



# City of Malibu

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April 15, 2022

Sent via email to [ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov)

Chair Holly J. Mitchell and Honorable Members  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Kenneth Han Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Agenda Item 8 regarding Project No. 2019-000224-(3), Advanced Planning Project No. RPPL20190003 - LCP Amendment No. LCP-4-MMT-19-0166-1 (Resource Dependent Uses)

Dear Chair Mitchell and Honorable Los Angeles County Supervisors:

Thank you for taking the time to consider our comments concerning Agenda Item 8 (Resource Dependent Uses - Low-Impact Campgrounds)

The City of Malibu is supportive of public access and recreation in the Santa Monica Mountains including camping in appropriate locations that are suitable safe zones and with supervision, like Malibu Creek State Park and Leo Carrillo State Campground. Malibu is downwind of and on the receiving end of any brush fires in the Santa Monica Mountains, like the Woolsey Fire which destroyed 1600 homes, 480 of which were in the City of Malibu. Our residents are concerned about any type of trail camping or camping in smaller, unsupervised remote locations than the ones mentioned above. We have expressed our opposition to that type of camping in the past.

If there are going to be these types of activities in Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA), we support the County's 2019 ordinance and feel that the County's well-conceived protective control measures are appropriate. The Staff Report for the Board's hearing states that the Commission suggested only "two modifications" to the County's protective provisions. There are far more than two, and we respectfully request that you consider each and reject them all.

These are the primary ways in which the Commission's suggested modifications would change the County's 2019 low impact camping provisions:

We do not support the following modifications made by the Coastal Commission and we ask you to oppose them:

**1. Camping on Red Flag Days:** The County banned camping on red flag days. The Commission would allow the camp operator to propose its own camping regulations "relative to" red flag days.

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**2. Camp Site Inspections:** The County required that campsites be inspected at least once a day, including on red flag days. The Commission would allow the camp operator to propose its own inspection plan.

**3. “Fire Proof Cooking Stations.”** The County did not allow for any type of cooking facility. The Commission modifications would allow “fireproof cooking stations.” The modifications describe those stations in terms of what they are not but have not explained what they might be. That confusion will undoubtedly increase the risk of fire.

**4. Environmental Protection:** The Commission modifications propose that the County cut back the protections the County put in place for ESHA. For example, the County would not have allowed porta-potties in the most protected ESHA. The Commission’s modifications would allow that. The County also banned low-impact camping within 100 feet of a creek or stream. The Commission modifications would reduce that to only 50 feet.

To summarize, we believe the County should leave its ordinance intact and **oppose** the suggested modifications by the Coastal Commission. We value our long-standing history of cooperatively working together and thank you for considering the input of our Council on this matter.

Sincerely,



Paul Grisanti  
Mayor  
City of Malibu

cc: Honorable Members of the Malibu City Council  
Honorable Henry Stern, California State Senate, 27th District  
Honorable Richard Bloom, California State Assembly, 50th District  
Steve McClary, Interim City Manager