SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Board of Supervisors Agenda Item 7892, 10/8/19

My name is Steve Forer, and I am President of Coastal Property Owners Association of Santa Cruz County, representing over 600 coastal property owners. I am here to speak to Consent Item #7892, regarding the County’s Proposed Local Coastal Program Public Safety Element. We have submitted a letter of support to you which should be in your file. It appears that the Planning Department has addressed most of our concerns and is prepared to make additional changes to the LCP Amendments and it is moving in the right direction. We want to support the County’s effort to develop a Local Coastal Plan as long as it is practical and reasonable, and believe we are close.

There are three remaining issues which must be clarified in the revised LCP:

1. Term and conditions for existing shoreline protection (armoring devices) shall not be altered and the property owners shall be allowed to maintain their shoreline protection according to the term of their initial permits. Existing shoreline protection must be taken into consideration when calculating the useful life of structures and required set back of structures for new or redevelopment permits.
2. The language used in the LCP regarding recordation on property deeds of “Hold Harmless”, Indemnification, and Waver of Liability” needs to be revised to specify the specific purpose and term of the liability release.
3. Sand Mitigation fees **must be based on hard science and estimates of the actual potential sand loss which will occur at the site of the proposed armoring devices.** Property owners may offer improved public access and protection from beach erosion in lieu of Sand Mitigation fees.

We further request a follow-up meeting with Kathy Malloy and David Carlson to review the revised LCP before it is presented to the Planning Commissions on 10/23/19.

Thank you for your time