

**SUSTAINABLE TAMALMONTE  
215 JULIA AVENUE  
MILL VALLEY, CA 94941**

January 20, 2014

Marin County Board of Supervisors  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 329  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Re: Removal of Strawberry from the Hwy 101 Corridor PDA

Dear Marin County Board of Supervisors,

Sustainable TamAlmonte recognizes the importance of community-based planning. Residents in Marin have expressed their intent to preserve their semi-rural small towns with residential and commercial development consistent with the scale of their existing communities. These land use goals are stated in our Tamalpais Community Area Plan and we respect and support similar objectives held by other communities such as Strawberry. Therefore, we urge our representatives at the Board of Supervisors to respect the priorities of their constituents as well as inherent limits to growth, such as the necessity of living within our watershed and avoiding significant adverse environmental impacts.

Transportation improvements are necessary, regardless of future land use, to maintain mobility and emergency access and egress. These improvements should be met without being tied to potential accelerated development, which could endanger the environment, strain resources and increase the need for unfunded infrastructure and public services.

It is absurd to presume we would reduce our carbon footprint with the prospect of urban densification near transit when new construction is one of the main contributors to green house gases; when per capita transit ridership has declined by 36% since 1982, despite billions of dollars spent on transit over the past several decades; and when, due to efficiency standards, cars and light trucks will soon be greener than transit. It is also incongruous to suggest we would reduce our carbon footprint with urban densification and plan to rely on very controversial, exceedingly expensive, highly energy-consumptive and potentially unsafe desalination to satisfy the resulting increase in water demand.

In conclusion, Sustainable TamAlmonte is supportive of a participatory public process, with responsive and representative decision-making regarding land use as well as tackling transportation needs independently and creatively, without using funds that are tied to new development. As such, we recommend that you respect the wishes of the Strawberry residents as to whether or not their community should remain in the Hwy 101 Corridor Priority Development Area.

Thank you for your conscientious consideration.

Very truly yours,  
Sustainable TamAlmonte

*/s/*  
Sharon Rushton  
Chairperson  
Sustainable TamAlmonte

*/s/*  
Ann Spake  
Executive Committee Member  
Sustainable TamAlmonte