

## **Westport Municipal Advisory Council**

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

February 5, 2021

Mr. Jack Ainsworth, Executive Director California Coastal Commission 455 Market Street, Suite 300 San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Item f8b, Amendment No. LCP-1-MEN-20-0021-1 (Accessory Dwelling Units)

Dear Mr. Ainsworth:

The Westport Municipal Advisory Council opposes extending the time limit for the California Coastal Commission to approve Mendocino County's proposed Local Coastal Plan amendment for "Implementation of the New Accessory Dwelling Unit Law" listed as Item f8b on the 12 February 2021 agenda. We urge the CCC instead to schedule a timely hearing prior to April 1, 2021 and approve it.

The CCC memo of 17 November 2017 urged coastal counties to adopt measures to permit ADUs and JADUs as a way to create more affordable housing. The need for such housing in the coastal zone was already extreme at that time. We supported our County's LCP amendment, which was crafted with extensive consultations with CCC staff. On 17 November 2020, Commission staff deemed LCP Amendment No. LCP-1-MEN-20-0021-1 "submitted."

The Covid pandemic has greatly exacerbated our local housing problem. When the eviction ban is lifted later this year, that housing crisis will deepen. The time to act is now. Nearly four years have already elapsed and the need is mounting.

We urge CCC to hear and approve this matter in the 90 day required response period. Delays will have real impacts for real people. Please share this letter with every commissioner. Also let us know, as soon as possible, the California Coastal Commission's actions on this matter.

You can reach me with questions at (707) 964-7433.

On behalf of the Westport Municipal Advisory Council,

Robert L. Scott, Chair

Cc: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors State Senator Mike McGuire State Assemblyman Jim Wood Mendocino Supervisor Dan Gjerde