Nov. 13, 2014

RE: Port San Luis Harbor Terrace Development Plan EIR

Dear Ms. Scott,

We commend the District and the Conservancy on bringing forward a plan that goes a long way toward achieving the goal of providing a range of coastal related and visitor serving uses, enhance the public's enjoyment of Harbor Terrace.

We are concerned, however, to see 126 rv/hotel/motel units planned and only 56 car/tent and walk-in campsites. This ratio should be essentially reversed in order to conform to the intent of the LCP and its stipulation prioritizing campsites as low- and moderate-cost overnight accommodations.

The hotel/motel units also appear to be situated at the highest portion of the terrace. We suggest locating campsites here and relocating yurts, cabins, bungalows, etc. to the lower elevations to minimize visual intrusion.

Overall, the Reduced Project Alternative is preferable – relocating the harbor use areas and reducing the number of hotel/motel units to 20, with all units located in areas designated as disturbed habitat, avoiding impacts to coastal scrub and valley needlegrass. While the slight reduction in existing RV spaces this alternative entails “may potentially conflict with Coastal Policies intended to increase public accessibility to the coastline,” coastal management has always been a balance between public access and the protection of coastal resources. The Reduced Project Alternative offers the best balance.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment,

Andrew Christie, Director
Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club