

From: [Rick Nahass](#)
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Cc: board@samtrans.com
Subject: SMC Supervisor Approval of Connect the Coastsides Plan
Date: Sunday, January 2, 2022 10:43:19 PM

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To: San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

CC: SamTrans Board of Directors

BCC: San Mateo Coastsides Leadership and Community Organizations, Other Affected Transit Stakeholders

It was first brought to my attention that an updated [Connect the Coastsides](#) traffic plan "...will likely be approved by the Board of Supervisors in the spring..." in the December 29, 2021 edition of the Pacifica Tribune, a publication of the Coastsides News Group, a local news organization that consistently demonstrates its commitment to connecting the coastsides. The website link for the *Connect the Coastsides* traffic plan is:

https://planning.smcgov.org/sites/planning.smcgov.org/files/Connect%20the%20Coastsides%20Final%20Draft_Oct%202021.pdf

There are several inconsistencies in the *Connect the Coastsides* comprehensive plan which should be addressed before final approval, including:

(1) [Page 26 \(pdf\) Approach](#) - "The goals of the outreach efforts were to hear from as many different Coastsides stakeholders as possible and to provide multiple ways to learn about and provide comments on the Plan." [Page 168 \(pdf\) Traffic Control Measures](#) "Connect the Coastsides recommends the Planning and Building Department engage partners, including the cities of Pacifica and Half Moon Bay, to develop a coordinated approach to traffic control for uses and events that generate large traffic volumes."

I live in Pacifica, 4 blocks from the Pacifica Ocean on the east side of state route 1. The Dec 29th publication in our local paper is the first I am hearing about an updated *Connect the Coastsides* plan. Additionally, there are no advisors listed in the plan from Pacifica City Staff, local Economic Development Committee, Pacifica Police or local Pacifica Community Resource organizations.

(2) [Page 11 \(pdf\) Background](#) "The County does not intend to amend LCP Policy 1.23 and plans to continue limiting the maximum number of dwelling units to 40 units each calendar year."

There is no account made of actual real growth on the coast:

- a) No mention or accommodation for Housing Growth as mandated in the [ABAG Regional Housing Needs Allocation page 27 \(pdf\)](#): Pacifica 1892 and Half Moon Bay 480 additional housing units.
- b) No account for the March 2021 Coastal Commission approval of [71 affordable housing units in Moss Beach](#).

Possible actions and changes before approval might include:

1. Approach Pacifica stakeholders for feedback and comments. Include the hiking and biking routes from the north side of the planning area that connect the coastsides from the Pedro Point Headlands to the newly named [Aramai Point](#) all the way to Mussel Rock in Daly City.
2. Recommend that a San Mateo Coastsides Transportation Demand Planning (TDM) project be created that includes the coastsides from Pescadero to Pacifica and references the *Connect the Coastsides* plan as a subset of the overall Coastsides TDM. This can be funded by the \$1.7M annual allocation for TDM planning by the San Mateo County Transportation Authority (SMCTA). Competitive call for projects is anticipated Spring 2022, 30% percent grant funding is allocated for "Small and Coastal Jurisdictions" ([page 32 \(pdf\) Draft ACR/PDF Plan](#).)
3. SamTrans planners and project managers have done an excellent job through their recent Reimagine SamTrans initiative, planning efficient local public bus transportation to local schools and to local places on the coast for those who cannot drive. Despite SamTrans passion and commitment to our communities in need, due to severe lack of funding, connection for a rider to regional 'rail' corridors can be up to 25 miles and take 1-2 hours, leaving our most vulnerable 'stranded' on the coast.

The SMC Board might take the action to support or better yet sponsor a request to the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) to establish an [OceanShore Corridor](#) pilot when the MTC creates the task force to evaluate 'Regional Bus Corridors' for the 9 county Bay Area Transportation Region. This would add a single-ride bus 'regional corridor' a stones throw from existing local bus routes for truly connecting the coastsides.

- a) The MTC has established a working task force model for planning regional transit initiatives as demonstrated by unanimous approval by the [Commissioners](#) of [Blue Ribbon Recovery Task Force](#) to move forward with a Regional 'Fare Integration' pilot project.
- b) The MTC has established a relationship with Caltrans District 4 leadership, whose Director is a MTC Commissioner, participated on the Blue Ribbon Task force and has agreed to fully collaborate with future regional task force initiatives.



Thank You,
Rick Nahass, 392 Brighton Rd, Pacifica, CA
650 580-5141
<https://www.coastcommute.org/oceanshore/>

From: [Mike Schrader](#)
To: [CMO_BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Please immediately distribute to all 5 Supervisors for 9 am
Date: Tuesday, January 4, 2022 2:13:47 AM
Attachments: [PHCD Response to Cotchett.pdf](#)

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These 5 scripts for the Public Comment section as there is no item on the agenda about the Sutter Health closure of the Mickelson therapy pool. These comments follow the packages we submitted 12-14 from Joe Cotchett on the same issue.

We may have a number of speakers in the Zoom to read some but not likely enough to read in all 5. NOTE these 5 should all be under 2 minutes each.

Also Attached : link to letter from PHCD CEO Cheryl Fama, dated 12-16 with additional information on Sutter Health program closures.

Sincerely
Mike Schrader
650-208-9366

First Script:

Good morning, President Canepa and honorable members of the Board. The Save the Mickelson Therapy Pool advocacy group would like to express our appreciation to President Canepa for adding your voice to our cause. We were thrilled to read in the Dec. 17th *San Mateo Daily Journal* article that you and Assemblyman Mullin are taking public positions to put pressure on Sutter Health. Your support and advocacy for the community that has lost this essential healthcare resource has been desperately needed as Sutter continues to ignore the voices of the most vulnerable members of our society.

