

MCC letter to LAFCO  
For discussion Sept. 24, 2008

Executive Summary:

**The Midcoast Community Council supports the Preliminary Sphere of Influence Report recommendation on page 11 that designates a sphere of influence for the City of Half Moon Bay “coterminous with existing boundaries” and that designates spheres of influence for each of the local agencies providing services in the Midcoast, consistent with their existing service boundaries.**

The Midcoast Community Council is particularly concerned that the recommended spheres of influence allow existing special districts to propose reorganizations or activation of latent service powers so that they may fulfill critical park and recreation needs for the Midcoast, as well as allowing the creation of a new special district to fulfill these functions. The LAFCo goal of reducing the number of special districts is not achieved by establishing spheres of influence that force formation of a new park and recreation district, rather than using existing local agencies.

As noted on page 12 of the Report, “Capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services in the unincorporated area are characterized by . . . lack of park and recreation facilities and programs in the unincorporated area . . . ,” among other problems.

As it relates to parks and recreation in the Midcoast in the near term, the Council desires to see:

- Adoption of revised spheres of influence for Half Moon Bay, GSD, and MWSD
- Continuity and coordination of the action elements of the Midcoast Action Plan Report
- An efficient process to create a coordinated and possibly graduated plan for Midcoast Parks and Recreation that is acceptable to LAFCo, the affected agencies, and the local community, and that also reflects current local government organizational structures

The Council believes that this will require the cooperative work of several groups including the MCC and the Council desires to play a role in such a process.

**We urge the Commission to support the staff recommendation for Granada Sanitary District’s sphere of influence.**

**We urge the Commission to support a modified staff recommendation that recognizes the historic service area of Citizens Utilities Company of California as part of MWSD’s sphere of influence.**

**We urge the Commission to support a sphere of influence for CCWD coterminous with its existing service area, including only the Midcoast communities of Miramar, El Granada, and Princeton.**

**The Midcoast Community Council strongly supports the recommendation in the Preliminary Sphere of Influence Update report to designate Half Moon Bay’s sphere of influence along existing city limits, allowing for the Midcoast community to continue solving its own problems.**