

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE
Land Use, Transportation, and Water Committee
April 4, 2018, 9 to 11 AM

Present: Susan Stompe, chair; Nona Dennis, Don Dickenson, Rick Fraites, Marge Macris, Kate Powers, Judy Teichman, Ann Thomas, Doug Wilson. Also, Chris Choo, guest speaker.

PRIOR MEETING MINUTES. Minutes of March 7, 2018. OK with one typo noted.

AGENDA. OK as prepared.

BAYWAVE/SEA LEVEL RISE WORK. Chris Choo, principle planner with the Marin County Department of Public Works for water resources, provided an update on the Marin Bay Shoreline Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment. Chris was a lead coordinator for the collaborative study and report and a lead organizer of the vulnerability or risk assessments for low-lying areas on Marin's coast and bay shorelines. Some of her comments follow;

- She and the team have recently met with city elected officials and discussed general plan updates. The vulnerability assessment provides information that could integrate into planning. General plan updates for Sausalito, Larkspur, San Rafael, and Novato are getting underway or are in the process of being done at this time, and should include policies and programs to address sea and bay water rise.
- The county's risk assessment work is also part of a Bay Area vulnerability assessment. The bay-wide effort is focused on risks related to transportation systems, disadvantaged communities, PDA (Priority Development Areas) and PCAs (Priority Conservation Areas).
- She noted that FEMA payment for insurance claims on repetitive loss properties can incentivize staying in areas subject to flooding.
- In the North Bay counties fire and flooding dangers have become a higher priority
- BCDC is also considering how anticipated sea level rise could affect the next wave of development and has a Financing the Future working group which is studying the consequences of sea level rise on insurance programs.
- Marin's sea level rise planning looks at both mid-term and long-term scenarios, which forecast possible elevation increases of about 20 and 60 inches by mid-century and 2100.
- Marin and San Mateo counties are the furthest ahead in the Bay Area in addressing/planning for sea level rise impacts.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES (TAM). The TAM (Transportation Authority of Marin) board of directors continues to be focused on their efforts to pass a renewal of the transit tax in the November election. The existing tax sunsets in 2024 so if the vote fails this year they would bring it back to the ballot before 2024.

WATER ISSUES. Ann reported. 1) Gave an update on Woodacre/San Geronimo Flats Wastewater proposal for which MCL submitted comments on the feasibility study last May. Regional Water Board comments indicate that the project would need extensive modification.

Part of the project would be a new tertiary treatment facility on grounds of the San Geronimo Golf Course. However, as there is a lawsuit, by a Valley group, halting the county's acquisition of the golf course at this time, the project is on hold until that is resolved. The process associated with the project has involved tests to determine what contaminants if any are present in the Valley creeks. At the Lagunitas Creek TAC meeting, a spokesperson for County Environmental Health Services reported that tests show human fecal matter in the creeks. 2) Ann and Susan attended workshops of water agencies evaluating merits of establishing a new group, North Bay Water, which would be an outgrowth of the existing North Bay Water Reuse Authority. The Authority, a vehicle through which North Bay agencies tapped into a federal and state funding for recycled water projects, is nearing the end of the projects planned, and the new organization – also a collaboration comprising up to the same 10 North Bay agencies - would focus on regional drought contingency planning and funding for this and other activities. Partly a response to new risks from changing climate conditions, there are increasing efforts at regional planning to address anticipated increases in drought, flood, fire and other conditions.

AGRICULTURAL LAND USE. Judy reported plans for the next quarterly agricultural land use workshop on April 19, to include reports on the county's climate action plan's agricultural chapter, the County Health Services study on pathogens in the Lagunitas Creek watershed, manure management program funding, and an update on the Local Coastal Program.

COMMUNITY MARIN/HOUSING. The collaborative policy group continues meeting monthly. The current version of the Biological Resources chapter was distributed and committee members were asked to review it and come back next month with comments. The next section of the Community Marin update will probably be the Parks and Open Space chapter coming before the MCL board for comment in May.

GNOSS FIELD. Susan reported on this ongoing effort by local air interests to extend the length of the runway, a proposal which so far has not been approved by the FAA. A recent FAA notice allows for community comment by April 6 on the final FAA "Purpose and Need Report for Gness Field" for a 300-foot extension. She suggested, and committee agreed, that MCL should send a letter supporting the FAA's most recent reaffirmation of its recommendation that the existing fleet warrants a 300-foot extension, not 1,100 feet.

EASTON POINT. Most recently, the federal magistrate judge recommended against the owners, denying their moves to enforce the stipulated judgments of 1976 and 2007. The federal district court will make the final order, but the Tiburon Open Space group is optimistic.

DIPSEA/WEISSMAN. The applicant for this proposed subdivision on Panoramic Highway has submitted a revised application, reducing the project from 13 to three lots, no longer including an extension of the sewer line. Three lots are proposed on lots sized 2.22, .89 acres, and 5.18 acres.

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