



AGENDA NO: I

MEETING DATE: June 27, 2023

**AGENDA CORRESPONDENCE
RECEIVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR
PUBLIC REVIEW PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

Dana Swanson

From: Jeffrey Heller [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 11:01 AM
To: Council
Subject: Special Meeting - Item #1 -Agenda Correspondence

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Dana

I apologize for submitting this so late and do not expect it to be formally issued in time for the meeting.

Questions/comments:

1. Should Morro Bay spend staff time and money participating in the HIP?
2. What is the true staff and council time cost for being involved with developing an "aspirational document"?
3. What is the downside to not participating with the regional group?
4. What "funding opportunities will be identified" that Morro Bay can't find with our current consultants?
5. Will the information that is developed re: the 2027 RHNA be available to Morro Bay if we are not a member of the HIP?
6. My impression of regional groups like this---favor the County and the larger cities in the region--not Morro Bay.
7. What is the downside if Morro Bay decides to not participate?
8. What is the upside if we do participate?

Thank you all.

Jeff Heller
805-286-882

Dana Swanson

From: Metzger Tina [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 11:59 AM
To: Council
Subject: Special Council Meeting Agenda Item 1 (June 27, 2023)

CAUTION: This is an external email. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Honorable Mayor Wixom and Council Members,

Concerning the Special Council Meeting of June 27, 2023, Agenda Item 1: The Regional Housing and Infrastructure Plan (HIP Review: (Community Development Department).

I strongly recommend the Council vote for Staff Report Alternative 1. Direct no further action on this item.

Do not hand over local control on our future housing development to regional developers. Do not be fooled by this slick document.

Sincerely,

Tina Metzger
Morro Bay

Dana Swanson

From: sdegerer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 9:04 PM
To: Council
Subject: Regionalism: public comment

CAUTION: This is an external email. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Morro Bay City Council,

I appreciate the effort to nourish a coordinated county wide effort to tackle housing needs and concerns.

I want to warn against losing autonomy. While It is important to work together as districts or city centers within our county, each do have unique individualized needs.

To relinquish control over localized housing progress in the pursuit of regional unified approach, denies uniquely tailored solutions. What's good for the goose is not always what's good for the gander. The needs of Nipomo or Shandon, do not necessarily accurately mirror the needs of Morro Bay.

Please move forward on this regionalized approach to housing with a strong conviction to maintain city of Morro Bay's autonomy.

Sincerely,
Sara Semmes

chart on page 3 which talks about Stakeholder engagement doesn't mention residents, citizens, people who actually live here -

Sent from my iPhone

Heather Goodwin

From: Nicole Dorfman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 3:09 PM
To: Council
Subject: Comment for Special Meeting - Agenda Item 1

CAUTION: This is an external email. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mayor Wixom and City Councilmembers,

I am writing to express serious concern for the Special Meeting Agenda Item 1 that would create a regional bureaucratic overlay of our own elected officials and dilute their power to make decisions for the best of Morro Bay, our residents, businesses and visitors.

Immediately evident in the staff report for the proposed Regional Housing and Infrastructure Plan is the lack of citizen input and participation that will be requested or required.

Despite the pretty language touting quality of life, increased prosperity and equitable opportunities, residents are notably absent from the list of "stakeholders" who will "convene diverse perspectives and have honest conversations" about issues that directly and significantly impact our town.

While ordinary residents are not given a voice, "Builders and Developers" are welcome, and have nearly as many seats at the table as "City and County Elected Officials". Local Builders Associations and Chambers of Commerce are also included, but small business owners and homeowners are not. Furthermore the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) leadership, board and staff are included in three different stakeholder groups. Keep in mind that these SLOCOG individuals are unelected and not responsible or transparent to the general population.

At this special meeting, City Council is being asked to "comment and seek general support of regional collaboration moving forward." They are being asked for a "recommitment" to putting HIP in the driver's seat.

We strongly oppose any commitment to this document as it is written. The agreement makes the City of Morro Bay dependent on outside values, outside economic standards, and outside interests, including for-profit businesses to direct our housing program. It undercuts our City's autonomy and dilutes the power of our elected officials.

Of additional concern is the mention of "Cashless Fare System" in the "Snapshot of Prioritized Projects" on the North Coast - which includes Morro Bay. I am fervently opposed to removing cash as a means of payments in ANY public

or private venture and wonder why the authors of this report would want to place obstacles on the use of public transportation. I was unable to find any rationale in the report for including this item and what, if any, benefit would be gained in the housing sector by denying cash transactions in public transportation.

