

THE COALITION'S 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND 2019 GOALS

The Coalition, through its committees, continues to be active on a wide range of issues important to residents of the Pt. San Pedro Road Peninsula. Our website (www.sprcoalition.org) is an excellent source community news and updates as well as in-depth information on the work of the Coalition's committees, so please visit it regularly. Also, please sign up for our email and mail list, if you have not yet done so, by contacting the Coalition's Board or a specific committee. The applicable form can be found under the "Contact Us" menu on our website. Please spread the word to your neighbors to sign up, too! The following is a summary of Coalition activities and plans:

Point San Pedro Roadway Committee

The Roadway Committee's mission is to study, review and evaluate roadway issues that affect residents who live along PSPR. The Roadway Committee works with the appropriate government agencies and local businesses to develop workable recommendations to address problems and issues. During 2018 the Roadway Committee was actively involved with the following issues:

Point San Pedro Road Traffic and Safety Issues

- Worked with homeowners' associations along PSPR, the City and the County to identify and address traffic, pedestrian crossing and other safety issues along PSPR.

Public Transit On the PSPR Peninsula

- Successfully advocated Marin Transit to establish regular Paratransit service for area residents.
- Worked with Golden Gate Transit to reestablish and implement a Larkspur ferry shuttle bus service to serve the PSPR corridor.
- Collaborated with Marin Transit to implement a weekday hourly bus route service that now travels to and from PSPR corridor to the College of Marin with stops in between including the San Rafael Transit Center and San Anselmo.

We need to have sufficient ridership to ensure that these new options for public transportation will continue.

Help spread the word!

Traffic Congestion Mitigation

- Monitored and provided input to the City in their planning efforts regarding pedestrian crossing and traffic issues at Third and Hetherton.
- Monitored and provided input to the Golden Gate Transit District in their planning efforts for the new San Rafael Transit Center.
- Monitored other City and Caltrans projects that affect PSPR Peninsula residents' ability to access downtown or the entrances and exits to Highway 101.

Roadway Medians

- Held quarterly meetings with City staff on median maintenance issues.
- Worked with City staff and their median maintenance contractor to implement a plan to replace dead or dying plants, remove litter and operate a more consistent median maintenance program.
- Successfully negotiated with City staff for a Median Assessment District annual fee payment plan for the next five years.

San Rafael Rock Quarry Committee

The Quarry continues to operate a substantial mining operation at the east end of Pt. San Pedro Road. In 2003, as a result of legal action brought by the Coalition, the Quarry was required to undergo environmental

review for the first time and to update its operating permit and reclamation plan. The Quarry's updated permit, issued in 2010, contains several Coalition-requested restrictions. Since they were imposed on the Quarry, these restrictions have resulted in significantly reduced quarry-related impacts on our neighboring communities.

In 2018, the Quarry continued to operate at a level well below its capacity. The reduced activity, combined with the 2010 permit restrictions, has kept the Quarry operating in a manner that has generated very few complaints from its nearby neighbors. As we pointed out in last year's update, only when the Quarry resumes a high level of production will we be able to assess whether those operating constraints will be adequate.

In September 2016 the Marin County Superior Court invalidated a previous decision by the Marin County Board of Supervisors approving a permit change allowing the Quarry to import onto the Quarry site recycled asphalt material. The Court ruled that the County's approval was an improper expansion of the Quarry's nonconforming use. The Coalition had filed a lawsuit asking the Court to overturn that approval, and the Quarry appealed the Court's decision. The Coalition has no objection to the recycling of asphalt for road construction purposes. The lawsuit was filed because the Coalition could not acquiesce to an illegal expansion of activity on the Quarry site and the Quarry's and County's plain disregard for a 2003 Court order prohibiting asphalt recycling on the site. The Court in 2016 agreed with us. The appellate court decision is still pending. More background on this issue can be found on the Coalition website within the S.R. Rock Quarry pages.

