January 13, 2020

Bonnie Blue, Planning Director
City of Malibu
23825 Stuart Ranch Road
Malibu, CA 90265

RE: Local Coastal Program Amendment No. LCP-4-MAL-19-0164-3 (Prohibit the Use of Pesticides)

Dear Ms. Blue:

On December 27, 2019, our office received the City’s submittal to amend the Land Use Plan (LUP) of the certified Local Coastal Program (LCP) consisting of a modification to LUP Policy 3.18 pertaining to a citywide prohibition of pesticides, including insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides or any toxic chemical substance which has the potential to significantly degrade biological resources.

Staff has reviewed the materials submitted for the subject LCP amendment request and we have found that there is additional information that is required for our analysis of this request. Pursuant to Article 15, § 13551 and 13552 of the Commission’s regulations, this additional information is required to deem the City’s proposed amendment complete. Please provide the following information:

1. Public Noticing. Please be advised that the City will be required to publish a meeting notification in at least one major newspaper that is circulated in the area that is affected by the subject LCP Amendment, in lieu of individual noticing requirements. We will send you the applicable notice for publishing prior to the scheduled hearing.

2. Interested Parties List. We are in receipt of the current interested parties list that you provided with your submittal; however this list did not include the addresses of listed parties. Please provide a comprehensive noticing list with interested parties’ addresses.

3. Consistency Analysis. Coastal Commission Administrative Regulations (Section 13552(c)) require the submittal of a consistency analysis of the proposed amendment and its relationship to and effect on the other sections of the certified LCP. The consistency analysis provided in the subject amendment request submittal is not detailed enough or comprehensive enough in analyzing the LUP amendment’s consistency with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act and with all other provisions of the LUP. Please provide a more detailed consistency analysis of the proposed amendment, and its relationship to, and effect on, the other sections of the certified LCP consistent with Section 13552(c) of the Commission’s regulations. Address how the changes are consistent with the policies of the LUP. In addition, please address the following specific issues in the analysis:

   a. Please indicate how the intent of the proposed policy, a City-wide prohibition on pesticides, will be implemented. Please clarify if this prohibition is only for new development?

   b. Proposed LUP Policy 3.18 includes language that may allow for herbicides to be used for the eradication of invasive plant species or habitat restoration. Please clarify if the City only intends
for herbicides to be used in certain instances, and not the use of other pesticides, including insecticides, rodenticides or another toxic chemical substance.

c. The proposed language prohibits the use of pesticides throughout the City, however existing LUP policies 3.19 and 3.20 currently allow for the use of insecticides, herbicides, or other toxic substance, as well as mosquito abatement within the City. Specifically, LUP Policy 3.19 states “the use of insecticides, herbicides, or other toxic substances by City employees and contractors in construction and maintenance of City facilities shall be minimized” and LUP Policy 3.20 states “mosquito abatement within or adjacent to ESHA shall be limited to the implementation of the minimum measures necessary to protect human health, and shall minimize adverse impacts to ESHA”. Please address the relationship and consistency between the above mentioned policies and the proposed language in your consistency analysis.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please note that additional information may be required depending on the information obtained from the abovementioned items. Should you have any questions regarding the filing status and review of the proposed amendment, please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to receiving the requested materials and moving forward with our review of this amendment application at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Denise Venegas
Coastal Program Analyst

cc: Joyce Parker-Bozylinski, Contract Planner, City of Malibu