Attachment F Lawsuit

Amendments to the 2010 Monterey County General Plan (Carmel Valley Master Plan) REF1200079

MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Monterey



DATE:

December 1, 2010

TO:

County Counsel

FROM:

Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT:

Receipt of Summons - Carmel Valley Association, Inc. v County of Monterey

The attached Summons was received by the Clerk of the Board on Wednesday, December 1, 2010, at approximately 8:09 a.m. The matter was delivered by a process server.

This is being referred to you for processing. If you have any questions, please call me at 755-5066.

Thank you,

Office of the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

County Of Monterey

cc: Lucy Raney, Risk Management

Attachments

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

RECEIVED MONTEREY COUNTY

DEPUTY

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY: 08 COUNTY OF MONTEREY, and DOES 1 - 50, inchriver THE BOARD

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC.

a non-profit California corporation

FOR COURT USE OU! Y (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

NUV 2 : 20th

CONNIE MAZZEI CLERK OF THE SUPEBIOR COURT

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filling fee, ask the court clerk for a fee walver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and properly

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courlinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court-or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. (AVISOI Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la informeción a

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una liamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formalo legal correcto sì desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines da lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el silio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contecto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales, AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is:

(El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Monterey County Superior Court

1200 Aguajito Road Monterey, CA 93940 CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso):

M109442

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Ron DeHoff, 2100 Garden Road, Suite C, Monterey, CA 93940 - Phone 831-372-2800

MANY 2 \$ 2010 DATE: CONNIE *** ZZEI Clerk, by (Fecha) M. OLIVEREZ , Deputy (Secretario) (For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).) (Adjunto) (Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario

[SEAL]	NOTICE TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served 1 as an individual defendant. 2 as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):
	3. ✓ on behalf of (specify): under: ☐ CCP 416.10 (corporation) ☐ CCP 416.60 (minor) ☐ CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation) ☐ CCP 416.70 (conservatee) ☐ CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) ☐ CCP 416.90 (authorized person) ✓ other (specify): CCP 416.50 (Public Agency) 4. ✓ by personal delivery on (dale):

MONTEREY COUNTY

NOV 2 4 2010

Ron DeHoff (SBN #252883) Attorney at Law 2100 Garden Road, Suite C Monterey, CA 93940 Tel: (831) 372-2800 Fax: (831) 372-3113 Email: ron@rld.com

2010 DEC - 1 AM 8000 NIE MAZZEI
CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT
CLERK OF THE BOARDM. OLIVEREZ DEPUTY

_DEPUTY

Attorney for Petitioner CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC.

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF MONTEREY

CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC. a non-profit California corporation,

Petitioner,

VS.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY, COUNTY OF MONTEREY, and DOES 1 - 50, inclusive,

Respondents

Case No.: M109442

PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDATE AND TO ENFORCE THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Petitioner CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC. alleges:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

1. Petitioner Carmel Valley Association is, and at all times mentioned herein has been, a non-profit California corporation whose headquarters are located in Carmel Valley, CA. Established in 1949 and with over 600 members, the Carmel Valley Association is the oldest and largest residents and homeowners association in Carmel Valley. The Carmel Valley Association operates to promote the social welfare of Carmel Valley, to protect the Valley's rural character, to advocate for growth that carefully considers impacts to traffic, water, and code compliance, and to read reviews and submit informed comments on Environmental Impact Reports

Carmel Valley Association v. County of Monterey, et. al.
PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDATE AND TO ENFORCE THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY ACT

6

8

10

11

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23 24

25

26

27 28

concerning development projects in Carmel Valley. The Carmel Valley Association has a clear, present, and beneficial interest in the continued rural character of Carmel Valley and in the enforcement of environmental quality laws affecting the traffic and land development within Carmel Valley. The Carmel Valley Association was fully involved in the proceedings described herein. The Carmel Valley Association has participated and submitted written and oral comments in the public debates about the 2010 Monterey County General Plan (hereinafter, "2010 General Plan") in regard to road capacity, traffic improvement, modeling, monitoring, mitigation, and the effect of land development and traffic volume increases on Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley, and other issues affected by the 2010 General Plan and its included Carmel Valley Master Plan. The Carmel Valley Association has standing in this action.

