CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION NORTH COAST AREA 45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219 (415) 904-5260

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Commission Action:

November 27, 1995 January 15, 1996 May 25, 1996

Bill Van Beckum December 22, 1995 January 11, 1996

STAFF REPORT: CONSENT CALENDAR

APPLICATION NO.:

1-95-56

APPLICANTS:

ROBERT AND JONI WILLIAMSON

PROJECT LOCATION:

788 Main Street. Half Moon Bay San Mateo County, APN 056-191-220

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Develop a one- and two-story commercial complex (5,167-square-feet total floor area) by (1) demolishing an 800-square-foot barn and an 80-square-foot outhouse, (2) remodelling an existing 675-square-foot, one-story office building for retail use, (3) constructing three commercial buildings (one- and two-story, 28.5-feet-high) for retail and office use, as additions to the existing office building, (4) landscaping, and (5) paving the remainder of the site for 14 off-street parking spaces, two driveways for ingress and egress, and a pad for a trash enclosure.

Lot area:

9.944 square feet Existing

Building coverage: Pavement coverage: Landscape coverage:

1,555 square feet 0 396 square feet

Proposed 3,855 square feet 4,468 square feet 1,045 square feet

Ht abv fin grade: Parking spaces:

11.5 feet 0

28.5 feet 14 spaces

Plan designation: Zoning:

Commercial - General C-2 (General Commercial)

LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED:

City of Half Moon Bay Site and Design Permit No. PSD-01-95, and CEQA Negative Declaration

No. EIR-01-95.

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS:

Half Moon Bay Land Use Plan, certified

September 24, 1985.

STAFF NOTE:

Standard of Review. The Half Moon Bay Land Use Plan (LUP) was certified by the Commission on September 24, 1985. The LCP Implementation Plan (IP) was reviewed by the Commission, and certified with suggested modifications, at the Commission's December 13, 1995 meeting. However, the full LCP is not effectively certified as the City has not yet had an opportunity to accept the modifications to the IP. Therefore, the Commission retains permit jurisdiction and the standard of review for the application is the Coastal Act. However, in finding below that the application would not prejudice the preparation of an LCP consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, the application was also reviewed for consistency with the LUP certified by the Commission.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends that the Commission adopt the following resolution:

I. Approval with Conditions.

The Commission hereby grants a permit, subject to the conditions below, for the proposed development on the grounds that the development will be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act of 1976, will not prejudice the ability of the City of Half Moon Bay to prepare a Local Coastal Program conforming to the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and will not have any significant adverse impacts on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act.

- II. Standard Conditions. See Attachment A.
- III. Special Conditions.
- 1. Final Foundation and Grading Plans.

PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION, the applicant shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director final engineered foundation and grading plans prepared in accordance with the recommendations contained in the geotechnical investigation report prepared by GeoForensics, Inc., dated November 12, 1995. Evidence of approval by a geotechnical engineer and the City of Half Moon Bay shall accompany the submittal.

IV. <u>Findings and Declarations</u>.

The Commission hereby finds and declares as follows:

1. Project and Site Description.

The subject property is located 1/4 mile east of Highway 1, and about 1/2 mile inland from the ocean, at the south end of the downtown section of Half Moon Bay. See Exhibits 1 and 2. The site, which fronts both on Main and Purissima Streets, currently contains a one-story, 675-square-foot office building which faces Main Street. The applicants are proposing to remodel this building for retail use, and construct three adjacent one- and two-story commercial buildings for retail and office use, resulting in 5,167-square-feet of total usable floor space. Behind the existing building is a barn and outhouse which the applicants are proposing to remove, to provide for a portion of the proposed 14-stall parking lot, which aside from landscaping, would cover the balance of the site. See Exhibit 3. The site is zoned for commercial use and is adjoined by other commercial development. The flat parcel contains no environmentally sensitive habitat.

New Development.

Section 30250(a) of the Coastal Act states that new development shall be located in or near existing developed areas able to accommodate it and where it will not have significant adverse effects on coastal resources. The intent of this policy is to channel development toward more urbanized areas where services are provided and potential impacts to resources are minimized.

The proposed development is located in an existing urban area, in which public services are available for the project. The Coastside County Water District has confirmed that the property has an existing water service connection that will provide sufficient capacity to serve the proposed development's water needs. The project is not constrained by the Sewer Authority Midcoastside (SAM) sewer plant's very limited capacity available for new uses because there currently is an on-site sewer connection available to adequately serve the project.

Therefore, the Commission finds that the project as proposed is consistent with Section 30250(a) of the Coastal Act to the extent that the project will be located in an existing developed area with adequate public services able to accommodate it. However, a separate coastal development permit or amendment to this permit would be required for any future proposal to locate any more intensive water — consuming use (e.g., a restaurant requiring additional water and sewer capacity) on the site.

3. <u>Visual Resources</u>.

Section 30251 of the Coastal Act provides in applicable part that the scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall: (a) be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, and (b) be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas.

