



POINT SAN PEDRO ROAD COALITION

"Promoting Quality of Life in our Community"

November 30, 2020

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Bonnie Marmor

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Preparedness

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Loch Lomond Marina

Alan Schaevitz

Pt. San Pedro
Roadway

Kevin Hagerty

S.R. Rock Quarry

Dave Crutcher

Wetlands

Winifred Dajani

Dear Neighbors,

Without a doubt, 2020 has been a challenging year. On top of the COVID-19 pandemic, we suffered the worst air quality on the planet as wildfire smoke and ash enveloped us. Through all of this, we at the Coalition continued our efforts on behalf of our community, even helping residents prepare for the next potential disaster. And, as neighbors sheltered at home, we brought them educational programs via Zoom, now posted on our website.

Please check out changes to our website including updated Disaster Preparation information and our new Local Birdlife page in the revised Wetlands section. While visiting our website, please provide any updated contact information, including your street and email address, HOA, and phone numbers, using the "Contact Us" menu on our website. If you would like to get involved in our community-based committees, let us know using the "Contact Us" menu.

The Coalition hopes you can make a year-end contribution in support of our ongoing work promoting the health and safety of area residents and the enhancement and preservation of our local environment. We expect to incur additional expenses in the coming year to respond to the Quarry's application to extend surface mining operations for another 20 years. For our input to be effective, we must pay for some professional technical expertise.

Contributions can be made to the Pt. San Pedro Road Coalition (or SPRC) and mailed to: 369B Third Street, Box 449, San Rafael, CA 94901. You can also contribute electronically via the "Donate Now" button on our website. Many employers match their employees' charitable contributions. Please check with your employer about a matching option. The Coalition's Board and Committee members serve on a voluntary basis and receive no compensation.

To get an idea of the work we have been doing and our goals for 2021, please take a look at our enclosed annual summary. We are grateful to residents for their generous contributions over the years. Thank you in advance for your continued support! On behalf of the Coalition Board, we wish you Happy Holidays and a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2021.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Marmor
Co-Chair
Pt. San Pedro Road Coalition

Denise Lucy
Co-Chair
Pt. San Pedro Road Coalition

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Disaster Preparedness Committee

Our Disaster Preparedness Committee met monthly via Zoom throughout 2020 making much progress in implementing its various programs. Our first priority was to develop lists of needed medical and emergency supplies and identify potential locations to pre-position medical and emergency supplies and store them along Point San Pedro Road. For this effort, in March the Committee raised over \$10,000, donated by individuals, HOAs and the Coalition itself. A \$4,000 grant for supplies was also awarded by the County of Marin.

We have developed a list of required supplies, keeping in mind the supplies we have been storing in several neighborhoods for the past decade. Sites under consideration to store the supply caches include the Marin Yacht Club, the Peacock Gap Golf Club and the Redeemer Church in Glenwood. Tentatively, medical supplies will be concentrated at the Marin Yacht Club where the clubhouse can serve as a triage center should our area be cut off from outside help following an earthquake or other major disaster. In August, we facilitated an agreement between the Peacock Gap Golf Club and the American Red Cross so that the golf club will be available to serve as a refuge site following a disaster.

Due to COVID-19, many of the planned 2020 training programs, including CERT training and FADR (first aid and CPR), have been moved to 2021. In October, we delivered a Zoom training session, “1 Hour 2 Get Ready,” on personal preparedness hosted by Quinn Gardner, the City of San Rafael’s Emergency Manager. The recording is available on our website: <https://sprcoalition.org/disasterprep/1-hour-2-get-ready-presentation/>

Our goal for 2021 is to develop operational procedures and provide training around our three supply storage/triage sites. To the extent that Covid-19 restrictions permit, we plan to present a robust community training program (*e.g.*, first aid, CPR, CERT, fire prevention, household preparation), and help local HOAs better organize themselves to implement “neighbor helping neighbor” programs. We also plan a Spring fundraiser to purchase additional disaster supplies.

Wetlands Committee

The Wetlands are integral to the PSPR community and are of interest for environmental and safety reasons. Tidal wetlands serve as nurseries for aquatic species, help abate flooding by absorbing runoff, and reduce greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by storing carbon. In 2020 the Wetlands Committee increased its educational initiatives to raise awareness about local wildlife and the various habitats they populate throughout our community. Our Wetlands website page was updated to consolidate information about these areas, and a “Local Birdlife” section added featuring commonly-seen species.

We also hosted two successful and interesting presentations: one regarding the Vaux’s Swifts seasonal migration to the McNear’s Brickyard chimneys and another about flooding and the need for sea level rise adaptation planning in our area. We are planning similar projects for 2021 and welcome your participation. During the coming year, we plan to explore how we can have a voice in regional planning for anticipated sea level rise, including how to protect local neighborhoods in flood zones, and how we can mitigate flooding along our roadway and through China Camp (especially during king tides) that can impact roadways and escape routes. We also plan to continue to work with other stakeholders to evaluate China Camp Road sea level rise adaption options that will address road flooding and maintain near-term ecological connectivity of inland marshes.

