Dear Chair Biehle and Members of the Planning Commission,

I write on behalf of the East Shore Planning Group. The East Shore Planning Group (“ESPG”) is a California not-for-profit corporation formed in 1984 that has a membership of about 90 owners and tenants of residential, commercial and agricultural properties in the unincorporated area of Marin County along the east shore of Tomales Bay, including Marshall. ESPG is the primary local organization involved with issues of development in the area. We have been active in the formulation of the amendments to the Marin County Local Coastal Plan (“LCP”) since the process began.

The proposed mapping for the “commercial core” areas on the East Shore reflects the community’s views. Kristin Drumm of the CDA came to one of our meetings this summer to discuss this issue, which was greatly appreciated. Previously, members had discussed the issue with Jack Liebster. We are gratified to see that our views have been heard, and we support the “commercial core” map as proposed. It reflects a balance between commercial visitor-serving uses and long-established residential uses, as contemplated by the C-VCR zoning that was adopted in 1987.

We also have previously expressed our concerns regarding the “ongoing agriculture” provisions proposed by the Coastal Commission staff, and we appreciate that the CDA has made proposals that reflect these concerns. We defer to the agricultural community as to any further issues they may have with the CDA’s proposed amendments.

Thank you for your consideration of these views.

Sincerely,

Mary Halley, President, East Shore Planning Group, mhalleysvn@gmail.com