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Dark Sky Point Reyes Ordinance

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Sat, Sep 10, 2022 at 12:36 PM

To: BOS@marincounty.org

Cc: Dennis Rodoni < DRodoni@marincounty.org>, Rhonda Kutter < RKutter@marincounty.org>

Bcc: daynurse@gmail.com

Dear Supervisor,

The Point Reyes Station Village 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.

Artificial lighting has a negative effect on wildlife by turning night into day. This causes problems for migrating birds, insect populations and amphibians. It is also a waste of energy when lighting is not shielded, contributing to increased carbon emissions. Higher lighting temperatures create "blue light", which is hazardous to human health. Artificial lighting makes it difficult to see the stars or to enjoy the natural darkness all around us at night.

We have discussed this project with our members and agree to support the IDSA-required lighting ordinance. This ordinance will encourage energy savings and reduce light pollution. Please direct the Community Development Agency and County Counsel to draft such an ordinance for your approval.

Thank you and please keep us advised of any future updates and/or educational opportunities.

Ken Levin

Point Reyes Station Village Association

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