- 2. Respondent Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey ("Board") is the legislative body of the County of Monterey and has taken action to certify an environmental impact report ("EIR") and approve the 2010 General Plan.
- 3. Respondent County of Monterey ("County" or "Monterey County") is a public entity and political subdivision of the State of California. It is responsible for authoring, enforcing and implementing the County's General Plan, master plans including the Carmel Valley Master Plan, its ordinances, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in regard to land use and planning decisions within its jurisdiction.
- 4. The project at issue in this litigation is the 2010 General Plan. The County is the lead agency responsible under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for evaluating the environmental impacts of the project. The General Plan is atop the hierarchy of local government law regulating land use. It has been analogized to "a constitution" for all future development,
- 5. Petitioner does not know the true names and capacities of the respondents named herein as DOES 1 through 50, and therefore sues said parties under fictitious names. Petitioner will amend this Petition to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained. Petitioner is informed and believes and thereon alleges that the fictitiously named respondents are in some manner responsible for the events alleged herein.

2,6

- 6. The 2010 General Plan affects Monterey County. Respondents are responsible for, among other things, managing resources and development in Monterey County.
- 7. On or about October 26, 2010, the Board voted to certify an EIR for the 2010 General Plan and approve the project. Respondents filed a Notice of Determination on October 27, 2010.
- 8. Petitioner has provided notice to respondents of petitioner's intention to file suit in this matter through a letter served on the respondents on November 23, 2010, a true and correct copy of which is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF RESPONDENTS' ACTIONS

- 9. Pursuant to Government Code section 65300, each city and county must adopt "a comprehensive, long term general plan for the physical development of the county and city." The County last comprehensively updated its general plan when it adopted the 1982 General Plan on September 30, 1982 (the "1982 General Plan").
- 10. The 1982 General Plan contains countywide policies to address all aspects of future growth, development, and conservation within the County. Subsequent amendments to the 1982 General Plan enacted "Area Plans" for specific geographic areas of the County within the unincorporated inland area of the County, including the Carmel Valley Master Plan (December 16, 1986 and amended November 5, 1996) (hereinafter "current CVMP"). The current CVMP was designed to "be substantially influenced by the current residents and property owners of the valley... and to reflect a comprehensive cross-section of local attitudes toward the future of the valley as a living environment." It provided "clear-cut criteria to those responsible for its implementation, so that they may relate individual development proposals to [its] goals and policies."
- become woefully inadequate for policy implementation because of the evolution of the County's demographics and land use. Pursuant to Government Code section 65358, the Board may amend all or part of the adopted general plan if deemed to be in the public interest. The Board then set out to create a comprehensive update of the 1982 General Plan and Area Plans.
- 12. The 2010 General Plan is the culmination of more than a decade of effort to prepare a

complete update of the 1982 General Plan. Beginning in November 1999 through the middle of 2007, the Board and various agencies of Monterey County held public hearings, prepared draft plans and environmental impact reports, made a variety of directions, and adopted various resolutions of approval. Petitioner appeared, gave testimony, and made objections at many of these public hearings.

- 13. Beginning in 2001, traffic on Carmel Valley Road began exceeding its trigger thresholds as specified in the current CVMP. In 2005, the County commissioned a new traffic study of the current roadway and intersection conditions to identify potential improvements to the roadway to cure unacceptable traffic conditions. The Carmel Valley Traffic Improvement Program ("CVTIP") traffic study and the accompanying Draft Subsequent EIR ("CVTIP DSEIR") were completed and released for public comment in August 2007. The DSEIR has not been certified by the Board. Among others, the DSEIR recommended changes to the way the level of service was defined, calculated, and measured. (Level of service (hereinafter, "LOS") is a method of reporting one or more selected numerical performance measures ("metrics") using a system of easily understandable letter grades ["A" "F"]. LOS "A" represents free flow conditions and LOS "F" represents severe traffic congestion.) Petitioner gave testimony and made objections during the comment period.
- 14. On June 5, 2007, the County electorate participated in a public referendum. In that referendum, the electorate did not support any of the County's proposed plans or approvals. As a result of the uncertainty created by the outcome of the June 5, 2007 electoral referendum on two competing versions of a draft General Plan, the Board prepared a new draft general plan that was released to the public on about December 21, 2007, entitled the "draft 2007 Monterey County General Plan," which was also known as "GPU5."
- 15. The County held an EIR scoping meeting on December 12, 2007 to provide information about the GPU5, the potential environmental impacts and the CEQA review process. Petitioner participated in the hearings and provided input as to the scope and content of the environmental information to be addressed in the EIR.
- 16. The County published the Draft EIR for GPU5 (hereinafter, "DEIR") for a public review

