

Bringing you HOPE -
Helping Our Peninsula's Environment
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Monterey County Supervisors

October 4, 2005

**East Garrison Project Cannot be Consistent
with Admittedly Inadequate General Plan**

Supervisors:

While HOPE appreciates the Art Community portion of the proposed East Garrison project, the rest of the proposal remain "the largest development ever built in county-run territory" according to today's Herald. It does not take an environmental expert to realize these will cause colossal traffic and water impacts to our area's existing daily traffic gridlock and persistent officially declared water supply emergencies - none of which have any reasonable and funded solutions.

The County admits its General Plan is severely outdated and legally inadequate. In a recent lawsuit against the County, Save Our Peninsula pointed out that the County has admitted these deficiencies with the current General Plan. We request that all documents in that lawsuit be made a part of this administrative record, this hearing and considered.

If the Board were to approve this project, it would have to find that certain project-related actions are consistent with a legally adequate General Plan. These findings cannot be made since the Plan is legally inadequate.

We are aware that the County is in the process of updating the General Plan and we commend the County this effort; however, we request that the Board of Supervisors defer consideration of this project until after the update process has been completed.

In addition, HOPE must also object to the project and its purported environmental assessment which fails to reasonably mitigate the huge impacts of this project on traffic, imperiled species (as required by CEQA guideline section 15065) and water.

With all due respect,

D. Dilworth, Executive Director