(A Possible Resolution FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF THE NORTH COAST, THE ENVIRONMENT and OUR ECONOMIC FUTURE)

Whereas Fort Bragg, California is a beautiful coastal destination community that is focused upon health and well-being with a vision to develop a coastal trail on the former mill site that is bringing thousands of new people to our community; and

Whereas the long term well-being of our region is entirely dependent upon a healthy ocean and natural landscape, requiring protection of our unique Fort Bragg coastal resources and offering unique opportunities through restoration of the coastal wetlands; and

Whereas the final phase of the mill site cleanup is underway, and the mill pond and associated wetlands contain toxic contamination that may be harmful to the health and well-being of humans and wildlife both on the land and in the ocean; and

Whereas plans for wetlands restoration must be part of the cleanup decision making process because monies to achieve the best restoration for the former mill site are more available while this process is underway, working collaboratively with the City of Fort Bragg for the best outcome on the Headlands; and

Whereas the mill pond is vulnerable to earthquake, tsunami and sea level rise and is in the historic pathway of Maple Creek, and the restoration effort; and

Whereas the need for climate change adaptation in every coastal community is real and urgent; therefore be it

Resolved, that the restoration of all the wetland areas on the mill site be given a strong and renewed priority by decision-makers; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the preferred remediation of the mill pond is that it be dismantled and thoroughly cleaned of toxic contamination; and

Be It Further Resolved, that plans for a more natural wetlands system restoration become the priority, and include removing the retaining wall, planning for lowland tidal marshes, possibly upland marshes, and the daylighting of Maple and Alder Creeks;

Be It Further Resolved, that every effort to implement a sound environmental solution to the remediation will be pursued in a timely fashion.

TO BE SIGNED ON TO BY
The City Council and the citizens of Fort Bragg