All Marin County Board of Supervisors [general box] All Marin County Board of Supervisors [general box],

Dear Supervisors:

I am writing to support the Board of Supervisor's acceptance of the Marin County Local Coastal Program amendments. The community has spent a decade working on the LCP amendments, balancing the needs for community development and land-use with the protection of our coastal resources as mandated by the California Coastal Act. We should not stall these efforts with any further delays. While the amendments are not perfect, they provide critical updates to our outdated 1981 planning policies and implementation measures, and most importantly - once the environmental hazards chapter is completed - critical planning tools for our communities to adapt to the impending threats of sea-level rise.

The Board of Supervisors should accept all of the non-environmental hazards LCP amendments so that Marin County and the Coastal Commission can turn their attention to environmental hazards, which is not addressed in the 1981 Certified LCP. This is critical so that our communities will have the appropriate planning tools to address the local impacts of climate change like flooding and sea-level rise.

If Marin County fails to accept the amendments on April 24th, Marin County's LCP amendment process will be at the "bottom of the Coastal Commission pile," and we will even further delay implementation of our environmental hazards adaptation strategies, which are meant to be part of the County's LCP.

The delay in sea-level rise adaptation planning that would result from the County letting the Coastal Commission's conditional certification expire (deadline is May 2nd) would have significant impacts to coastal resources in West Marin. Delaying the LCP amendment years into the future jeopardizes Marin County's C-SMART program (Collaboration: Sea-level Marin Adaptation Response Team) and our communities' ability to adapt to impending environmental hazards.

Thank you for the consideration of my comments and your support to accept the Local Coastal Program Amendments.

Katherine Mitchell
PO Box 31
Inverness, CA 94937