period beginning on September 5, 2008. Because DEIR Appendix C (traffic data) had been inadvertently omitted from the first publication of the DEIR, the public comment period was extended to October 28, 2008. As a result additional concerns over the availability of reference documents, including petitioner's concerns, the County again extended the review period to February 2, 2009. Petitioner submitted its comments and objections during this period.

- 17. During the preparation of the DEIR's analysis of transportation and circulation impacts, the County decided to treat Carmel Valley differently from the rest of the County's geographic areas. The County had previously developed new definitions and methodologies for level of service calculations for the CVTIP and CVTIP DSEIR. The County adopted these changed metrics to the DEIR for GPU5 but only as to the Carmel Valley traffic analysis. The remainder of the County was evaluated using the original metrics established in the 1982 General Plan. Using the changed definitions, methodology, and triggers, the DEIR evaluated the proposed CVMP to conclude that, with one exception, the impact of the proposed policies would be less than significant.
- 18. On September 10, 2008, during the comment period on the DEIR, petitioner attended a workshop to receive a presentation from the County on GPU5, errata to the draft Plan, and mitigation measures proposed by the DEIR. Petitioner participated in public hearings and gave testimony on February 11 and 25, 2009. Petitioner participated in public hearings on the DEIR, on May 27, June 10, July 8, and July 29, 2009 to consider draft General Plan policies and mitigation measures proposed by the DEIR and possible revisions to policies and mitigation measures.
- 19. On or about March 8, 2010, the final EIR for GPU5 and a slightly revised GPU5 was released to the public. At this time, the GPU5 document was retitled as the "2010 draft Monterey County General Plan" (hereinafter, "2010 draft Plan") and the Final EIR for GPU 5 was retitled "Monterey County General Plan Final Environmental Impact Report, dated March 2010" (hereinafter, "FEIR").
- 20. Petitioner participated in a workshop on the 2010 draft Plan and FEIR on March 31, 2010, gave testimony and made objections. Subsequently, petitioner participated, gave testimony

7

10 11

12 13

14

15 16

17

18

19 20

21

22 23

24

25 26

27

28

and made objections in a Planning Commission hearing beginning on April 14, 2010 and continuing on April 28, 2010, May 12, 2010, May 26, 2010, June 9, 2010, June 30, 2010, July 14, 2010, July 21, 2010, July 28, 2010, and August 11, 2010.

- 21. On August 11, 2010, the Planning Commission recommended that the Board certify the FEIR and approve the 2010 draft Plan with the exception of the "Long Term Sustainable Water Supply" definition.
- Pursuant to Government Code section 65355, the Board commenced a public hearing on the FEIR and 2010 draft Plan on August 31, 2010, and continued the public hearing to September 14, 21, and 28, and October 12 and 26, 2010. At a number of these hearings, new policies, plan provisions, and supporting data were presented with little or no time for public review and comment. During these hearings, the petitioner gave testimony and made objections concerning the lack of sufficient analysis and time to review the newly proposed information.
- On October 26, 2010, the Board resolved to certify the adequacy of the FEIR under CEQA (Public Resources Code §§21000-21177). On October 26, 2010, respondents approved the 2010 draft Plan as amended ("2010 General Plan"). A notice of determination to carry out the project was filed by respondents on October 27, 2010.
- 24. Petitioner, other agencies, interested groups, and individuals made oral and written comments on the various drafts of the EIR and associated findings and raised each of the legal deficiencies asserted in this petition.
- Petitioner performed all conditions precedent to filing this action by complying with the requirements of Public Resources Code §21167.5 in filing notice of this action on November 23, 2010, a true and correct copy of which is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference, and filing this lawsuit within 30 days of the filing of the Board's Notice of Determination.
- Respondents' actions in certifying the FEIR and adopting findings constitute a prejudicial 26. abuse of discretion in that respondents failed to proceed in the manner required by law, did not satisfy the procedural and substantive requirements of CEQA, did not engage in a legally sufficient fact-finding, did not adequately identify and mitigate impacts, and its decision is not

supported by substantial evidence.

