

West Marin Standing Together  
PO Box 478  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

January 30, 2020

Dear Marin County Board of Supervisors,

As a citizen action group working together since 2016 to protect and improve the lives of all members of our community, West Marin Standing Together wishes to express support for the selection of CLAM (The Community Land Trust Association of West Marin) to steward the process of converting the former Coast Guard property to affordable homes, and to hold that small community in perpetuity, as affordable housing.

CLAM's vision of a neighborhood fully integrated into the Point Reyes Village, with housing available on an equitable basis to new and existing members of the community, matches our organization's goal of a diverse and integrated community. CLAM's vision has been born out of their ongoing process of grassroots organizing for input and participation and reflects the coalescing of a shared community vision for this site. CLAM's process has been consistently transparent, welcoming and thorough. They are respected locally for inclusion and effective communication.

The Point Reyes and West Marin communities are deeply invested in the disposition of this property to address the need for affordable homes along the rural coast. We believe that CLAM, as a community land trust with deep relationships with local residents and organizations, is uniquely positioned to shape the housing and community uses on the site.

We respect CLAM's choice of nonprofit affordable housing developer Eden Housing to guide financing and construction if their joint bid is selected. CLAM's unparalleled community support, together with Eden's financial strength, experience and track record, is a partnership of greatest strength for this most important opportunity for West Marin.

We support CLAM's bid for redevelopment of the Coast Guard site. Furthermore, we encourage ongoing consideration that this property become community-owned land on a community land trust model, so this neighborhood will be seen and felt to be guided by local voices over the long term. We urge you to act within your power to assist in making this vision a reality.

Thank you,

Eleanore Despina,  
Steering Committee member