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September 1, 2021

Laura Joss, General Superintendent  
Golden Gate National Recreation Area  
201 Fort Mason  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Laura:

I am writing to express my full support of a letter Pacifica City Manager Kevin Woodhouse sent you on August 4, 2021. He makes plausible and practical suggestions on how to address the exploding number of visitors at Mori Point in Pacifica, part of the GGNRA. As you know first-hand, our parks became extremely desirable destinations during the pandemic, so much so that we are almost loving some of these places to death. According to public health experts, being outdoors is one of the best protections against COVID-19 infections.

Mori Point is a spectacular place on the coast and thousands of people have been taking advantage of that beauty. I, too, have visited Mori Point many times last year and seen improper parking by some patrons. As Mr. Woodhouse lays out in his letter, increased visitation - especially on weekends - has resulted in an increase in illegally parked cars in the Fairway West neighborhood blocking driveways, corners, fire hydrants and clearance for emergency vehicles. There is also traffic congestion and unsafe mixing of vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists. Traffic safety impacts from the parking demand overflowing to the Fairway East neighborhood results in pedestrians, unfamiliar with the safer Highway 1 undercrossing, using the street level crosswalk on Highway 1. The lack of an appropriate number and emptying of trash cans is leading to overflowing trash littering the neighborhood. The lack of adequate restrooms is leading to reports of public urination and defecations. An increase of noise, public drinking, smoking and partying has been observed. An increase of theft and vandalism in the park, in yards and in sensitive habitat have also occurred.

I am sure that you agree that these resulting conditions are undesirable, unacceptable and dangerous and that you want to see them fixed. Mr. Woodhouse lists very specific tools and ways to do just that, including solutions to address parking, traffic, sanitation, and public nuisances. I hope you will make it a priority to enable the safe enjoyment of Mori Point for residents and visitors alike.

All the best,



Jackie Speier

KJS/kr

Cc: Kevin Woodhouse, Pacifica City Manager