

2024 Pt. San Pedro Road Coalition Year-End Report

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE:

The Coalition's Disaster Preparedness Committee continues to prepare our community for a wildfire, earthquake, flood or other emergency event. The committee focused this year on resident training, stockpiling of emergency supplies, and wildfire prevention including brush clearing.

Emergency Response Training and Education: The Committee continues to promote Marin Lifesaving Skills Training, organized by the Marin Medical Reserve Corp and the County of Marin, on CPR, "Stopthe-Bleed", and use of Narcan. You can register for this and other Lifesaving Skills Training classes via the MMRC Eventbrite sign-up website.

Supplies: The Coalition maintains medical and rescue supplies for use in a major disaster, particularly one requiring our area to be self-reliant. These supplies, purchased with over \$30,000 in donations from residents and a County of Marin grant, are maintained in two caches, one centrally and one in an emergency response trailer, parked near Andy's market, that can be moved where most needed. We particularly thank all who donated to our fall campaign. We raised over \$12,000, exceeding our goal!

Fire Prevention: The Coalition's annual Earth Day Broom Pull on April 27, 2024, was a great success. The San Rafael Fire Department and Friends of China camp collaborated with us to bring out over 40 volunteers to remove highly flammable vegetation from nearby homes adjacent to Peacock Gap. The County and the City were encouraged to continue their inspection program of residences and recommendations of how to protect against wildfire. In 2025, the committee will work to encourage neighborhoods to participate in the Firewise program.

Emergency Response Volunteers Needed: Our efforts to recruit committee members and emergency response volunteers will continue in 2025. Local residents with medical, rescue and communication skills are needed to use the above supplies and provide emergency services if public safety services are compromised in a major event. If you are CERT trained or a medical professional interested in volunteering contact John Lenser, Committee Chair, at John@Lenser.com.

ROADWAY COMMITTEE:

Point San Pedro Speed Surveys: City and County staff completed speed surveys along the roadway to assess whether speed limits should be changed. The results indicated lower accident rates than the state average, and that the majority of motorists stay within the 85th percentile of the posted speeds. The Committee met with the City and County and their recommendation was to maintain our current speed limits. We suggested that barring any change to speed limits the City should have more speed enforcement and, if viable, the speed limits should be uniform in the future to avoid speed traps. Point San Pedro Traffic Mitigation: The Committee held a series of meetings to discuss opinions on various traffic mitigation ideas such as narrower lanes, bollards, bulb-outs, painted bike lanes and speeds on the roadway, and additional signage. We continue to work with the City and County to communicate our community's concerns about speeding and traffic issues.

Roadway Medians: The Committee continues to hold meetings with City staff on median maintenance issues, including weed pulling, mulching, irrigation, boulder placement, and tree maintenance. The City is continuing to contract with Gardeners' Guild.

LOCH LOMOND MARINA COMMITTEE:

The Village at Loch Lomond Marina: During this past year, all residential development within The Strand HOA was completed. Trumark has applied for a completion certification from S.R. Community Development Department. The Strand and the Coalition have some concerns regarding the perimeter fencing and this is being considered by the CDD. The property containing the old commercial businesses at the corner of Point San Pedro Road and Loch Lomond Drive, is now owned by Andy Bachich, who submitted new designs for a 10-unit condo building. These changes are being delayed by CDD due to the elimination of the previously approved commercial component of that building.

As we end 2024, activity involving the Marina Oversight Committee has significantly diminished, and the regular bi-monthly meeting with the interested parties (Marina Village Associates, Safe Harbors Marina (SHM), Trumark Homes, The Strand, Andy's Market, and the San Rafael CDD and Public Works Departments) has been suspended. However, the Committee has been involved with The Strand to remove invasive scotch broom along the eastern wetlands at the eastern edge of The Strand development. This has involved some conflicts between The Strand HOA and the S.R. DPW which oversees the Community Assessment District that funds maintenance and upkeep of common properties, including the wetlands. These issues seem near to resolution so that work may proceed by Spring 2025 with the Coalition possibly participating in a weed pull event.

2025 Plans: We'll work with The Strand, Andy Bachich and other parties in any way we can be helpful in resolving issues as they arise. A key concern remains the building planned for the vacant parcel owned by SHM between the Loch Lomond Yacht Club and the public plaza next to Andy's Market. This parcel originally was to house the harbormaster's office, facilities for the marina live-aboards, and a small restaurant. Those plans have changed and SHM is considering what to do with the property. Use of this parcel is important to the community as it will have visual and traffic impact on the plaza which has grown in popularity as a public gathering spot. We continue to urge plans compatible with plaza usage.

