

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SAN DIEGO AREA
7575 METROPOLITAN DRIVE, SUITE 103
SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-4421
(619) 767-2370



Th18a

NOTICE OF IMPENDING DEVELOPMENT

NO. NCC-NOID-0001-17

(CARDIFF COASTAL RAIL TRAIL)

EX PARTE FORMS

EX PARTE COMMUNICATION DISCLOSURE FORM

RECEIVED
APR 26 2017

Filed by Commissioner: Greg Cox

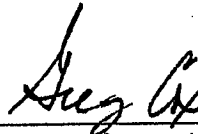
- 1) Name or description of project: North Coast Corridor Notice of Impending Development No. NCC-NOID-0001-17 (Encinitas Coastal Rail Trail)
- 2) Date and time of receipt of communication: Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 4:00 p.m.
- 3) Location of communication: 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335, San Diego, CA
- 4) Identity of person(s) initiating communication: Christopher Swanner
- 5) Identity of person(s) on whose behalf communication was made: Preserve Cardiff Rail Corridor
- 6) Identity of persons(s) receiving communication: Greg Cox, Victor Avina
- 7) Identity of all person(s) present during the communication: Greg Cox, Victor Avina, Christopher Swanner, Richard Risner, Julie Thunder, Ed Thielicke

Complete, comprehensive description of communication content (attach complete set of any text or graphic material presented):

On Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at 3:30 p.m., my staff member Victor Avina and I met with the individuals listed above. We discussed the benefits of the western alignment versus the eastern alignment for the Encinitas Rail Trail, including that the eastern alignment would effectively wall off access to the coast for about three miles between Chesterfield Drive and Santa Fe Drive. This would highly impact the community of Cardiff-by-the-Sea. They shared that the City of Encinitas would be obligated to pay for a portion of the cost to redesign the project on San Elijo Drive if the Coastal Commission approved the eastern alignment. They shared that Bike Walk Encinitas, a group with roughly 100 members that advocates for bicycling and walking improvements in Encinitas, was supportive of the western alignment, as was California State Parks. The group left behind a flyer that is circulating that supports the western alignment, in addition to a letter dated May 3, 2016 from the Encinitas City Council to SANDAG Executive Director Gay Gallegos. Both documents are being submitted with this disclosure.

4/25/2017

Date



Signature of Commissioner

TIMING FOR FILING OF DISCLOSURE FORM: File this form with the Executive Director within seven (7) days of the ex parte communication, if the communication occurred seven or more days in advance of the Commission hearing on the item that was the subject of the communication. If the communication occurred within seven (7) days of the hearing, provide the information orally on the record of the proceeding and provide the Executive Director with a copy of any written material that was part of the communication. This form may be filed with the Executive Director in addition to the oral disclosure.



City of Encinitas

Office of
The Mayor

May 3, 2016

Gary Gallegos
Executive Director
San Diego Association of Governments
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, California 92101

Kristin Gaspar
Mayor

Dear Mr. Gallegos:

As you are aware, SANDAG has been designing a portion of the Coastal Rail Trail, Segment 39C, through the Cardiff community of Encinitas. The current alignment being studied for the trail lies between the railroad tracks and San Elijo/Vulcan Avenue, between Chesterfield Drive and 'F' Street. The trail consists of a bicycle/pedestrian path, landscaping, water quality features, retaining walls, fencing and parking improvements along portions of the adjacent roadway.

Lisa Shaffer
Deputy Mayor

At our recent City Council meeting on March 30, 2016, the Council received an informational report regarding the Coastal Rail Trail project, as well as other projects being developed within the railroad corridor in Cardiff, including the LOSSAN San Elijo Double Tracking Project, Chesterfield Drive improvements, a proposed at-grade pedestrian crossing at Montgomery Avenue, rail quiet zones, a parking study and the City's Rail Corridor Vision Study. The Council also heard about NCTD's plans to fence the rail corridor. In addition to the report from City staff, Council heard from representatives of SANDAG and NCTD.

Catherine S. Blakespear
Council Member

Tony Kranz
Council Member

After receiving public comments and deliberating on the issue, Council approved a motion to pursue a Coastal Rail Trail alignment along the Coast Highway 101 corridor, which is on the west side of the rail corridor. This alignment had previously been considered along with the easterly alignment that is currently being developed. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the City Council's decision and to request that SANDAG pursue the Coast Highway 101 alternative for Segment 39C of the Coastal Rail Trail. It should be pointed out that a Coast Highway 101 alternative may include a portion of the CRT on the east side of the railroad tracks north of the existing Santa Fe Drive pedestrian undercrossing. The undercrossing would be used to transition the CRT from Coast Highway 101 to the east side of the tracks.

