



September 14, 2016

Marin County Board of Supervisors  
*Via Electronic Mail*

Re: September 26, 2016 Public Hearing: Marin County LCP Amendment

Dear Supervisors,

As you know, the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) has been closely involved throughout the Marin County Local Coastal Program amendment process. EAC is concerned that the September 26, 2016 Planning Commission hearing on the amendments to the Marin County Local Coastal Program is too late, because the amendments are already before the Coastal Commission. EAC has continuously voiced our concerns that the Planning Commission should have held more hearings on this important issue much earlier in the process, so that the public's comments could have been incorporated into the drafting process.<sup>1</sup>

There have been no Planning Commission hearings on the fully compiled amendments, which are now before the Coastal Commission. The last Planning Commission hearing on the amendments was held February 13, 2012, when the Planning Commission approved the LCP Public Review Draft. However, there have been so many modifications to the amendments since 2012 that the Local Coastal Plan before the Coastal Commission is essentially an entirely new document. For example, there have been extensive modifications to the Agriculture and Environmental Hazards chapters of the Land Use Plan, as well as changes to the Implementation Plan and permitting procedures.

There have been no Planning Commission hearings on many of these new and/or revised sections, including the Environmental Hazards chapter in the Land Use Plan. While C-SMART meetings provided a forum for valuable community input, these meetings cannot be substituted for Planning Commission hearings.

Furthermore, the Planning Commission and the public have had inadequate time to review the amendments to the Marin County Local Coastal Program, and the County has not posted all of

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<sup>1</sup> See EAC's March 30, 2016 letter in which EAC expressed concerns about the Board of Supervisors' approval of the Environmental Hazards chapter of the Land Use Plan without adequate information being provided to the public, nor a forum for the public to voice its concerns.

the information to its website that is currently being considered by the Coastal Commission. EAC is concerned that many members of the public have comments on the Marin County Local Coastal Program amendments and have not had a meaningful chance to voice them through Planning Commission hearings.

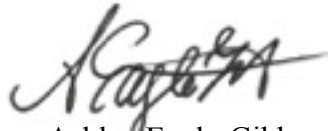
The September 26th hearing is not an effective public process. Instead, it will waste everyone's time, since the amendments are already before the Coastal Commission. The one meaningful action the Board of Supervisors can take right now is withdraw its submission to the Coastal Commission, so the public and the Planning Commission can fully participate in this important public process.

Thank you for your consideration of EAC's concerns on this important local issue.

Respectfully,



Morgan Patton  
Executive Director



Ashley Eagle-Gibbs  
Conservation Director

cc:

Brian Crawford, Marin County Community Development Agency  
Kristin Drumm, Senior Planner