November 13, 2012

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Local Coastal Program Amendments (LCPA)
Second Board Public Hearing – Agriculture and Biological Resources

Dear Members of the Board,

RECOMMENDATION:
Continue the consideration of, and provide staff direction on each of the Local Coastal Program Amendments recommended by the Planning Commission and additional alternatives to Agriculture, Biological Resources and policies governing interpretation of the LCP as set forth in attached Exhibits 1 and 2.

BACKGROUND:
At your October 2nd public hearing, the Board specifically discussed a number of Local Coastal Program Amendments relating to Agriculture and Biological Resources, and provided direction to staff on those that the Board accepted, and those that should be revised.

Exhibit 1 of this report summarizes those items the Board completed action on under the heading “Approved by the Board.” The complete text of each item is provided in the Exhibit 2, the compilation of revisions (“Compilation”) in underline and cross-out format.

Due to time limitations, the Board was only able to provide general direction on many other policy and code amendments, including most of the Biological policies. Unfinished items are also shown in Exhibit 1 under the headings of “Board Action Required.” The policies as currently recommended by staff are included in each of these sections. The Board is requested to review each policy and accept or modify it as you progress through the report. For the Board’s background and convenience, each section also provides a reference to where the issue is discussed in the Detailed Analysis of the Oct. 2, 2012 report.

As a reminder, Attachments 3 and 4 of the October 2nd staff report addressed the other Agriculture and Biological Resources items as recommended by the Planning Commission, and provided for your Board’s approval of them on a “consent” agenda basis. That is to say if your Board as a whole has no objections to these changes, they will be deemed approved. Of course, any Board member may identify any issue for public discussion before the LCPAs are approved.

In anticipation of the Board completing action on the Agriculture and Biological Resources sections of the LCPA, the December 11, 2012 has been re-noticed as a
hearing and discussion of the balance of the LCP Amendments, including the Environmental Hazards, the Built Environment, WECS and all other proposed Amendments.

The Coastal Commission staff did not provide any written comments for the October 2nd hearing, nor have received any communication from them to date for this hearing. We have, however, been able to meet with representatives of the Marin County Farm Bureau as well as with the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC) together with other environmental group representatives since October 2nd.

SUMMARY:
The LCP Amendments adopted by the Planning Commission on February 23, 2012 are the baseline for your Board’s review. In response to issues raised by the Coastal Commission staff and others, alternative language has been offered in some cases for your Board’s consideration. Two Exhibits comprise the substance of the staff report:

- Exhibit 1 identifies the issues that were resolved in the Board’s October 2, 2012 meeting, and discussion and recommendations on the remaining proposed Agriculture and Biological Resources amendments.

- Exhibit 2 is a compilation of revisions to the Planning Commission-approved text, including further changes staff is recommending with this report.

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT:
No fiscal or staffing impact as a result of the LCPA is expected since the work to complete the LCP amendments is budgeted in the current fiscal year and programmed in the Department’s Performance Plan.

REVIEWED BY:  (These boxes must be checked)

[ ] Department of Finance  [ ] N/A
[X] County Counsel  [ ] N/A
[ ] Human Resources  [ ] N/A

SIGNATURE:

Jack Liebster
Principal Planner

Reviewed by:

Brian C. Crawford
Director

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Exhibit 1: Staff Recommendation
2. Exhibit 2: Compilation of Revisions