

From: [Robin Bennett](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Cc: dogs@smilindogs.com
Subject: Agenda Item #3 - Smilin' Dogs Dog Ranch - Please Approve Permits
Date: Friday, January 23, 2026 4:27:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

County File Number: PLN2021-00432 (Smilin Dogs)

My 85 lb Great Pyrenees mix dog, Wendy, has been going to the Smilin' Dogs ranch once per week every week for over a year. As soon as I put on my blinker to turn into Smilin' Dogs parking lot on Old County Road, she is wiggling her tail - so excited for her day with Smilin' Dogs' incredible staff.

I walk/hike with Wendy several times a week on trails up and down the Peninsula, Marin County, and the Easy Bay, and though she loves sniffing her way along a trail, she is most likely leashed in accordance with the trail's regulations. As she's not a 'dog park' dog, the ranch is her only chance to run at top speed with other dogs, which is invaluable for both her socialization with other dogs and for her physical (and mental) health.

I would ask the Planning Commission members to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approve the After-the-Fact Coastal Development Permit, Planned Agricultural District Permit, Architectural Review Permit, and Kennel Permit as recommended to it by the Planning Staff.

Sincerely,

Robin Bennett

From: [Melissa Parsons](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#); dogs@smilindogs.co
Subject: permit for Smilin Dogs
Date: Friday, January 23, 2026 1:56:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

As a resident of San Mateo for almost 50 years, I would like to express support for granting the permit to SmilinDogs.

I have used the services of the dog ranch for years -- this is my second dog to take advantage of the service which she has done for the past 8 years, I am a senior (77 years old) and recently had a serious of operations which made it difficult to impossible to exercise my dog properly and yet she is essential to my quality of life. This service is very much needed - sometimes there is no other option.

Please allow this wonderful service which is so necessary for both dogs and owners --- and especially seniors.

Thank you.

Melissa Parsons
Atherton

From: [Mary Bordi](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Meeting #1789, Wed. Jan 28, 2026
Date: Monday, January 26, 2026 1:31:19 PM

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I am writing in support of Agenda item #3. It's a good use of open land. As owner of neighboring property (and a dog lover) I have no problem with this operation. As it says "after-the-fact" it seems it has already been in operation and I have not seen any negative effects.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Bordi
Owner APN 081-023-010

From: [Lennie Roberts](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Cc: [Angela Montes](#); [Neil A Panton](#)
Subject: Item #2 on 1-28-2026 Agenda: Smilin Dogs PLN2021-00432
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 12:22:58 PM
Attachments: [GF SMCPC Smilin Dogs 1-27-2026.pdf](#)

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Dear Chair Serrano-Quan and Commissioners,

Please see attached letter on behalf of Green Foothills regarding the need for an additional condition of approval to ensure that stormwater runoff from the areas of dog use does not create water quality problems in San Gregorio Creek, a steelhead spawning stream.

Thanks for your work to ensure that San Gregorio Creek is fully protected from inadvertent runoff from the proposed Smilin Dogs project.

Lennie Roberts, Legislative Advocate, Green Foothills



January 27, 2026

Chair Carlos Serrano-Quan and
Members of the Planning Commission
455 County Center, 2nd Floor,
Redwood City, CA 9406

Re: Item #2 on the January 28, 2026 Agenda: After-the-Face Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Planned Agricultural District Permit, Architectural Review Permit, Kennel Permit to allow a commercial dog-walking operation for a maximum of 75 dogs per day (M-F) within a fenced 23-acre portion of a 150-acre parcel, at 123 Seaside School Road, San Gregorio. PLN2021-00432

Dear Chair Serrano-Quan and Commissioners

On behalf of Green Foothills, I write to request that the Planning Commission add a Condition of Approval requiring monitoring of the water quality of stormwater runoff from the 23-acre Smilin Dogs facility on the Marchi property. As currently designed and operated, surface water stormwater runoff drains into the intermittent stream that is located just north of the agricultural pond and thence into San Gregorio Creek, a steelhead spawning stream.

As noted above, the “proposed” location is already operating without benefit of the necessary Coastal Development Permit and other associated permits. This is especially odd, inasmuch as Smilin Dogs did obtain the required CDP and associated permits for their prior location (on the Carpy-Connolly property near Pescadero) where they operated beginning in the year 2000. After the Pescadero operation ceased, new owners of that property had to spend a great deal of time and expense cleaning up the dog feces that had been deposited throughout the entire site. The Carpy-Connolly operation had similar provisions for an enclosed staging area for dogs to relieve themselves upon arrival. But canines will “go” when they need to “go” and where they need to “go”.

The statement in the staff report that dog waste is collected from the enclosures and hiking route on a real-time basis by the handlers, and all dog waste is removed from the site each day and taken to San Carlos is not credible, given the necessity of the handlers to manage the pack of dogs and the large area (approximately five acres) for dog exercise.

Please continue this item so that staff, working with relevant Agency (CA Fish and Wildlife) to craft a condition of approval that requires submittal of water quality samples from the intermittent stream above and below the Smilin Dogs lease area, as well as San Gregorio Creek after major winter storm events.

Sincerely,

Lennie Roberts, Legislative Advocate

From: [STEVEN JIMERSON](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#); dogs@smilindogs.com
Subject: Smilin Dog's Off Leash Permit
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 9:29:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear Planning Commission,

I would like to voice my support for Smilin Dog's request for an off leash permit for their dog ranch. The company does a great job of taking care of our dogs and providing a safe but fun space for them during the day. Our dog is happy to arrive at Smilin Dog's every time, which was not the case with the previous day care that we used and shows the level of care that they take. Please grant them the permit to allow them to provide this great service to the community.

Thanks,

Steven Jimerson

From: [Laurie Ann Columbo](#)
To: [Planning Commission](#)
Cc: dogs@smilindogs.com
Subject: Smilin" Dogs Permit
Date: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 12:09:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Dear Planning Commission -

I fully support the dog walking permits to Smilin Dogs so they can continue the use of their beautiful ranch that dogs love so much. Our dog MacGyver is a cattledog, a worker dog who thrives on activity and loves the outdoors and on his days at the Ranch, he returns to us energated and fulfilled - as if he just had the perfect day - every time he goes. All we want is to see our pets happy and well-cared for and the staff at Smilin Dogs understands that and the Ranch serves an environment we haven't found with any other Dog Day Care or Boarding company. Please please do not take away this small pleasure for our dog and many others - and provide the dog walking permit to Smilin' Dogs.

Regards,
Laurie Ann Columbo