



The Sea Ranch Association

975 Annapolis Road
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The Sea Ranch, CA 95497-0016

Administration

tel: 707-785-2444
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January 3, 2013

Mr. Mitchell Drake
Chief Architect
Network Design Consultant

Dear Mitch:

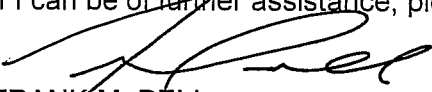
On behalf of our community working group I want to express our appreciation for the opportunity to meet and work with you in our effort to expand broadband services on The Sea Ranch. As you know, we are a Common Interest Development of more than 1,800 homes and about 500 vacant lots that is largely underserved in almost all areas of broadband delivery. The services currently available can be unreliable, expensive and limited in capacity.

The Regional Middle Mile Program network proposed by Golden Bear Broadband (GBB) to the California Public Utilities Commission is an attractive strategy to address the growing needs of The Sea Ranch. A recent survey within the community indicated that 94% of the 539 respondents felt that The Sea Ranch Association should be pro-active in improving broadband services to the community. In response, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the attached Resolution supporting a community-wide effort to improve broadband service.

While I understand that your network is still in the preliminary stages of planning and financing, I feel confident that The Sea Ranch can help forge a strong partnership to support expanded broadband service both to this community and to our neighbors along the coast of Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. While I can make no firm commitments without formal Board action, The Sea Ranch has both facilities and property that may meet the needs for secure equipment storage, technical support, office space, and utility support. We have access to a 170 foot communications tower and surrounding property which is zoned for utility development, and we are currently installing fiber-optic conduit to that facility. The Sea Ranch Association additionally owns and maintains about 40 miles of paved private roads that access all homes and lots on The Sea Ranch. We are currently installing conduit on about 2.5 miles of our roads, and have the ability to negotiate right-of-way access for Golden Bear Broadband, or another service provider, along the remaining roads.

The potential value of a Sea Ranch in-kind contribution to the project exceeds \$2 million. While I hope that the CPUC will keep the funding match small enough to allow the participation of economically challenged rural and coastal communities, such value should provide significant support to any funding match proposed by the granting authority for the proposed network.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank M. Bell', written over the printed name.

FRANK M. BELL
Community Manager
The Sea Ranch Association

cc. Steve Sharpe, Sonoma County Economic Development Board

THE SEA RANCH ASSOCIATION 2012 - 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION NO. 372

SUPPORTING IMPROVEMENTS IN TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE DELIVERY

Adopted on December 8, 2012

WHEREAS, the provision of high quality and area-wide telecommunications services including emergency services, cellular telephone, internet, television and multi-media streaming are increasingly important to members of The Sea Ranch Association; and,

WHEREAS, The Sea Ranch area currently has a "patchwork" of service providers offering a limited array of services which are often compromised by reliability problems, range and capacity constraints, and costs; and,

WHEREAS, The Sea Ranch Board of Directors listed the improvement of telecommunications service as a policy priority at their goal setting meeting of June 9, 2012,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT: The Sea Ranch Association Board of Directors wishes to explore appropriate options for the development and provision of telecommunications infrastructure and services, including voice, internet, television and other related media services to the entire Sea Ranch; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT: The Board of Directors further wishes to explore and consider partnerships with industry service providers, government and private grant opportunities, and other strategies for the improvement of telecommunications services; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT: the Association staff, the Utilities Committee, and other appropriate volunteers under the direction of the Community Manager, the Chair of the Utilities Committee, and the Chair of the Utilities Sub-committee on Telecommunications Services are encouraged and requested to address these issues through technical research and needs assessment, business planning, and the development of infrastructure development financing strategies. The Board seeks recommendations for further action on these matters in the earliest practical timeframe.

Motion by: Director Campbell

Vote: Aye: 6

Second by: Director Gardener

Nay: 0

Excused: Director Gallagher

Abstain:

Action Taken: Adopted

Signed: _____

Martha L. Tyler
(Chair, Board of Directors)

Date: 12-14-12