



## Westport Municipal Advisory Council

P. O. Box 307, Westport, CA 95488  
www.westportmac.org

---

### Summary Minutes— November 2, 2010

---

The WMAC Board of Directors convened for a meeting on November 2, 2010 at 7:00 PM at the Westport Community Church in Westport with the following Directors Present: Grigg, Knapp, Vidaver, Scott and Chairperson Van Bueren presiding.

#### 1) ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted with directors, Van Bueren, Grigg, Knapp, Vidaver and Scott present. Director Eyerly was absent. Director Knapp appointed to take minutes in Director Eyerly's absence.

#### 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion: No discussion

Public Comment: None

Motion: Upon motion by Alternate Scott, seconded by Director Vidaver, and carried unanimously; it is ordered that the Minutes of the October 5th, 2010 meeting are hereby approved.

Discussion of Motion: None

Action: Motion approved without amendment.

#### 3) Public Expression

None

#### 4) New Business – Discussion and possible action

a) Ad Hoc Ocean Committee – Director Vidaver presented information on upcoming action by the Federal Government. New / updated Federal Ocean Policy will be presented in 2011. The idea seems to be to have a unified plan for ocean “zoning”. It is expected that various groups will prepare and present educational forums on the topic, perhaps in February. Director Vidaver will provide links to the information that can be put on the WMAC website.

b) Update on Wave Energy Projects – Director Vidaver reported that PG&E is giving up its plans to develop Wave Energy off the northern California coast. Also, FERC, the federal agency overseeing much of the Wave Energy development has shut down the GreenWave project along the northern California coast.

#### 5) Old Business – Discussion and possible actions

a) Coastal Trail Feasibility Study update – Director Van Bueren reviewed the upcoming Coastal Trail public meeting to be held at the Westport Community Church. To date there have been 30 sign-ups for the morning bus tour. Two buses will be utilized. In addition to members of the public there will be representatives from MCOG, CalTrans, Parks & Rec, and County Supervisor Kendal Smith. After the bus tour there will be lunch and multiple discussion groups. The group topics will be decided at the meeting. The area between Usal Road and Ten Mile River has been divided into four sections:

- Usal Road to Hardy Creek
- Hardy Creek to South end of Westport

- South end of Westport to Abalobadiah

In addition Westport itself will be considered under the topic “Walking Westport.” The groups will be presented with maps and asked to prioritize areas for development of the trail type or usage they discussed. During the past summer a bicycle survey was taken in Westport. There were over 400 survey respondents. Director Van Bueren will publish the survey results on the WMAC Web page.

During the discussion public input was received. Specific suggestions and questions included:

- Does CalTrans predetermine how trails can be built?
- How does CalTrans handle right of way issues for trails on CalTrans property on in the highway setback right of way?
- Is it possible to designate strategic fill sites to take slide overburden such that it can be used to create or maintain trail sections? Current practice seems to be to haul material out of the area.
- There is a significant amount of fill that CalTrans has placed as a berm along the east side of Hwy 1 over the last 20 years. Any chance it can be utilized for the creation of the trails instead of importing soil?

b) Highway 1 Safety Issues – Director Van Bueren requested highway safety data from CalTrans, but has not yet received a reply. Alternate Scott expressed concern about bicycle / car interaction, in particular as regards bicycles riding in mid lane and 2 bicycles riding side by side. He suggested that vehicle code 21654 (Slow Moving Vehicles) addresses this problem and that and that signage as covered in that statute should be pursued.

Action: Alternate Scott to pursue how WMAC can facilitate placement of appropriate signage from Westport to 10 Mile River.

During discussion it was pointed out that WMAC had sent letter to MCOG on the Highway 1 Safety Issue many months ago and never received a response.

Action: Alternate Scott will visit MCOG offices and establish a contact there to allow a dialog to start.

c) Invasive plants – Director Grigg indicated that a public way to address the problem has not been identified. The primary problem in our area is Pampas Grass, a species apparently introduced by CalTrans to combat erosion problems. It was noted that the annual mowing along Highway 1 came AFTER the Pampas Grass seeded this year. No action to be taken, topic may be revisited in 6 to 9 months (next growing season).

d) Marine Life Protection Act – Director Vidaver presented an update on the 10 Mile Estuary and River area. Except for special closure areas north of Hardy Creek this is the only MLPA area in the WMAC sphere of influence. The 10 Mile area got the highest marks of all MLPA areas in Northern California through Oregon. This also means it has some of the most restrictive rules. Of specific concern is a public access area south of the Buhel Point Vista Point area. The Vista Point and the land around it is owned by CalTrans. CalTrans has created improved paths to the ocean and along the bluffs. The public uses these access trails. Activities have included collecting mussels and seaweed and fishing from the shore. The southerly portions of these access trails have been included in the MLPA area and therefore any harvesting of sea life will be prohibited. Director Vidaver requested that the WMAC send a letter with the goal of moving the MLPA boundary south to exclude the access trails on public land.

Action: Director Vidaver to prepare a draft letter for review by the WMAC board.

**6) Other business/announcements – Discussion Only**

No activity.

**7) Set Preliminary Agenda for next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Decmeber 7, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Westport Community Church at 24900 Abalone Street in Westport.

The preliminary agenda for the meeting:

- a) Coastal Trail Feasibility Study update – Van Bueren
- b) Highway 1 safety issues – Scott/Van Bueren
- c) Marine Life Protection Act update – Vidaver
- d) Federal Coastal Policy update– Vidaver

**8) Adjournment**

Chair Van Bueren declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 PM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Secretary