James Hinkamp  
San Mateo County Planning & Building 
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March 27, 2015

RE: San Mateo County Highway 1 Alternatives - Comments

The Coastal Zone includes all lands west of State Route 1. The LCLUP is a policy Document for the long range development for Pacifica.

The California Coastal Commission of 1972 was supported by the majority of the voters for protection of the California coast. It also was to provide access and recreation to the voters on the entire California coast. Those uses were not expected to be restricted to hiking and biking or changing the coast side into a natural wilderness area. Many travelers to the coast try to find a place to park while they have lunch or just watch the ocean. Some elderly just like to see the views from their hotel window or from a dining room table. This is where the California Coastal Commission has failed miserably. They have become obstructionists and have a bad attitude to those who wish to provide recreation to the coast. Our highways are backed up, no up to date beach access has been provided, and beach parking is small and limited. While the Coastal Plan speaks to moving forward to provide for the general public their track record proves my point. There is more public land being made available on the coast attracting more of the general public with no parking or limited access to these areas. The purchase of Sweeney Ridge is a perfect example of government and the environmental movement talking a good story but staying the closet they only want limited access. Thirty (30) years ago Pacifica was promised better access at Fassler and Shelldance. Take a look, I rest my case. It’s the same story on Highway 1.

* 100 Rockaway Beach Avenue • Pacifica, California 94044 •
* On the Shores of the Beautiful Pacific at Rockaway Beach •
The above letter was written in response to Pacifica’s General Plan. I will state again, the county and Coastal Commission have failed miserably to provide a safe vehicular and pedestrian access for the general public and those who visit our coast.

1. The vacant land in Pedro Point should be bought to provide a safe access to the new trail to the new Devils Slide trail. The parking now is nowhere adequate. You built our own Mt. Rushmore. You need an infrastructure to provide parking for those who visit or a shuttle.

2. Both the Highway 1 north of tunnel and south need to be upgraded, both highways are very dangerous.

3. The parking and access to Gray Whale Cove is a joke – someone will die crossing that road it is extremely dangerous it needs an overcrossing for beach goers. There is no way you would allow anyone in the private sector to open a business without providing some safe and sane crossing, its nuts what takes place there on the weekends.

4. Going south open space boasts about trials, hiking and biking yet they only provide a mud puddle on the west side to park and a turn out on the east. Develop the flat land between there and the old Chart House it is a beautiful beach for visitors but no access a very very dangerous place. (Photo included). I’m always in disbelief the county punishes the restaurant not allowing to open for lunch when all that land is available for beach parking. It’s a 40 year old philosophy that has failed you haven’t kept people off the coast you have failed to provide safe and adequate recreation facilities for them you have caused travelers to remain in their cars because you have not made the public improvements necessary to provide a safe vehicular and pedestrian access to the coast.
6. As further down the coast a passing lane going south along the airport to exit at Princeton.

7. Signal at Princeton past Sam’s to next signal. Road needs to swing to east side allowed visitors to park, walk and view beach without danger. It’s another bad site very popular beach area no safe access. The next signal and all flat land on the west, nice pathway to walk why not a very creative parking area for beach goers. No one has spoken to this issue for years, give travelers a place to park. Parking on east side with over crossing for beach use.

8. Half Moon Bay seems to take care of itself but we all know all the downsides of Highway 92.

9. Couple of straight aways south of Half Moon Bay passing lanes just like Highway 1 south to Santa Cruz. Open space area across at Bob’s Produce. Parking parking for travelers, get them off Highway 1.

10. Tunitas Creek should have access to beach it is a difficult solution. Jerry Hill talks it up about Martins Beach one small tiny beach who’s talking about the rest of the coast.

11. San Gregorio has never had enough parking there is room families park in bike lanes, cross with no intersection, again no safe vehicular or pedestrian access.

12. Consideration needs to be given to Highway 1 south of San Gregorio across the bluffs. Highway 1 needs to be moved inland then vistas placed in appropriate areas to those who visit the coast by auto, bus or motor home.
13. Pomponio Beach same issue not enough parking. This makes it dangerous for travelers.

14. Pescadero area always faces the same issue, that’s about it where’s the money come from. Take it out of the Coastal Commissions funding, if they had truly done their job years ago and provided for visitors on our coast we could all be on a better highway. You asked for a response, you got one.

Thank you,

Chuck Gust

Copies:

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