

On Sun, Nov 20, 2022 at 4:02 PM Ken Eichstaedt <keeichstaedt@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Supervisor Rodoni:

The Olema Valley Association is offering its enthusiastic support for the Dark Sky Initiative in West Marin, known as [Dark Sky Point Reyes](#), and its efforts to designate the Point Reyes National Seashore and surrounding communities as an International Dark Sky Reserve. We encourage the ongoing collaboration between the International Dark Sky Association (IDSA), Point Reyes National Seashore, the County of Marin, and neighboring villages working to preserve the natural nightscape above West Marin.

We have discussed this project with our members and agree to generally support the IDSA-required lighting ordinance. However, there are concerns raised:

- 1. Business security concerns, i.e., lighting at ATMs and parking lots,*
- 2. Liability concerns, such as tripping*
- 3. Limited fixture availability that meet Dark Sky requirements,*
- 4. Retrofitting cost concerns, i.e., business signage and personal residences*
- 5. Utility company yard security issues*

The positive include marketing opportunities that Dark Sky communities enjoy. Potential increased sales could mitigate business cost concerns. Thus, we hope to learn more as the Board of Supervisors proceeds with this initiative.

Please keep the Olema Valley Association advised of any future updates and/or educational opportunities. Thank you for your efforts to improve our community!

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