

July 15, 2002

Ms. Sally Reed
Administrative Officer
County of Monterey
240 Church Street
Salinas CA 93901

Dear Sally:

It has come to our attention that the County has declined to allow the Pebble Beach Company to proceed as a separate matter with realignment and safety improvements to the Highway 68/Highway 1 Gate. Please accept this as our strong protest and as a request to reconsider your action.

The DMFPO is certainly not pushing for any speedy resolution of all of the planning issues surrounding the Company's recent submittal of plans for improvements in the Forest along the lines of development approved by the voters in Measure A. We are confident that the County and the Coastal Commission will adequately ensure that appropriate review of all these matters occurs, and that the normal approval process will apply in good fashion.

However, the gate improvements at the main entrance to the Forest are safety related and should proceed independently, regardless of what ultimately occurs with the rest of the plan. The Pebble Beach Company has agreed to go forward with this segment of the plan now, and we feel that if one accident can be avoided, perhaps one life saved, then it is worth looking at this portion separately and apart from the rest.

There are 3 distinct categories of drivers that can pose significantly higher risks: (1) elderly citizens who perhaps aren't as responsive and

decisive as they once were when behind the wheel; (2) southbound speeders from Highway 68 heading across this exit to the freeway; and (3) tourists who aren't familiar with the area and who may be easily distracted. We want to avoid the sort of accident that occurred at Via Mallorca on the Carmel Valley Road. We have a willing developer of the improvements, we have a deserving public, and we need to go forward with all due speed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Woudenberg, President
Del Monte Forest Property Owners

cc: Dave Potter