

May 28,2026

To the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission,

I am writing in support of the Mendocino Coast Recreation and Park District (MCRPD) and to express appreciation for the important role the District serves throughout the Mendocino Coast region.

The Draft 2026 Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update clearly demonstrates that MCRPD has evolved into a valuable regional organization that provides recreation programming, community engagement, and public services across an exceptionally large and geographically diverse service area stretching from Westport to Gualala and inland to Comptche. The District now serves approximately 30,000 residents across 77 miles of coastline.

One of the most impressive aspects of the report is the District's continued adaptation and operational evolution since the previous 2008 review. MCRPD has successfully transitioned from reliance on a single recreation facility toward a collaborative regional model that utilizes partnerships and shared-use agreements with public and private entities throughout the coast. This approach demonstrates creativity, flexibility, and efficient use of limited public resources.

This report highlights the District's broad range of recreation programming and outreach efforts. MCRPD provides activities and services for residents of all ages while maintaining active communication with the public through community events, program guides, social media, public notices, and local outreach. These efforts strengthen community identity and improve quality of life throughout the coast.

It is especially encouraging to see the District's commitment to transparency and compliance with public access requirements. The District maintains public meeting access, publishes agendas and financial information online, and continues to improve accountability and governance practices.

The report further recognizes the unique challenges associated with serving a large rural coastal population with limited staffing and resources. Despite these challenges, the District continues to provide meaningful recreational opportunities through a relatively small workforce and extensive community collaboration.

Overall, the Municipal Service Review reflects an organization that is responsive, adaptive, and committed to serving the diverse communities of the Mendocino Coast. The recommendation to affirm the District's existing Sphere of Influence appropriately recognizes the District's established regional role and ongoing value to the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in support of the Mendocino Coast Recreation and Park District.

Sincerely,
William Hayes
Mendocino

Uma Hinman
Executive Director of LAFCO Mendocino
Re: MCRPD MSR

I have actively participated with MCRPD (Mendocino Rec. and Parks District) for many years, including monitoring issues and discussions by the MCRPD Board of Directors. Over the years, the Board has dealt with many complicated topics and made decisions that directly affected the community. One of the main obstacles for MCRPD has been financial limitations. Overall, the Board has leaned towards giving the community the best service for the money that was available at the time.

Currently, I believe MCRPD has one of the strongest and progressive BoD, lead by Ms. Felicich, and is supported by the community for the variety of quality programs designed and implemented by this Board.

The area of responsibility of MCRPD encompasses all the Mendocino coastal communities. It takes a great deal of strategic planning to provide quality programs all up and down the coast and to find highly skilled staff and instructors.

MCRPD is working to keep popular activities, like the Gymnastics program, because of the positive effects it has on families, and at the same time is looking for new classes that entice young children to participate and programs that encourage the senior population to keep up a healthy lifestyle, such as Pickleball. I support the direction this BoD has taken to continue to provide the best service to the people and the efforts it makes to use grants and sponsorships to finance more and better programs.

My hope is to help make clear that the MCRPD is moving forward on a path of growth and continues to provide opportunities for fun and education while focusing on the influence they have for a healthy and satisfied community which fulfills their mission statement.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.


Robert Rodriguez
Community member

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