



HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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October 18, 2018

Mr. John Miller
Humboldt County Planning Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, California 95501

**RE: Zoning Districts for Inland Zoning Ordinance
Planning Commission Hearing October 18, 2018**

Dear Mr. Miller,

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (District) provides high quality drinking water to over 88,000 customers in Humboldt County. This water is drawn from wells along the Mad River. The District has a direct interest in protecting this water source and in support of this goal, submits these comments on the proposed “Zoning Text Amendments and Zone Reclassifications to Implement the General Plan” to be considered by the Planning Commission on October 4, 2018 (Zoning Amendments).

On September 26th and October 3, 2018, the District submitted comments on the proposed Planning Commission action. The District raised the following issues.

- 1. The Zoning Amendment should make clear which areas will be designated MR - Mineral Resources Combining Zone Designation and the environmental impacts of mining operations in close proximity to the Mad River should be fully considered.**
- 2. The RR Rights-of-Way designation should clarify the role of railroad authority license agreements in determining that a use will not interfere with “rights-of-way for rail and other public transportation uses.”**
- 3. The Exemption in proposed County Code section 314-55.3.4.1 should not apply to withdrawn applications.**

The District subsequently met with Planning Director John Ford and Planner John Miller to discuss our concerns. The supplemental staff report for tonight’s agenda item 8 appears to have addressed all of the District’s concerns raised in our earlier correspondence.

We sincerely appreciate the time and efforts by Director Ford and staff to consider and resolve our concerns.

We understand that future zoning changes or use permits the MR – Mineral Resources Combining Zone will require additional public hearings during which the District may provide additional project specific comments.

Again, we thank you for collaborating with our District.

Respectfully,

John Friedenbach,
General Manager