

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

COUNTY OF MARIN, Planning Dept.

3501 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903 **Attn: Kristin Drumm**

January 15, 2015

Dear Kristin,

Thank you so much for attending the Black Point Improvement Club meeting at the Atherton Fire house last week.

I attended on a whim, not knowing that I am living in the area known as the Black Point Community. This is because I have never been sure whether my residence is considered to be in **Green Point** or Black Point. Now I know.

I understand it this way: Black Point is a “neighborhood” lying south of Highway 37, and **Green Point** is a “neighborhood” lying north of Highway 37. Nevertheless, both neighborhoods are apparently referred to under the common name of the **BLACK POINT COMMUNITY**. As such, it is also quite confusing that the **Black Point Improvement Club** (BPIC) governs decisions affecting both neighborhoods.

My concern is that it is very misleading and confusing for the county planning department to use a name that references only half the community indicated on the many maps presented in your “Draft Black Point Community Plan”. For the record, I would like it noted that I propose a title change as follows:

**DRAFT: COMMUNITY PLAN
FOR THE NEIGHBORHOODS OF BLACK POINT AND GREEN POINT**

When I was a young man growing up in Lucas Valley, I never considered myself a resident of Marinwood, or Terra Linda, or even San Rafael. Acknowledgment of one’s place is important not only in terms of personal pride, but of the ownership and responsibility attendant on being a permanent resident.

As your draft report indicates, the majority of people living in **Green Point** are property owners, not renters. The **Green Point** neighborhood had it’s 1970 beginning only briefly pointed out in the Draft. That is now 45 years as an established neighborhood. I myself have lived here 19 of those years and absolutely love this area.

I was therefore quite offended that the “Historic Timeline” (pages 20-21) made no reference whatsoever to the creation of **Green Point** in 1970. In fact the majority of the “Draft...Plan” made continual references to “Black Point” the neighborhood with it’s history and it’s riverfront environment. I almost feel like the **Green Point** neighborhood is being portrayed as nothing more than an unimportant suburb of the Black Point neighborhood—a sort of “bedroom” neighborhood, if you will.

We are much more than that. For one, there is a strong agricultural presence here that highly distinguishes us from the Black Point neighborhood.

If the Marin County Planning Department wants the understanding and support of **Green Point** residents, I highly suggest that considerably more effort be made in the wording of your final draft to recognize in title and text the presence, contribution, and unique character of **Green Point** and it’s people.

Sincerely, Donald S. Trowbridge, 15 School Terrace, Novato, CA 94945, (415) 897-0160