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-----The Ventana Chapter-----
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August 11, 2017

email to SMikesell@ci.seaside.ca.us

Ms. Gloria Stearns, Economic Program Development Manager
City of Seaside Economic Development Department
440 Harcourt Avenue Seaside, CA 93955

Re: Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Ms. Stearns:

Please consider the following as comments and suggestions from the Sierra Club Ventana Chapter in response to the NOP of a DEIR for the Seaside General Plan Update.

The DEIR for the Seaside General Plan Update (Seaside 2040 Plan) should include:

- 1.) A detailed Environmental analysis addressing the question: “*Where are popular and valuable public places to look out over the natural landscapes of the Monterey Bay and Monterey Peninsula region, and how would the project change the views from these places?*” (See 26 October 2012 letter from Fred Watson to the City of Seaside re: scoping comments for DEIR for the Monterey Downs and Horse Park and Central Coast Veteran’s Cemetery Specific Plan; attached)
- 2.) A detailed Environmental analysis responding to the question: “What are the short term and long term effects on the regional hydrology and water supply, particularly given the complex arrangement of Seaside water providers?”

With regard to the first point above, although Dr. Watsons’ letter of 26 October 2012 specifically comments on the DEIR for the former Monterey Downs and Central Coast Veteran’s Cemetery, the analytic elements and procedures, as well as the level of rigor, are applicable to an Environmental analysis for the Seaside General Plan Update and should be included in the same. With reference to analytic rigor, see the 19 June 2015 letter from Fred Watson to the City of Seaside re: SEIR for the Monterey Downs and Central Coast Veteran’s Cemetery specific plan (attached).

With regard to the second point above, the City of Seaside currently receives municipal water from three separate agencies: California American Water, City of Seaside, and Marina Coast Water District; thereby, the City of Seaside’s water use has an impact on natural resources both within and beyond the City limits. As part of its commitment to the guiding principle of being a “Sustainable, Resilient City” and an “Environmentally-Sensitive City”, the DEIR should include an analysis of the impact on both local and

regional hydrology and other environmental impacts related to water use. In particular, the DEIR should include a detailed description of the water management for and hydrological implications of water Blackhorse and Bayonet Golf Course.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott B. Waltz". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott B. Waltz, member
Sierra Club Ventana Chapter