Valley Road, and on the east side of Highway 1 from Moss Beach to Montara.

s/Claire Toutant, Chair