

Comment Letter I-1

Alisa Klaus
UC Santa Cruz
Physical Planning and Construction
1156 High Street
Mailstop: PP&C
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Re: Addendum #1 to Marine Science Campus Projects Environmental Impact Report Coastal Science Parking Lots

Dear Ms. Klaus, July 8, 2016

I request that a new Environmental Impact Report for the Marine Science Campus be prepared, before approval of a change order to the existing construction contract including the construction of a new 91-space parking lot and reconfiguration and expansion of the existing Seymour Marine Discovery Center parking lot to add 55 spaces.

I-1-1

The project requires a new EIR because significant new effects to the environment, caused by greenhouse gases, have been discovered since the last EIR was approved, in January 2012; specifically, climate change is causing the oceans to rise. Gary Griggs, Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences and Long Marine Laboratory at UC Santa Cruz, wrote an article published in the Santa Cruz Sentinel (June 26, 2016), in which he states, "There are simply too many people on the planet generating too many greenhouse gases, which are all trapping more heat." Adding 146 parking spaces to the Marine Science Campus is contradictory to Director Griggs' stated position that releasing 4 million tons of Carbon Dioxide every hour into the atmosphere without expecting some response "is real. It's bad", (as summed up by a former student.)

I-1-2

It is true, whether you believe it or not, that increasing the amount of parking at the Marine Science Campus will add to the amount of greenhouse gases emanating from the campus.

I-1-3

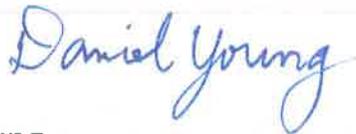
The intention to construct additional parking lots/spaces on the Marine Science Campus must be looked at in a fresh EIR with consideration to rising ocean levels. UC Santa Cruz has the resources to implement carpooling and bus service for those who are traveling to the Marine Science Campus, and these alternatives must be considered in the new EIR. UC Santa Cruz needs to reduce the number of parking spaces at the Marine Science Campus, not increase them, in order to be a good steward of the oceans and our environment.

Re: Addendum #1 to Marine Science Campus Projects Environmental Impact
Report Coastal Science Parking Lots page 2

A new EIR for the Coastal Science Campus is necessary because the dangers of climate change are more immediate and apparent now, than they were when the last EIR was approved, in 2012. Those who oppose this are especially culpable for their denial of "The signs and impacts...all around us" (Griggs Sentinel 6-26-2016) "...for a variety of reasons, often economic."

Protect the environment. Reduce parking and the accompanying pollution at the UC Santa Cruz Marine Science Campus. Don't allow economic deniers to add more greenhouse gases to our atmosphere, when there are alternatives to automobiles driven by single occupants (who willfully pollute for their own convenience.)

Sincerely,



Daniel Young
2571 Parker Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95065-1634

Response to Comment Letter I-1

Response to Comment I-1-1: The commenter requests that a new environmental impact be prepared for the proposed expansion of the Seymour Marine Discovery Center parking lot and construction of new parking lot E, because new significant effects of greenhouse gas emissions, specifically, a rise in sea level, have been discovered since the MSC Projects EIR was certified in January 2012. The potential for global climate change induced by greenhouse gas emissions to result in rising average sea levels was well known in 2012, and is discussed in the MSC Projects EIR, at page, 3.5-2. Therefore, the information that global climate changes is causing sea level rise does not constitute new information of substantial importance that was not known at the time the MSC Projects EIR was certified, which would necessitate preparation of a new EIR.

Response to Comment I-1-2: As explained in Addendum #1, the new parking spaces are needed to meet existing demand for parking in the lower terrace development zone, and projected future demand associated with the Coastal Biology Building Project, which is currently under construction. Without the proposed new parking spaces, this future demand would be met by the ample street parking available immediately off campus. Therefore, the Campus does not anticipate that the additional parking spaces would induce new vehicle trips to the campus.

Response to Comment I-1-3: The Campus implements a transportation demand management program, as required by the CLRDP, to reduce the number of vehicle trips to the campus. This program includes subsidized bus passes for faculty and staff; a vanpool program available to faculty, staff, and students; Zimride, a Facebook-based application that provides ride matching to members of the UCSC community; and several programs to support the use of bicycles as a means of transportation. The proposed expansion of the Seymour Center parking to would facilitate the future extension of Metro bus service to the Coastal Science Campus by reconfiguring the parking lot to allow buses to turn around.