1

2

7

10

11

12

13

14

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

- 3 27. The respondents' violations of the California Environmental Quality Act include a 4 materially incomplete and inadequate presentation of the County-wide project description, 5 project environmental setting and regulatory baseline in the project documents. Respondents failed to perform a complete and integrated environmental review by inadequately investigating and disclosing the project's inconsistency with previously adopted plans. They failed to adequately investigate and disclose the horizontal and vertical inconsistencies of the 2010 General Plan and its elements. The environmental review was improperly piecemealed, separately conducted, and deferred to the last minute to prevent a complete and adequate review. Respondents ignored or failed to adopt reasonable mitigation measures that would substantially reduce the environmental impacts of the project. The FEIR failed to propose effective mitigations. Adopted mitigations do not have adequate metrics or performance standards or are measured from fuzzy or inaccurate baselines. The environmental impact analysis is based on flawed or inadequately disclosed assumptions, assumptions that are inadequately explained, or have influence or effects that are inadequately investigated. The FEIR failed to adequately address alternatives within the range of activities included in the project. 28.
- The FEIR did not adequately respond to comments under CEQA. Respondents failed to adopt legally adequate findings as required by law. Respondents failed to adopt a legally adequate statement of overriding considerations. Respondents and the FEIR failed to comply with CEQA requirements for consideration and evaluation of information. The County failed to comply with the mandatory requirement to re-circulate the DEIR after introduction of substantial and material new information after the close of the public comment period. The FEIR fails as an informational document as required by CEQA. There are unanalyzed potentially significant impacts. Respondents failed to proceed as required by law. 29.
- Respondents adopted mitigations that are unlikely to be implemented because of the lack of present or future funding. Respondents deferred critical general plan policies, standards, criteria, and interpretations to the ordinance stage. The impact of these policies, standards,

22

23

24

25

26

27

criteria and interpretations could be significant, but cannot and were not adequately evaluated in the FEIR because of the lack of detail in the project documentation. Respondents' actions constitute impermissible deferral and piecemealing. For example, the FEIR and the 2010 General Plan include the term "long term sustainable water supply" without a complete or adequate definition. Without definition, the involved agencies and public cannot appreciate, analyze, plan, or make an informed decision regarding this part of the 2010 General Plan. The FEIR fails to adequately analyze the 2010 General Plan's significant impact on traffic 30. in Carmel Valley. The current and proposed CVMP have specific standards for traffic policy triggers based upon the level of service ("LOS") letter grade. In the current CVMP, the LOS letter grade is calculated using the Average Daily Traffic ("ADT") volume. An ADT-based LOS letter grade is also used for general planning and EIR preparation in all other areas of the County and in many other counties. The proposed CVMP abandons the ADT-based LOS letter grade. It proposes a different method of calculating the LOS letter grade adopted solely for use in Carmel Valley. The proposed LOS letter grade calculation is based upon an alternate measure of traffic, Percent Time Spent Following ("PTSF") during peak hours. Using PTSF rather than ADT to calculate an LOS letter grade allows substantially increased traffic volumes at each LOS grade level. For example, on several of the Carmel Valley Road segments, a LOS letter grade of E is obtained when daily trips exceed 10,800 under the ADT-based LOS calculation. However, more than 19,000 daily trips are required for a LOS letter grade of E under the FEIR's PTSF-based calculation method. Thus, almost twice as much traffic (around 80% more) is allowed in the proposed CVMP without degrading the LOS letter grade. Because the policy triggers for mitigation are based solely on the LOS letter grade, 80% more traffic is allowed by the proposed CVMP before the policy triggers are activated. The FEIR did not adequately analyze the impact

violates CEQA's goals of informed decision making. The FEIR failed to describe and adequately evaluate potential cumulative impacts of the 31. 2010 General Plan, including the use of PTSF-based LOS calculations on circulation within

of the increased traffic allowed by the change in the calculation method and did not adequately

disclose the impact of the use of the different metric for Carmel Valley. As a result, the FEIR

from the former and existing County policies. The County did not disclose this new approach toward measuring traffic in the FEIR's project description.

