

June 15, 2019

Honored Members of the City Council,

I was looking forward to attending today's meeting but am not feeling well enough to do so. Since I am not able to speak today, I wish to remind you of a few aspects about the headlands that I have previously brought to your attention, especially the need to protect the remaining forest and to establish a functional wildlife corridor.

The mandated wetland areas, including OU-E, function as a single ecological unit. However, that function can only be fulfilled if they are allowed to breathe. If development is permitted right up to every wetland buffer zone, this ecosystem will be hollowed out – most likely promoting burgeoning populations of weedy species (both plant and animal). These species are the ones that readily colonize urban environments, disturbed habitats, and edges of wildlife areas.

Crisscrossing strips of wetlands with streets means putting in channels and culverts to protect those streets and the surrounding development. This further constrains the natural function of wetlands to absorb storm runoff, polish water, and mitigate sealevel rise. It is important to see all of OU-E, including the donut hole, as a single ecological unit. It doesn't matter how thin or thick the asphalt/concrete is – local, native plants can be introduced (with a little help) in a way that will break up that hardscape.

In addition, OU-E is an isolated ecological unit if it is not connected to surrounding wildland areas. Daylighting both Maple and Alders Creeks is an essential part of allowing this area to flourish as a natural, self-perpetuating system. The forest habitat and a functional wildlife corridor are also needed to create a healthy (and aesthetically pleasing) natural environment.

Finally, I want to emphasize the challenge of maintaining a forested area on the headlands. Although the trees in the forest are not remarkable individually, they are very remarkable collectively. It will be very difficult to mitigate the loss of the forest because it would take many decades, and likely continual effort, to establish a new forested area. I just read that out of the 100,000 trees planted at Sea Ranch since it was established in 1970, only 10,000 (10%) have survived. This is a harsh environment and the existing mature forest is self-protecting. Allowing it to be paved over would be almost impossible to mitigate.

Thank you for your time and attention,

Leslie Kashiwada

What Is The Restoration Economy?

The restoration economy is many things. It is jobs of all kinds. It is flexible. It is intelligent use of new technologies. It is labor intensive. It learns from the past and respects the “old” ways. It is organic agriculture. It is growing healthy soil. It is a recognition that our earth is bountiful. It is the awareness that knowing our limits gives us strength. It is allowing nature to heal itself. It is climate aware. It brings peace of mind.

The restoration economy returns our economic, environmental and social systems to full vitality. This means developing an economy that provides a fair income to all its participants and empowers people to fulfill their potential; rebuilds our environmental system into a regenerative and stable system that nurtures all life; and advances a creative, engaged human society that recognizes the value of all people and embraces our relationship to the natural world and our place within it. It is already beginning to happen.

The restoration economy is the new forestry practices which reward carbon sequestration. The restoration economy is Fish & Wildlife, The Noyo Center, The Nature Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, NRDC, The Mendocino Land Trust, The Redwood Forest Foundation, Lyme Forest Products, Save The Redwoods League.

The restoration economy is a re-localized food system, with good wages for our farmers and rewards for the carbon capturing methods that grow healthy soils.

The restoration economy is a complete clean up of the mill site, daylighting of the year round creeks on the Noyo Headlands, more open space serving and fostering community health and well being. The restoration economy is relaxation and education for health and mind.

The restoration economy recognizes that we have to lift up and strengthen the economic position of those who are most vulnerable, such as low income people and people of color. Without their talents, our efforts are far weaker. Without acknowledging and making concrete efforts to re-balance things from past wrongs, we cannot move on.

In one sense the restoration economy is here because it has to be. We have recklessly over logged, over fished, and abandoned a local food system and placed our future in the hands of corporate decision makers. Now one corporation — Georgia-Pacific — is trying to leave our community without doing a proper cleanup of the messes they created. But even though an irresponsible corporation still has immense power, we can make it do what is right.