Roadway Committee

During 2020, the Roadway Committee worked with City and County staff to identify and address traffic mitigation, pedestrian crossing and several safety issues along PSPR. We 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 and entrances and exits to Highway 101, and continued to monitor, with City staff, the traffic impacts for PSPR Peninsula residents of the operation of SMART's extension to Larkspur.

We met quarterly with City staff on median maintenance issues to implement a plan to replace dead or dying plants, remove litter and operate a more consistent maintenance program. We successfully negotiated with City staff for a Median Assessment District annual fee payment plan for the next five years. We also worked with the City and County to keep sidewalks along PSPR clear of obstructions and graffiti, and address design issues on the renovation of Bayside Park.

In 2021, we will continue to work in each of these areas, address new roadway traffic and safety issues as they arise, and promote communication with the County, City and Community, including joint meetings.

Loch Lomond Marina Committee

During 2020, the Loch Lomond Marina Committee continued to monitor the limited developments at The Village at Loch Lomond Marina (including The Strand, which is the residential portion of this development). While little was accomplished "on the ground" this past year, a notable change did occur in ownership. Marina Village Associates (MVA), the owner and developer of the entire property, sold the waterfront portion (marina, marina green, boat launch, yacht club building and breakwater) to Safe Harbor Marinas (SHM), a large and well-respected nationwide marina operator. SHM immediately launched a project to repair and replace aging and deteriorating pilings supporting the piers. This bodes well for the future health and well-being of the marina property.

While this is positive news, the sales agreement between MVA and SHM stipulated that MVA would continue to be responsible for the completion of the various outstanding projects at the marina. MVA also retains ownership of the remaining as-yet-undeveloped residential parcels in The Strand. MVA has stated that they intend to sell these interests rather than continue that development, but at this time there is no sale in sight. Planning to start the work in remediating the flooding that plagues the playground spit and the breakwater connector continues to move at a snail's pace and when the work will start is unclear. The same is true for the other outstanding MVA projects such as the fuel dock, the boat repair facility and the kayak dock and launch ramp. However, SHM is planning to start construction of the Harbormaster's Office in the near future.

While nothing is certain, we are hopeful that 2021 will be a turn-around year and progress will restart on completing this development project in our midst. The Committee meets monthly with the San Rafael Community Development Department, S.R. Department of Public Works and now SHM to encourage that progress. Information that comes out of these meetings is posted monthly on the Coalition website.

San Rafael Rock Quarry Committee

The San Rafael Rock Quarry's current operating permit and reclamation plan assume that the Quarry will cease operations by the end of 2024, although they do not require it. However, to continue operations beyond 2024, the Quarry was required to request an update to its 2010 reclamation plan by the end of 2021. In December 2018 (three years early), the Quarry requested a 15-year extension of its operating permit but submitted no substantial supporting information for the County to consider. The Coalition pointed out deficiencies in the application, which was subsequently withdrawn.

In early 2020, the Quarry re-applied for an extension, this time asking for a 20-year extension of its operating permit and reclamation plan and providing much more significant information about its operations and the extension request for the County to consider. The County has hired a consultant to prepare a supplemental environmental review to determine whether the Quarry's extension proposal causes new or significantly more substantial environmental impacts than those that were identified in the 2009 environmental impact report (EIR). If additional mining creates substantial environmental impacts, a supplemental or subsequent EIR may be necessary. If the impacts are insubstantial, then merely an addendum to the 2009 EIR may suffice (which is a much less extensive undertaking). Our committee will be following the matter closely.

As required by the current permit, the Quarry has been monitoring air quality using equipment placed on a property in Marin Bay Park. The County recently approved the removal of that equipment as a result of two years of testing which found no particulate concentrations were below federal and state air quality standards, except on days when there was wildfire smoke.

We requested that air monitoring continue in 2020, particularly in light of the fact that the 2009 EIR did not anticipate that we would be subjected to multiple years of excessive amounts of fine particulates from wildfires nor consider the short-term health risks to individuals, including the young and elderly, exposed to these contaminants during the operational timeframe.

The Quarry continued to operate in 2020 at levels substantially below capacity. We understand, however, that the Quarry expects production to increase over the upcoming years, perhaps substantially, due in part to expected projects relating to sea level rise. This provides another reason for the County to be diligent and comprehensive in its review of the Quarry's request to continue mining into the 2040s. We will do our best to remain vigilant and keep you informed.

General Plan 2040

For two years, 23 members of a diverse group of San Rafael community members, including SPRC Co-President Bonnie Marmor, served on the GP 2040 Steering Committee to provide the City of San Rafael with input on updates to the City's 2020 General Plan. The Coalition submitted suggestions for the draft plan regarding matters affecting our area, discussed in the "Neighborhoods Element. The San Rafael Rock Quarry, located in unincorporated San Rafael, is included because it is expected to be annexed into the City limits when quarry operations cease, which may occur before 2040. You are encouraged to submit your comments to the City regarding the neighborhoods element at <https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/share-your-ideas/>