



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**  
**MAILING ADDRESS: 1106 SECOND STREET, EUREKA, CA 95501-0579**  
**AREA CODE 707**

On-line  
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	Public Works Building Second & L St., Eureka Fax 445-7409		Clark Complex Harris & H St., Eureka Fax 445-7388		
Administration	445-7491	Natural Resources	445-7741	Land Use	445-7205
Business	445-7652	Natural Resource Planning	267-9542		
Engineering	445-7377	Parks	445-7651		
Facility Management	445-7621	Roads	445-7421		

August 28, 2024

Board of Commissioners  
 Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District  
 601 Startare Drive  
 Eureka, CA 95501

Subject: Resolution 2024-08 for Permit 2024-01 (Billboard Repair and Continuation of Use for Five Years)

Dear President Dale and Members of the Board of Commissioners:


Humboldt County is the fee owner of the underlying parcel for billboard #4567A which is the subject of the proposed Resolution 2024-08 for Permit 2024-01. As the property owner, Humboldt County has an interest in ensuring that discretionary actions taken on this property adequately address the conditions and circumstances at the site. The County encourages the Board of Commissioners to ensure that the project description is sufficiently complete to make all required findings. Please consider the following items:

1. Plan Adequacy. Under case law interpreting the Outdoor Advertising Act, the proposed action is construction of a new sign (placement) which requires issuance of a building permit by the Humboldt County Planning and Building Department. In order for a building permit to be issued, the Planning and Building Department requires engineering plans demonstrating that the design conforms to the California Building Standards Code. The packet for the August 28, 2024, Harbor District meeting did not include engineering plans. The Planning and Building Department does not have an active building permit application for this sign and has not received engineering plans. Once the engineer has evaluated the conditions of the tidelands at the billboard site and the associated loading for the proposed sign, the design of the footings and above-ground structure may be different than currently proposed. The Board of Commissioners should be reasonably certain that their approval reflects what can be approved for the building permit.

2. Access. The Humboldt County Public Works Department has a large construction project currently in progress, and nearing completion, adjacent to the billboard site. When complete, the Humboldt Bay Trail South project will provide a multi-use paved path for transportation and recreation between Eureka and Arcata. The applicant proposes to access the billboard site along the “railroad tracks”; however, the rails and ties have been removed near the site and the County’s construction contractor is currently occupying that area for construction of the County’s project. Soon, the public will be traveling along the Humboldt Bay Trail near the site. The applicant will need to develop an access plan addressing issues including, but not limited to, the following: the access route for transporting vehicles and heavy equipment to the billboard site; the type and weight of the equipment; the proposed schedule, including advanced notifications; measures to ensure public safety; and measures to prevent damage to the County’s infrastructure and property. The packet for the August 28, 2024, Harbor District meeting did not include an access plan.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas K. Mattson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Thomas K. Mattson  
Public Works Director