Sincerely,

Nicole Dorfman

Dana Swanson

From: betty winholtz [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 25, 2023 9:37 PM
To: Carla Wixom; Laurel Barton; Jennifer Ford; Zara Landrum; Cyndee Edwards
Cc: Scot Graham; Dana Swanson
Subject: special meeting agenda item I.

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Dear City Council:

This document is a game changer.

As you listen to this presentation, you will hear phrases like "accelerate" housing of all types, "resilient infrastructure" projects, and "regional conditions;" however, you won't hear phrases like community identity, citizen input, and local prioritization.

The document says **stakeholders** have agreed to this plan. Who are the stakeholders? City/county staff, builders, developers, chambers of commerce, REACH, and elected officials. Not we who live, vote, pay taxes and fees here.

Who prepared this plan?

ECONorthwest (Seattle): "Our staff are top-notch: seasoned economists, savvy analysts, creative policy wonks, exceptional evaluators, talented communicators."

BKF Engineers (Redwood City): Vision: "be the most sought-after and valued consulting firm for clients and employees by virtue of our reputation and work culture."

Koble Collaborative (SLO): "We facilitate complex conversations by forging strong partnerships built on trust, communication, and reciprocity."

This report is built on the assumption that "the housing, infrastructure and economic challenges that the region [County] faces are larger than any one entity can solve alone." Specifically, what? How are we not handling those challenges now? How does it make it less of a challenge to align [mimic] our housing elements; how is it less challenging for consultants and other government agencies to direct what Morro Bay builds? Every city in the nation has challenges. Every City in the County has challenges. Let our individual cities not become suburbs of SLO or SLO County.

The document states that what is proposed is "voluntary." Yet, HIP wants to be a factor in future "grant programming cycles" through SLOCOG who distributes money to the County and 7 cities within the County.

This is not a "receive and file" presentation. City Council is asked to "comment and seek general support of regional collaboration moving forward." Council is being asked for a "recommitment" to letting HIP take charge. The "SLOCOG Board of Directors will consider adoption of the HIP on August 2, 2023."

I strongly urge you to **not recommit** to this document as is. The agreement makes the City of Morro Bay dependent on outside values, outside economic standards, directs our housing program, and turns us generic. I believe in County cooperation. The City already partners with the other city governments through SLOCOG, APCD, WRAC, and other programs. However, I don't believe in being **co-opted**. In fact, some of the details of the **HIP won't be finished until July**, next month, so you are being asked to approved something you haven't seen in its completion.

At the least, **take the month of July to suggest some modifying language**. You'll note that we are the first city to be approached with this document. There is time to revisit this document before the deadline in August. Use the planning commission and/or return in a special city council meeting.

Sincerely,
Betty Winholtz



AGENDA NO: II

MEETING DATE: June 27, 2023

**AGENDA CORRESPONDENCE
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PUBLIC REVIEW PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

Heather Goodwin

From: Susan Stewart [REDACTED] >
Sent: Sunday, June 25, 2023 11:12 AM
To: Council; Amy K. Watkins
Cc: michael@morrobay.org; erica@morrochamber.org
Subject: Ironman 6/27/Special Meeting Agenda Item II

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Honorable Mayor and Council,

I urge you to follow staff's recommendation to amend the Ironman contract to change the day of the event from Saturday to Sunday in the years 2024 and 2025.

Morro Bay is dependent on tourism for the bulk of it's income for the foreseeable future. This kind of positive, healthy outdoor event provided global exposure for Morro Bay. I have a business in the downtown area, and had decent sales days on the preceding weekdays and Saturday of the Ironman event. I also talked to customers mid week who had arrived early with the purpose of shopping! BUT, I have always thought that Sunday would be a much better day to have special events, as Saturday is already a tourist saturated day.

I do sympathize with those who lost business on that Saturday. I appreciate the willingness of our city leaders to look for solutions to make this work, rather than trying to break a contract which could engender bad will, a damaged reputation and potential economic losses. It appears that Ironman athletes are used to having Sunday events in other regions, and would be more than willing to make this change. Marathons are often run on Sundays in large municipalities.

Best of luck with your deliberations. I felt that overall this was a positive event for the city. Next year I will try to take advantage of opportunities for more business promotion and engagement.

Susan Stewart
Business Owner, Morro Bay Blvd.

Dana Swanson

From: betty winholtz [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 25, 2023 10:25 PM
To: Carla Wixom; Laurel Barton; Jennifer Ford; Zara Landrum; Cyndee Edwards
Cc: Amy K. Watkins; Dana Swanson
Subject: special city council meeting agenda item II

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Dear City Council:

I recognize that this item is focused on changing the date only. However, I hope you will either now or at another time address the concern regarding the swim competition near the sea otters. Please include whether you or Ironman have consulted with CA Fish and Wildlife and their response.

Sincerely,
Betty Winholtz