We hope you have received and have had a chance to look at the information packet from Joe Cotchett's office that was delivered to you on the 14th of last month. While this issue is not on the agenda, we request specific action by all of the Board members individually before your next meeting when we hope the issue can be placed on the agenda.

We implore Supervisors Groom, Horsley, Slocum and Pine to join President Canepa and each take a personal public position in support of your constituents and against the costs Sutter is shifting to San Mateo county—and the healthcare districts—by abandoning these patients and closing the Mickelson therapy pool facility.

In addition to taking a public position, we ask that the whole BOS review the package from Joseph Cotchett and add to your next meeting's agenda an item to write a letter to Sutter Health publicly supporting your constituents in the fight against Sutter's closing of the Mickelson therapy pool.

Second script:

Sutter Health has closed this therapy pool in a similar way to how it eliminated six other local Mills-Peninsula Medical Center programs in the last ten years, programs that benefited seniors, diabetics, post-operative and cardiac-rehab patients, disabled children and adults, and mobility-impaired citizens. (Please reference an email we sent you last night from PHCD CEO Cheryl Fama dated Dec. 16 that was written in response to Joseph Cotchett packet which you received copies of on Dec. 14.)

Why should the taxpayers of San Mateo county pay for the added costs of former users' long-term care as a result of Sutter's closure of the Mickelson therapy pool in March of 2020?

Sutter is causing families and public agencies to pay—in one way or another—for the increasing cost of physical and mental healthcare of the patrons who continue to decline in health as a result of the lack of access to this essential medical resource. We know of at least one death—so far—of a former patient who passed away in August of 2020 as a result of five months of inactivity and declining health since the closure.

Clearly Sutter saved itself the costs in running a program that was helping these people remain mobile and independent. They have shifted the cost of the increased healthcare burden onto families and taxpayers.

In the package from Joseph Cotchett, you will find a report from Hicks Consulting LLC which reveals that at the end of 2020 Sutter Health had liquid reserves of \$7.8 billion dollars.

Why should the county and its citizens bear the increased costs of physical and mental health declines that are occurring now and in the future?

Sutter is behaving like Walmart used to when it did not pay for its employees' medical insurance, forcing citizens and Medicaid to subsidize their employees' healthcare costs.

Third Script:

Sutter now claims that the operation of the pool for the community use program is unaffordable.

As pool users, it was easy for us to observe that Sutter was not managing the community program well. In comparison, the Timpany and Pomeroy Center therapy pools have had positive cash flows and no cases of Covid-19 transmission since they reopened which was as soon as their public health agencies allowed.

All the while, Sutter claims they aren't even allowed to reopen because of rules regarding Covid transmission.

Sutter appears to not be telling the truth about why they can't reopen the Mickelson therapy pool.

Clearly Timpany and Pomeroy demonstrate being more innovative and competent in managing their facilities than Sutter. They both have been profitable during Covid.

The CEO of the Pomeroy therapy pool, David Dubinsky, has offered to meet and help Sutter find a way to operate profitably, even after paying for the remodel costs for Covid transmission prevention. (Please see Dubinsky letters—Exhibit 5—in Joseph Cotchett's packet.)

If Sutter would agree to discuss and implement proven management strategies, they might find costs are not an impediment to reopening.

So far Sutter has an asset that it refuses to allow the public or any other entity to make use of. They refuse to even discuss the possibilities to reopen.

Hopefully Supervisor Canepa, and Assemblyman Mullin can get Sutter Health to the table to explore options. We ask the other four of you to openly join that cause.

Fourth Script:

The CA attorney general sued Sutter for \$2.7 billion for antitrust activity; in the settlement, Sutter agreed to stop their monopolistic behavior, be under the supervision of an independent state-appointed monitor to ensure compliance with the settlement for ten years, and settled the lawsuit for a mere \$575 million—which was a bargain for them.

Maybe it's time to contact the attorney general about Sutter cutting those seven programs here in San Mateo county (and who knows how many others statewide.)

Maybe if Sutter had behaved better and they hadn't had to pay that settlement for monopolistic behavior, they would have had plenty of money to operate this pool and the two in San Francisco they have closed.

Isn't it fair to ask if they are trying to recover that loss on **the back of patients with chronic diseases and mobility impairments?**

Fifth Script

As a non-profit corporation, they received many public benefits including various tax exemptions to be able to issue tax-free bonds and many other values.

What they claim to return to the community that provides them this tax exemption is open to examination. But they're obliged to help the assessed community healthcare needs under IRS rules for keeping their tax exempt status; that assessment takes place every three years.

Sutter can easily afford to put \$250,000 back in the community to reopen such a necessary unique community asset or for that matter release it to somebody else who will fix it and run it, but not block it from anybody's use or anybody's efforts to reopen and provide those services.

Sutter has to come in front of many community boards—certainly in front of the San Mateo Board of supervisors—to ask for help and to seek permission to do other things that helped it gather that \$7.8 billion nest egg which grows every year.

All the public agencies that suffer the losses of Sutter's canceled programs should incorporate the value of those losses into the price they extract from Sutter for things it seeks, in ongoing and future negotiations of any kind.

If Sutter can be abstinent and push costs back to the citizens, there is no reason we can't turn the tables on them.