32. The level of service letter grades for traffic are used for planning and monitoring purposes and for comparison with earlier policies, impact analyses, and studies. The FEIR must analyze impacts compared to the setting and regulatory baselines established by the 1982 General Plan and the current CVMP. Because the County's original and proposed LOS calculation methods are substantially and materially different, any comparison between original and proposed CVMP policies, based simply upon the LOS letter grade, is flawed and misleading. Through the use of an apples-to-oranges comparison of the LOS letter grades calculated by different methods, the FEIR attempted to falsely justify its impact findings for the proposed CVMP traffic plan. The FEIR does not include an adequate analysis of the proposed CVMP changes using the original ADT-based calculation method, and failed to inform the public and decision makers of the significance of the changed metrics. Therefore, the FEIR's analysis of the

2010 General Plan is fatally flawed.

33. The FEIR failed to describe and adequately investigate or consider reasonable mitigation measures that could eliminate or substantially lessen significant environmental impacts of the project, including development restrictions triggered by excessive traffic volume. Currently, if traffic volume increases so that the level of service using the ADT-base calculation falls below the baseline LOS letter grade, there is a significant impact. If these impacts are caused by a

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

project and cannot be mitigated, the County must defer project approval or make statements of overriding considerations. In the proposed CVMP, there would be no triggers that prevent the unacceptable reduction in the LOS caused by development. The proposed CVMP also conflicts with the Board's January 22, 2002 resolution (Resolution 02-024) that limited further subdivision in Carmel Valley until specified road improvements are constructed. That resolution is part of the existing regulatory baseline, which the FEIR did not adequately disclose. The FEIR did not adequately disclose the elimination of Resolution 02-024. The FEIR did not adequately evaluate the mitigation alternative of keeping Resolution 02-024 in place under the existing ADT-based traffic triggers. The FEIR also fails to adequately investigate or analyze the effects of the additional development allowed under these policy changes.

- The FEIR failed to respond adequately to comments on the DEIR. As one example, the FEIR did not respond as required under CEQA to petitioner's comments regarding the County's unreasonable substitution of the traffic volume calculation methodology and the failure to properly analyze the impact of the County's measurement alterations. During the history of the general plan update, petitioner has continually criticized the proposal to change longstanding traffic triggers for Carmel Valley. The FEIR and responses to comments on the DEIR failed to adequately address these concerns and even went as far as to ignore the significance and materiality of the changes. The County FEIR response to comments calls the changes "inconsequential." The FEIR even attempted to portray the changes as standard practice and not a change in the actual methodology. All of these arguments are false. They were constructed to mask the intent by the respondents to minimize the impact of the policy changes in the 2010 General Plan.
- The FEIR failed to properly analyze the significant impact of the wholesale elimination 35. and alteration of policies specified in the current CVMP. The 2010 General Plan eliminates specific and identifiable numerical standards that exist in the current CVMP. The 2010 General Plan defers these critical issues to a future unspecified date, when ordinances will be developed. The current CVMP Policy 11.1.1.1 (CV), protects rare and endangered plant species. Policy 11.1.1.2 (CV) calls for the County to maintain records of locations of these plants. These

12 13

15 16

14

17

18 19

20

21 22

23 24

25

26 27

28

policies are completely eliminated from the current CVMP. Whether the overarching 2010 General Plan adequately replaces these and other policies specific to Carmel Valley is not adequately analyzed in the FEIR. The public and the decision makers were not adequately informed of the potential impacts of the 2010 General Plan on Carmel Valley, specifically with regard to the elimination of existing CVMP policies.

- The 2010 General Plan eliminated the rare tree species protection policy containing detailed and quantitative standards. In the current CVMP, Policy 7.2.2.5 (CV) defines protected tree species using a trunk diameter measurement standard that is clearly spelled out. However, the proposed CVMP Policy CV-3.11 eliminates the numeric standard and merely states that an ordinance shall be developed to identify required procedures for removal of these trees. The FEIR must analyze the impact of changing the standard, and must recommend specific mitigations to be incorporated. It did not do so. Without delineation of the new standards and procedures no meaningful analysis of the impact of the change can be made. The proposed policy is fatally flawed because it cannot be analyzed in a meaningful manner.
- The 2010 General Plan eliminated the current steep slope development policy's detailed and quantitative standards for Carmel Valley. Current CVMP Policy 26.1.10.1 (CV) prohibits development on slopes greater than 30%. However, the proposed CVMP Policy CV-3.4 deletes this prohibition. The new policy is vague and undefined and will clearly allow development on slopes in excess of 30%. The FEIR failed to adequately analyze the impact of the proposed changes in relation to the existing regulatory environment and land use policies.