WETLANDS COMMITTEE:

The Wetlands Committee generally meets bi-monthly and focuses both on ways to protect and restore our local wetlands, as well as hosting events that educate our community on topics related to them. The following is a summary of what was undertaken in 2024.

Advocacy for the Quarry Marsh: Collaboration with the Coalition and the San Rafael Rock Quarry (SRRQ) continued in 2024. In the late summer, Dr. Stuart Siegel completed his peer review of the Quarry's ongoing MRP (Marsh Restoration Plan) which the SRRQ commissioned him to undertake in 2023. The Quarry principals and the Coalition's Quarry Committee will review Dr. Siegel's report and then meet to identify recommendations we agree upon that could increase the Marsh's resilience and vitality as an ecosystem and wetlands habitat.

Glenwood wetlands: The Glenwood wetlands are on two parcels of approximately 16.5 acres abutting the Glenwood Elementary School and owned by the San Rafael City School District. The School Board designated these parcels as "surplus" to the needs of the district and published a priority offering of these parcels with a submission deadline at the end of May. Following extensive outreach to the community to see if there was interest and capacity in submitting a proposal, the. Coalition submitted a letter in May to the San Rafael City Schools Board of Education laying out its recommendations for consideration. The Wetlands Committee believes that natural functions of these wetlands should be preserved for whatever the property is ultimately used.

Educational Programs: The Wetlands Committee hosted two educational events in 2024: in February a webinar with Liz Lewis, a Project Coordinator for the Marin Breeding Bird Atlas II. The MCBBA2 is a multi-year volunteer led project to survey breeding birds in Marin County and is a follow-up to the first Atlas published 30 years ago; in September, a webinar, Nature-based adaptations for Local Eroding Shorelines, which featured Marin County Public Works Senior Engineer Roger Leventhal. Roger showed different approaches for mitigating flooding and sea level rise with engineered beaches and wetlands instead of or in conjunction with hard concrete walls and other barriers and discussed Advantages and effectiveness of these nature-based adaptations. Both of these webinars, as well as all the previous ones are recorded and can be watched on the Coalition's YouTube Channel (click on the on on the Coalition's website home page sprcoalition.org, to go to our https://www.youtube.com/@SPR Coalition/videos, and a list of all past Wetlands Committee announcements and events can be seen at https://sprcoalition.org/wetlands/wetlands-webinars/

QUARRY COMMITTEE:

The San Rafael Rock Quarry obtained an extension of their operations and Reclamation Plan until 2044. Reclamation is the plan to restore the land for future use once mining is discontinued. At the conclusion of the County's environmental review process of the Quarry's extension application, the Quarry leadership and the Coalition agreed on three specific areas for further dialogue and action, which are now ongoing: 1) Wetlands, 2) Air Monitoring, and 3) Roadway Maintenance. Collaborations between the Coalition and the Quarry on these areas continues. In 2024, this progress was achieved:

Wetlands at the Quarry: At the Coalition's request, the Quarry engaged an expert for a peer review of the current marsh restoration plan. The Coalition recommended Dr. Stuart Siegel. The Quarry hired Dr. Siegel and the report was completed in 2024. The report is under review by the Quarry's team and will be meeting with the Coalition Quarry Committee to discuss prospects for the Wetlands.

Air Monitoring: The Coalition and Quarry have begun discussions for developing criteria and a plan to determine under what conditions compliant air monitoring/ testing would be conducted by the County.

Roadway Maintenance: Ten years ago, Pt. San Pedro Road was repaved with special open-graded asphalt to mitigate noise and vibration. In 2021, the County granted the Quarry's application to extend operations and reclamation (to clean up the site after mining activities end) to 2044. As a result, there will be an additional 20 years of truck traffic impacts on PSPR beyond the original permit, which would have expired in 2024. The Coalition advocates to ensure that the roadway will continue to be maintained in a manner that sufficiently accommodates the effects of continual heavy truck passage. The Quarry and Coalition have agreed to ongoing discussions regarding road maintenance. In addition, both the Coalition and the Quarry will provide input to the City and the County with regard to the slurry seal to be applied to the roadway in 2025 and on possible speed mitigations under consideration which may be implemented when the slurry seal is applied.

News Regarding Dutra Materials: The Quarry leadership team recently met with the Coalition Quarry Committee leaders to let us know that CRH, a materials company, will be acquiring Dutra's materials operations in San Rafael, Richmond and Petaluma. The Dutra Group will remain the owner of the San Rafael Rock Quarry property. The Dutra team assured us they will continue to work closely with neighbors, ensuring that stakeholders will continue to have access to the Dutra team and community concerns will continue to be heard and addressed.