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To: [James Pruett](#)
Cc: [Virginia Chang Kiraly](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My remarks to the CCC
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 9:51:10 AM
Attachments: [SMCHD-- CCC remarks supporting CDP approval for the West Trail.docx](#)

Hi, Jim,

Attached please find my public comments to the CA Coastal Commission for the Harbor Board's website.

Thx!

vck

Good afternoon. My name is Virginia Chang Kiraly, and I am the President of the San Mateo County Harbor District Board of Commissioners.

Thank you very much for considering approving the Coastal Development Permit, or CDP, for the Harbor District's West Trail Living Shoreline Project, Application # 2-20-0443. I am here to voice my strong support for approving the CDP for our project.

The Harbor District's mission is to provide "fiscally and environmentally responsible stewardship of its maritime resources, emergency response, and public access." The West Trail Living Shoreline Project is aligned with the Harbor District's mission in every way and has had incredible community support, after much spirited debate for at least the last 5-6 years I've had the honor to serve on the Harbor Board.

The Harbor District is very proud of the community engagement and the collaborative work put into the project with our partners, such as the County of San Mateo and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, to name a few. The culmination of this hard work will ensure that the West Trail is safe, environmentally sustainable, and accessible to the public.

The Harbor District is grateful for the support and hard work by our staff and consultants. But, we are most grateful for the public's support for giving the Harbor District the opportunity to present this project, of a living shoreline, for your approval today. Based on your staff report, "the promise of living shorelines can be put to the test" throughout California from our project. We agree and hope that it will be a model and provide lessons elsewhere along the California Coast to combat sea level rise by protecting California's coastline while enhancing natural resources and overall resilience and sustainability.

For these reasons, I ask that you please approve the CDP to protect San Mateo County's West Trail shoreline and provide the opportunity to learn how living shorelines can benefit the California coastline. Thank you.