Respondents thereby violated its duties to certify an FEIR and adopt findings conforming to the requirements of CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines. Accordingly, the certification of the FEIR and the resolution approving the 2010 General Plan must be set aside.

WHEREFORE, petitioner demands entry of judgment as follows:

- For a peremptory writ of mandate directing: 1.
- Respondents to vacate and set aside its certification of the FEIR for the project (a) and the approval of the 2010 General Plan.
 - Respondents to suspend all activity under the 2010 General Plan that could result (b)

in any change or alteration in the physical environment until respondents have taken actions that may be necessary to bring the certification of the FEIR into compliance with CEQA.

- Respondents to prepare, circulate, and consider a new and legally adequate EIR and otherwise to comply with CEQA in any subsequent action taken to approve the project.
- For petitioner's costs of suit. 2.
- For an award of attorney fees. 3.
- 4. For all other equitable or legal relief that the Court considers just and proper.

Date:

Ron DeHo Attorney for the

Carmel Valley Association

VERIFICATION

I am President of petitioner, Carmel Valley Association, Inc. and am authorized to execute this verification on behalf of the petitioner. I have read the foregoing petition and am familiar with its contents. The facts recited in the petition are true of my personal knowledge.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date:

Christine Williams, President
Carmel Valley Association, Inc.

В

EXHIBIT A

Ron De Hoff

Attorney at Law
2100 Garden Road, Suite C
Monterey, CA 93940
Telephone: (831) 372-2800
Facsimile: (831) 372-3113
Email: ron@RLD.com

November 23, 2010

VIA U. S. MAIL AND FACSIMILE (831) 755-5888

Gail Borkowski Clerk to the Board Monterey County 168 West Alisal, 1st Floor Salinas, CA 93901

Re: 2010 Monterey County General Plan

Dear Ms. Borkowksi,

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Carmel Valley Association, Inc. intends to file a petition under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act against the County of Monterey and the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey challenging its certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH# 2007121001), the October 26, 2010 approval of the 2010 Monterey County General Plan, and to take other actions relating to that project. Please see Public Resources Code section 21167.5.

Yours truly,

Ron DeHoff
Attorney at Law

RECEIVED MONTEREY COUNTY Ron DeHoff (SBN #252883) Attorney at Law 2100 Garden Road, Suite C 2010 DEC -1 AM 8: 09 Monterey, CA 93940 Tel: (831) 372-2800 CLERK OF THE BOARD Fax: (831) 372-3113 Email: ron@rld.com DEPUTY Attorney for Petitioner CARMÉL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC. 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 COUNTY OF MONTEREY 10 CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, 11 INC. a non-profit California corporation, 12 Case No.: M109442 13 Petitioner. 14 VS. NOTICE TO THE ATTORNEY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE 15 GENERAL COUNTY OF MONTEREY. 16 COUNTY OF MONTEREY, and DOES 1 - 50, inclusive. 17 18 Respondents 19 20 To the Attorney General of the State of California: 21 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, under Public Resources Code §21167.7 and Code of Civil Procedure §388, that on November 24, 2010, the CARMEL VALLEY ASSOCIATION, INC. 22 filed a petition for writ of mandate against the BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY 23 OF MONTEREY, COUNTY OF MONTEREY, and DOES 1 - 50, inclusive, in Monterey 24 County Superior Court. The petition alleges that respondents violated the California 25 Environmental Quality Act by improperly certifying the Monterey County General Plan Final 26 Environmental Impact Report in connection with the approval of 2010 Monterey County General 27 Plan. A copy of the petition is attached to this notice. 28 Carmel Valley Association v. County of Monterey, et. al., Case Number M109442

NOTICE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Date: November 30, 2010

Attorney for the

Carmel Valley Association, Inc.