Fort Bragg is one of thousands of communities modeling a new direction. We will be rewarded by growing the restoration economy. What seems “under the radar” now will become our shining example to millions. We humans must clean up the mess we are making of the biosphere. It's good business.

George Reinhardt

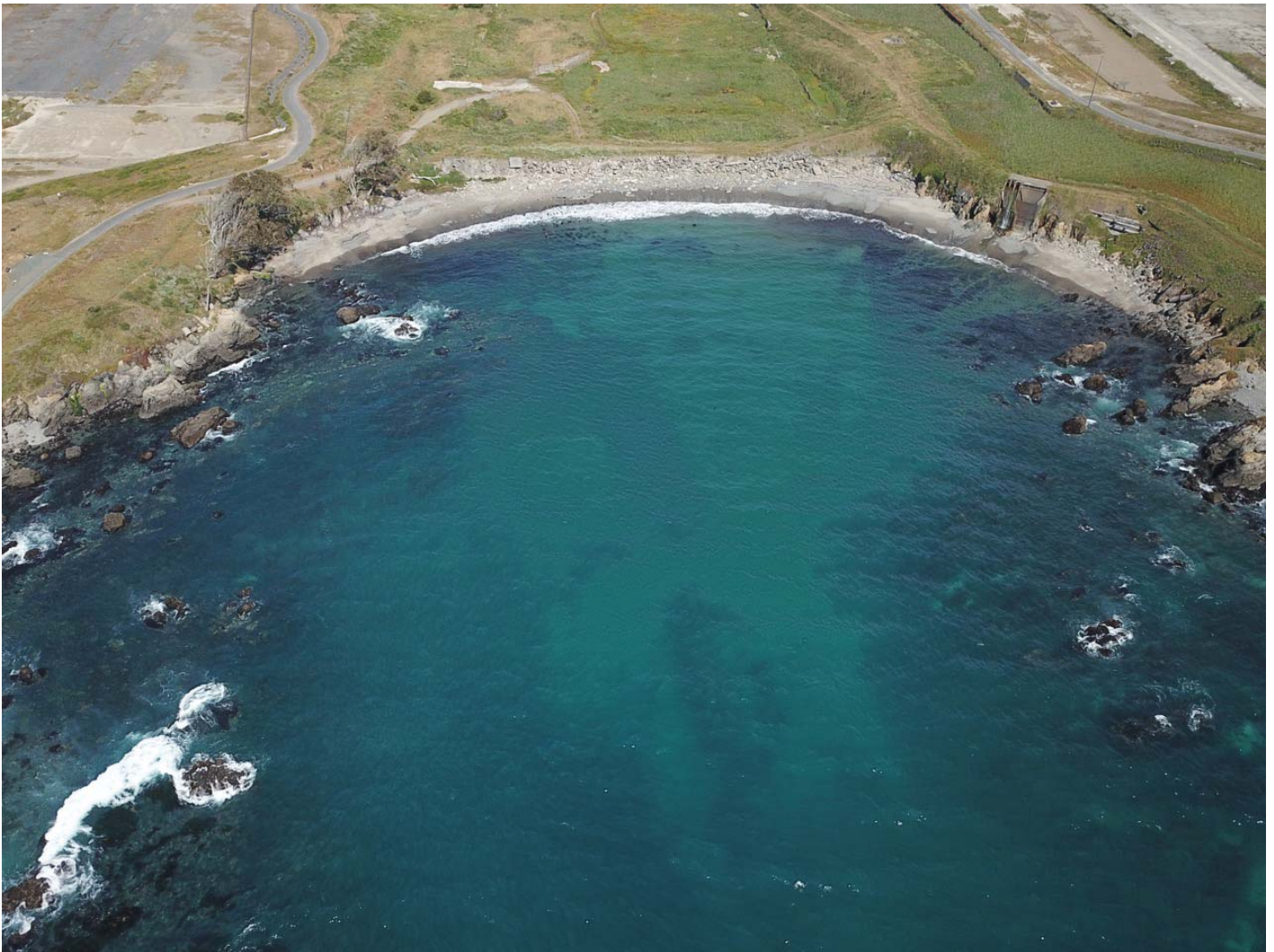
- NHUDG – <http://www.noyoheadlands.org>
- FBHC – <http://www.fortbraggheadlandsconsortium.org>