California law requires the restoration of land where mining has occurred. This process, called Reclamation, requires that operators return the Quarry site to other productive uses and minimize the negative impacts of surface mining to public health, property and the environment. The process of reclamation includes maintaining water and air quality, minimizing flooding, erosion and damage to wildlife and aquatic habitats caused by surface mining. Planned reclamation work in the site's northeast quadrant (close to the Marin Bay Park neighborhood) that had been delayed due to environmental concerns, commenced in 2018. Although there was concern that the reclamation work would generate many complaints, the ten-week project came off relatively smoothly with minimal complaints. That is a good omen, since reclamation work will return each year for ten weeks during the summer months. As the current reclamation plan has mining ceasing in 2024, the future of the Quarry site is now a matter for consideration as the City of San Rafael develops its 2040 General Plan

Wetlands Committee Anticipated sea level rise has focused attention on the need to restore and maintain tidal wetlands and associated upland buffers. Tidal wetlands serve as nurseries for aquatic species, help abate flooding by absorbing runoff, and reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by storing carbon. The Coalition will continue to inform our community about the vital wetlands and inlets along the PSPR Peninsula, including the wetlands at the Quarry and at Loch Lomond Marina. In China Camp State Park, where sea level rise threatens the roadway and our only alternate to PSPR as an escape route, a group of City and County stakeholders is working on developing a plan to address road safety, flooding and environmental issues. With the support of the Coalition, NEERS (National Estuarine Research Reserve System) recently received a federal grant to bring together end-users and stakeholders to identify and evaluate sea level rise adaptation options to solve the road flooding. Members of the surrounding communities are represented, with Coalition Board Member Kati Miller representing the Coalition.

Loch Lomond Marina Committee

During 2018, the Loch Lomond Marina Committee continued to monitor the development at The Village at Loch Lomond Marina (including The Strand, which is the residential portion of this development) to ensure that all permit restrictions and construction procedures were followed and to identify areas of concern affecting our community.

Progress on completing this project by the developer, Marina Village Associates, has been painfully slow. The City held a meeting with Michael Rosenfeld, the CEO of Woodridge Capital Partners, the owners of the property, to understand why development has slowed and to encourage more rapid progress. This seems to

have led to an increase in work on the property, including the movement of excess soil to the old Andy's Market and parking lot area. This has permitted the grading and paving of the large parking lot on the western edge of the property adjacent to The Cove at San Pedro. There is also some positive developments in the resolution of the persistent flooding on the East Jetty (playground area) and the connector to the breakwater.

In 2019, we hope to have a resolution of the flooding problem approved by BCDC and work to begin (and maybe completed). We are also pushing for progress on the stalled installation of a fuel storage facility and fuel dock, implementation of a kayak launch ramp, and the start of construction of the multi-use building, the boat repair shop and the restaurant and Harbormaster's office. Start of construction of the remaining residential facilities is dependent on the completion of the surcharge's compaction of the soil and, of course, the real estate market. So, the timeframe for progress is uncertain.

The Committee meets monthly with the Community Development Department and the Department of Public Works. Questions and concerns are submitted by the second Monday of each month so the City can be prepared to provide responses at our meeting on the third Monday of the Month. Information that comes out of these meetings is posted monthly on the Coalition website. Please let us know your concerns via the Marina Committee contact form on our website. The Loch Lomond Marina section of the website also contains up-to-date details about the project design, work schedules, *etc.*

Disaster Preparedness Committee

The Coalition's Disaster Preparedness Committee supports the coordinated planning effort between homeowner associations along the PSPR corridor to assure all levels of our community are prepared to respond successfully to a disaster. We urge homeowner associations (HOAs) to develop emergency response plans and prepare residents for a disaster.

The committee aims to (i) encourage CERT training for PSPR peninsula residents, (ii) serve as the liaison to the HOAs representing the 2,800 homes on the peninsula and (iii) be an information conduit for the County and City organizations which support the emergency preparation systems.

We have been updating our contact information for the HOA presidents and their emergency preparation leaders in each neighborhood, including those neighborhoods that do not have HOA organizations. A project to identify the CERT trained neighbors on the corridor is underway. We are planning with the City to determine the optimal strategy to ensure that the corridor's neighborhood groups have a plan when a natural disaster affects us. The committee is planning a spring 2019 gathering to bring together HOA and neighborhood leaders, as well as CERT trained residents.

The County advises citizens to be prepared to take care of basic needs for 5 to 7 days. Some of our local neighborhoods have already organized, and organizing efforts have been launched in others. For more information about preparedness, go to www.readymarin.org as well as the Disaster Prep section on the Coalition website.