

Resolution 17-09
of the
San Mateo County Harbor District
Resolution Requesting that the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Provide
for More Flexibility for the Disposal of Clean Dredged Materials

Whereas, federal and state resource agencies have adopted policies and regulations recognizing sediments as valuable public resources; and,

Whereas, Congress has endorsed beneficial use of sediment in the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, section 2037; and,

Whereas, beneficial re-use of sediment has been adopted as part of the California Ocean Plan as its primary cliff protection option, through the placement of dredged sediment in the beach and nearshore as opposed to other hardscape options; and,

Whereas, placement of clean, dredged sediment is one of the primary means of re-using sand and silt in beneficial projects; and,

Whereas, the California Coastal Commission has adopted as its primary option for protecting cliffs and structures, the placement of dredging material; and,

Whereas, the 1992 designation document of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary prohibits new disposal sites within the Sanctuary boundaries, negating the feasibility of dredged material projects which could clearly have multiple benefits for beaches and habitats; and,

Whereas, the prohibition of the 1992 designation document now fundamentally restricts new projects which, under recent resource management science and liberalized regulatory policy, can be encouraged and authorized.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the San Mateo County Harbor District Board of Harbor Commissioners urges Sanctuary management to provide for more flexibility for the disposal of clean dredged materials from Pillar Point, Santa Cruz, Moss Landing, and Monterey harbors within Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary waters, and if necessary, to lift the prohibition on new dredge disposal sites and replace it with language that allows the placement of clean sediment to be: 1) evaluated on its specific merits; and, 2) authorized when it can be demonstrated to the Sanctuary and other regulatory agencies that such sediment will be beneficial to Sanctuary resources and without unacceptable negative impacts.

Passed and Adopted by the San Mateo County Harbor District Board of Harbor Commissioners on September 2, 2009 by the following vote:

For: Campbell, Lundie, Padreddii, Parravano, Tucker


Against: None

Absent: None

Attested


Peter Grenell
Acting Deputy Secretary

BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS


Leo Padreddii
President