Lemos, June

From: George <george@mcn.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 12, 2019 9:41 AM
To: Lemos, June
Subject: Drone images from the Consortium for the PC and the CC

Hello from the FBHC—Fort Bragg Headlands Consortium,

We believe these images, taken recently, help support our letter of comment.
Many thanks for all your hard work. George and all the FBHC









June 12, 2019

Dear Planning Commission, City Council, and City Staff,

We are grateful that alternative maps are on the table and are encouraging discussion. We are members of many organizations and also of the Fort Bragg Headlands Consortium, (and [we have a new website](#)) and these are our initial thoughts on the two agenda packets for this week.

We see great things that are in combination between several of the maps. To be most clear, we want to start with the [Map by Commissioner Roberts and Councilwoman Morsell-Haye](#), aka Michelle and Jessica's map.

First off, we feel that this is a great improvement to the previous version of the map ([Oct 2018](#)), and feel that it will lead to a more successful economy for the town of Fort Bragg for this next phase of development and the long term.

However, we have several suggestions. First off, the area known as OU-E should be treated as a single, interconnected ecological unit; the ecological core. This is for reasons we talked about on March 21st, and also this will help us gain financial and scientific support for coastal adaptation, carbon sequestration, and sea level rise mitigation. Here is a picture of it from above Soldier Bay (thanks to Gabriel Maroney):



Our specific suggestions for OU-E are:

- The development by Maple Creek proposed on Michelle and Jessica's map needs to go elsewhere.

- The proposed development could be moved to just west of Rossi's, west of the Honer property, or north of town.
- Regarding the "north of town" option, the cost of extending the water and sewage to that location is small compared to the economic benefits that will be lost if we have industrial in the central ecological unit.
- The vision of the daylighted creeks needs to be represented on these maps in some way.
 - Channelizing the eastern portion of Alder Creek may be an option that solves some of the logistical challenges brought up by staff.
- The area south of Pond 8, all the way to Ponds 1,2,3 by the Wastewater Treatment Plant, is part of this whole ecological unit.
 - We really appreciate how on their map, the rest of this "Donut Hole" is zoned as Urban Reserve rather than the Timber Industrial zoning of the Oct 2018 Map.
 - While not as good as open space, this will make it easier to raise funds for restoration.
 - Restoration economy jobs are good paying jobs.
- Implicit with the vision of a restoration economy, the area marked as "P" in the near center of OU-E needs to be remediated/restored rather than turned into a parking lot or paved plaza.
 - This could be done inexpensively by drilling some holes in the asphalt and planting bushes and trees.
 - Carbon sequestration funds can be gathered for this.
 - A portion of this could be implemented and monitored as a citizen science study involving schools and the community.

The Wildlife Corridor was a central component of our presentation in March, as it is essential for maintaining the health of the ecological core. It is well represented in Michelle and Jessica's map. A couple of minor points of fine tuning:

- To make it more feasible, the block east of the hotel should be mixed-zoning, to allow the hotel to be original size if the landowner desires.
- The train tracks on the map are problematic.

Finally, we also really like some things about [Commissioner Logan's map](#), including:

- Placing small commercial pockets into residential zones.
- Angled boulevard to reinforce walkability, but feel that it should be for walking and biking only.
- There is a strong similarity with Michelle and Jessica's map.

Thank you all for your dedication to the very important issue of the Headlands redevelopment. We are getting closer to a vision and plan that will serve the community in all interconnected aspects: economic, ecological, and aesthetic.

Sincerely,
 John Gallo
 George Reinhardt
 Leslie Kashiwada
 David Jensen
 William Lemos
 Doug Kern