



October 7, 2015

VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Bruce Wolfe
Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, California 94612

Stephen Hill
Environmental Program Manager
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, California 94612

Re: *Inner Harbor Specific Plan – Draft EIR and Redwood Creek Sediment Sampling*

Dear Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Hill:

The City of Redwood City (“City”) is planning to soon release for public review the draft Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) for the Inner Harbor Specific Plan, which your office will receive for review through the State Clearinghouse and other appropriate channels (it will also be posted on the City’s website at www.redwoodcity.org/inner harbor). The City looks forward to working with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Region, (“Regional Water Board”) on this effort.

In advance of, and separate from, the EIR release date, and to ensure Regional Water Board staff are generally aware of ongoing efforts and activities of the City, the City offers the following information for your review. The City has been evaluating a variety of options for the Inner Harbor area, including the feasibility of dredging the Redwood Creek channel to facilitate small craft navigation in the vicinity of the marina. In connection with those efforts, the City conducted limited sediment sampling of Redwood Creek, and obtained information indicating that the sampled sediment contained various constituents, including metals, pesticides, and PCBs.

A copy of the sample results, along with a concurrently provided letter to San Mateo County, is enclosed for your review, and will also be included in the soon to be released EIR. The City is not aware of the specific origin of these constituents, though we understand that these substances are commonly found in sediments throughout San Francisco Bay and its tributaries. Nonetheless, the City plans to further examine and characterize the contaminants identified in the 2011 sampling, and assess appropriate responsive action at that time. The City will keep your office apprised of this effort.

Please note that, at this time, the Inner Harbor Specific Plan and EIR does not anticipate a specific project to dredge Redwood Creek to facilitate small craft navigation near the marina. However, construction of facilities envisioned within the specific plan area may result in minor shoreline disturbance and regular marina maintenance may include dredging activities from time-to-time. In addition, any floating home community, whether existing or new, would likely require dredging as part of maintenance or construction of a new community. These activities would require permitting from the Army Corps of Engineers with associated water quality certification from the Regional Water Board, and are not considered to be projects within the specific plan or EIR. Thus, the City's further examination and characterization will be useful to those efforts and any regulatory action associated therewith.

The City takes its role as stewards of the local environment seriously and will continue to generally keep your office apprised of our progress.

After the project evaluation process is complete, we will work with your office and other relevant regulatory agencies, as appropriate. Should you have any questions, or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me (650) 780-7293.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron Akin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Aaron Akin
Interim City Manager

Enclosures