Mark Muir
Council Member

The City does understand that approximately \$500,000 has been expended on the development of the easterly alignment. The City also understands that the project has been awarded an Active Transportation Program Grant of slightly more than \$1,000,000. The ATP Grant funds could be forfeited if a construction contract is not awarded by February 2018, which reflects an eight month extension from the original June 2017 deadline. Although the City understands SANDAG's concerns about project costs, we believe the construction costs associated with the Coast Highway 101 alignment will be significantly less than the easterly alignment and the project could be completed within the existing budget.

Karen P. Brust
City Manager

The Coastal Rail Trail is a component of the North Coast Corridor Public Works Plan, which received approval by the California Coastal Commission. The plans on which the CCC approval was obtained included the CRT alignment on the east side of the railroad tracks, which is the alignment SANDAG had been pursuing. A subsequent amendment to the CCC provides some flexibility on the alignment of the CRT. The City is committed to working with SANDAG and the CCC to allow the development of the CRT along Coast Highway 101.

SANDAG staff has expressed concern about future segments of the CRT in Encinitas. The City is about to embark on a comprehensive citywide Rail Corridor Vision Study that will explore opportunities for public uses within the NCTD rail corridor. SANDAG will be invited to participate in that Study. The City will expedite that Study so that any uses proposed in the rail corridor that may affect future SANDAG projects can be identified early and coordinated to minimize any impacts.

The City appreciates the close working relationship we have enjoyed with SANDAG on this project and others. Given the extent of the projects proposed in the rail corridor in Cardiff and the public input we have received, we believe the Coast Highway 101 alignment is in the best interests of the City. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request and please let me know if there is anything we can do to support this project moving forward.

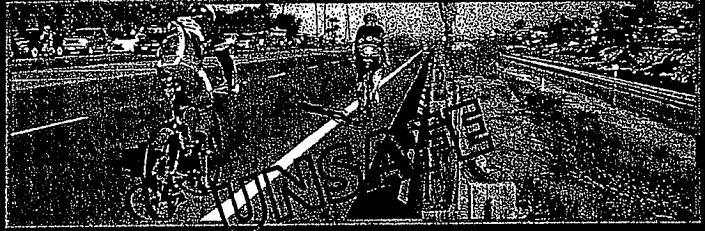
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kristin Gaspar".

Kristin Gaspar
Mayor

cc: City Council

Coast Hwy 101 needs YOUR help



On May 11th the Calif Coastal Commission will vote on SANDAG's Plan to upgrade Coast Hwy. We need to show that the public supports these improvements.

The SANDAG CRT Plan will

Add NEW class 1 bike lanes, north & south ~ Widen existing path along bluff ~ Calm traffic for cars, bikes, walkers ~ Save & enhance beach parking ~ Preserve open space

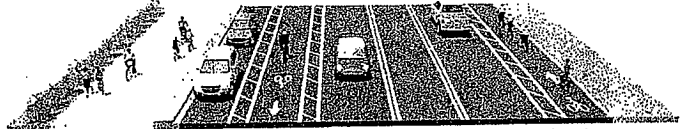
Supported by

Bike Walk Encinitas ~ Surfing Madonna Foundation
Rob Machado Foundation ~ Preserve Cardiff Rail Corridor
Encinitas City Council ~ Supervisor & Former Mayor Kristen Gaspar

Tell our Commissioner to vote YES

Commissioner Greg Cox 619.531.5511 / Greg.Cox@coastal.ca.gov
cc Coastal Staff: gabriel.buhr@coastal.ca.gov

SANDAG CRT - Cardiff Section Coast Hwy at State Campground



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- 1) Name or description of project: North Coast Corridor Notice of Impending Development No. NCC-NOID-0001-17 (Encinitas Coastal Rail Trail)
- 2) Date and time of receipt of communication: Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 2:06 p.m.
- 3) Location of communication: Telephone
- 4) Identity of person(s) initiating communication: Gabrielle Holly
- 5) Identity of person(s) on whose behalf communication was made: Gabrielle Holly
- 6) Identity of persons(s) receiving communication: Victor Avina
- 7) Identity of all person(s) present during the communication: Victor Avina

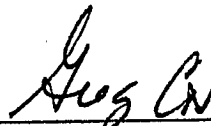
Complete, comprehensive description of communication content (attach complete set of any text or graphic material presented):

On Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at 2:06 p.m., my staff member Victor Avina received a voicemail from Ms. Holly regarding the alignment of the Encinitas Coastal Rail Trail. The message was transcribed as follows:

"Hi, this is Gabrielle Holly. I'm a resident of Cardiff -- 92007 is my zip code and I'm calling to ask the commissioner to please vote 'yes' on the Highway 101 alignment in the Cardiff area of the coastal rail trail. I strongly believe that the bikeways belong on the west side and not the east side. Thank you very much. Bye bye."

4/25/2017

Date



Signature of Commissioner

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