The project has no potential to block views to and along the coast, as the project site is located about half a mile from the shoreline and inland of Highway One. The proposed one— and two-story buildings' heights, 13-feet to 28.5-feet, meet the C-2 district's standards, and are compatible in scale with existing development on the Main Street parcels adjacent to and across from the site. The front exterior finish of all three new buildings will be horizontal siding, similar to the siding on the site's existing office building and similar to many other facades (historical and recent) along Main Street. Thus, the proposed project will be visually compatible with the character of the surrounding area. Therefore, the Executive Director finds that the proposed development is consistent with Coastal Act Section 30251.

4. <u>Erosion/Geologic Stability</u>

The Coastal Act contains policies to assure that new development does not contribute to geologic hazards and to minimize risks to life and property. Section 30253 of the Coastal Act states in applicable part:

New development shall:

- (1) Minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard.
- (2) Assure stability and structural integrity, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area or in any way require the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms along bluffs and cliffs.

A geotechnical investigation for the project site was conducted by GeoForensics, Inc., on November 10, 1995. The resulting geotechnical report, dated November 12, 1995, concludes that the proposed development, on a coastal terrace site "considered to have a deep soil profile of generally strong soils," is geotechnically feasible, provided certain recommendations made in the report are incorporated into the project design and construction. The report recommends that certain grading and soil compaction work be undertaken, and that foundation construction be performed according to certain specifications. In addition, the report recommends that drainage measures be incorporated into the project to drain runoff away from proposed foundations. Finally, the report recommends that final development plans incorporating the recommendations be submitted for the review of the geotechnical consultant, to document the geotechnical aspects of the construction.

To ensure that the final development plans conform with the recommendations of the geotechnical report, the Commission attaches Special Condition No. 1, requiring that final foundation, grading, and drainage plans conforming with the the recommendations of the geotechnical report be submitted for the review and approval of the Executive Director prior to construction. The condition

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also requires that evidence of approval by the geotechnical engineer and the City of Half Moon Bay be provided with the submittal. As conditioned, the Commission finds that the project is consistent with Section 30253 of the Coastal Act.

5. <u>Local Coastal Program</u>.

The Half Moon Bay Land Use Plan (LUP) was certified by the Commission on September 24, 1985, and adopted by the City. The LCP Implementation Plan was reviewed by the Commission, and certified with suggested modifications, at the Commission's December 13, 1995 meeting. However, the full LCP will not be effectively certified until the City agrees to and accepts the modifications to the I.P. Therefore, the Commission retains permit jurisdiction and the standard of review that the Commission is applying in its consideration of the application is the Coastal Act. The certified LUP policies are considered advisory and not binding in this case.

The certified Half Moon Bay Land Use Plan (LUP) designates the subject property as Commercial General. The proposed commercial development is consistent with this land use designation.

Half Moon Bay LUP Section 9.1.2 states, in part, that new development shall be located within developed areas able to accommodate it, or where such areas are not able to accommodate it in other areas with adequate public services and where it will not have significant adverse effects on coastal resources. With the existing availability to the site of the necessary water and sewer service connections to adequately serve the proposed development, the proposed project is consistent with LUP Section 9.1.2., as the project will be located within a developed area with adequate public services to accommodate it.

LUP Policy 4-6 states in part that development shall be reviewed for "adjacency to, threats from, and impacts on geologic hazards" and that "mitigation measures shall be required where necessary." As conditioned to require submittal of final foundation and grading plans conforming to the recommendations of the geotechnical report prepared for the project, the project will not contribute to or create a geotechnical hazard. Therefore, the project is consistent with LUP policies regarding the avoidance of geotechnical hazards.

Coastal Act Section 30604(a) authorizes permit issuance if the Commission finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act and if the Commission finds that the permitted development will not prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare or implement a local coastal program that is in conformance with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. As discussed above, approval of the project, as conditioned, is consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and thus will not prejudice the City of Half Moon Bay's ability to implement a certifiable LCP for this area.

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6. <u>California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)</u>.

Section 13096 of the Commission's administrative regulations requires Commission approval of Coastal Development Permit applications to be supported by a finding showing the application, as modified by any conditions of approval, to be consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21080.5(d)(2)(i) of CEQA prohibits a proposed development from being approved if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact which the activity may have on the environment.

As discussed above, the project has been mitigated to ensure that the project will not contribute to or create a geotechnical hazard. The project, as conditioned, will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment, within the meaning of CEQA.

For purposes of CEQA, the lead agency for the project is the City of Half Moon Bay. The City adopted a negative declaration for the project on March 23, 1995.

Exhibits

- 1. Regional Location Map
- 2. Vicinity Map
- 3. Site Plan and Elevation

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ATTACHMENT A

Standard Conditions

- 1. Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment. The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
- 2. <u>Expiration</u>. If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date on which the Commission voted on the application. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
- 3. <u>Compliance</u>. All development must occur in strict compliance with the proposal as set forth in the application for permit, subject to any special conditions set forth below. Any deviation from the approved plans must be reviewed and approved by the staff and may require Commission approval.
- 4. <u>Interpretation</u>. Any questions of intent of interpretation of any condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
- 5. <u>Inspections</u>. The Commission staff shall be allowed to inspect the site and the development during construction, subject to 24-hour advance notice.
- 6. <u>Assignment</u>. The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.
- 7. <u>Terms and Conditions Run with the Land</u>. These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.





