

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE
Land Use and Transportation Committee Meeting Notes: June 2, 2010

Present: Marge Macris, Chair; Priscilla Bull, Nona Dennis, Don Dickinson, Roger Roberts, Jean Starkweather, Susan Stompe, Ann Thomas. Met at MCL, 8 t 10 AM.

May 5, 2010 Meeting Notes: Approved as distributed.

Community Marin: The next CM meeting will be at 10 AM on June 18 and will focus on agriculture. Marge has revised the housing section, which had been completed earlier but in which committee members had suggested minor changes regarding a recommendation on house size limits. Committee gave final approval to the chapter on public facilities and services so it will now be circulated to the member organizations. Nona will circulate all of the final *Community Marin* to the MCL board for review.

Local Coastal Plan (LCP). The next Planning Commission workshop is June 14 and Nona will review the staff report to see if an MCL letter is appropriate and if she thinks it would be a good idea to write one will confer with Marge to draft. The big issue still remaining is the number of residential units that can be permitted on an ag zoned parcel.

SMART Station Design and Planning. San Rafael is soliciting applications for a citizens' advisory committee to oversee land use planning around the proposed north San Rafael SMART station. The planning area would be land within a half mile of the station. Nona will see if any MCL board members would be interested in serving on this.

Novato General Plan/North Redwood Blvd. Susan reported that the citizens' committee drafting recommendations for the North Redwood Blvd specific plan will propose two new zoning designations for the area which includes North Redwood Blvd from about DeLong to San Marin Drive that could lead to excessive commercial development. The new designations are mixed use commercial and mixed use urban village, and the latter would require a minimum of 10 percent commercial but set no maximum for commercial uses. Recommendations go to the Novato Planning Commission on June 15 and the specific plan will eventually become part of the revised general plan. The general plan steering committee meets next on July 17 and the draft general plan update is due about the end of 2011.

SFD/Samuel Taylor Park Roadway Changes. An EIR for the widening of 5.4 miles of Sir Francis Drake Blvd through Samuel P Taylor State Park is out. Roger is reviewing.

Skywalker Properties, Lucas Valley. The County is still considering whether or not to conduct additional environmental review as there have been changes from the originally approved plan. MCL's main concern is the proposed use of well water to serve the site although it is possible MMWD could annex the site and arrange to provide water.

Solar Project, Olive/Atherton, Novato. The applicant has misrepresented Marin Audubon's position on the project. MCL would oppose covering wetlands with solar panels.

Lawson's Landing. Nona and Roger will meet June 8 with representatives from other groups interested in this project regarding the Coastal Commission permit.

WildCare Relocation. This non-profit has been seeking a location for a larger campus than they currently have in San Rafael and their board is interested in the Madera Bay Park site in Corte Madera which is surrounded on three sides by the Corte Madera Ecological Reserve. Nona has discussed with WildCare representatives the probable adverse impacts to the wetland reserve of development adjacent to the protected wetlands. She noted that the draft US Fish and Wildlife Service San Francisco Bay tidal marsh recovery plan for a number of species targets this site for restoration. The plan also includes the nearby GGBHD spoils site as an area suitable for species recovery. Marin environmental groups for a number of years have been seeking to purchase the Madera Bay Park site in order to add it to the reserve.

US Fish and Wildlife Service SF Bay Tidal Marsh Recovery Plan. Nona said the maps may not accurately reflect the text, especially in the vicinity of St. Vincent's and Silveira properties, and these should be carefully reviewed so that helpful comments can be provided.

Next meeting July 7, 2010

Notes: AT