

**From:** [Bill Garrett](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [dogs@smilindogs.com](mailto:dogs@smilindogs.com)  
**Subject:** Smilin' Dogs' Coastal Ranch  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026 1:05:12 PM  
**Importance:** High

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Dear Planning Commissioners,

Please excuse any spelling errors as this is my first time writing using a komputer and it's hard to use the keys becuz of my big paws.

My name is Molly Garrett and I am a 3-yr. young Golden Retriever. For the past 1½ years, my parents, Bill & Maureen of San Carlos, have let me go to the beautiful ranch over on the San Mateo County coast where I get to run & play with my friends, enjoy the outdoors in a beautiful, safe & secure setting, running freely under the supervision of so many nice young ranchers, as we call them, all of whom seem to love us dearly and appreciate the oppurrtwonity to watch & play with us all morning & afternoon. They make sure we stay out of trouble but have fun, and make sure we know they love each of us like they are our own parents.

Mom & Dad let Smilin' Dogs come pick me up twice a week. A rancher drives the Smilin' Dogs van to my home, comes into my backyard and puts the leash on me to lead me to the van. Sometimes I have to be told to calm down by Mom & Dad and the rancher who comes to get me 'cuz I'm so excited to go I can't stop moving around in circles and barking and wagging my tail—it just happens 'cuz I'm so happy. Mom & Dad always say it's time to go play with your friends or it's time to go be a pack dog! When I get home in the late afternoon and the rancher takes me into my backyard, Mom or Dad, if they're home, ask me right away how I liked playing with my friends and being a pack dog? I show 'em by wagging my tail and jumping running around in circles—even though I'm usually so doggone tired when I get home from runni9ng around the ranch. Mom & Dad say that was the poynt of having me try to pass Smilin' Dogs' enrollment tests and stuff, so that I could go & meet new friend and get tired out a few days a week when Mom has to also go to her offiss. They both mention every once in a while how I was a handful until I was able to go to Smilin Dogs' ranch & wear off some of the energy I store up when they both have to be gone during the day.

I hear Mom & Dad talk about how valuwbul a service Smilin' Dogs provides to them and my friends' parents, too, and what a shame it would be for them and other dog owners in our County to lose such a wonderful opportoonty for their dogs to go socialize and play not only with their friends but with the kind young ranchers who love us sometimes hose us off if we get too dirty and who have these great jobs.

Please do whatever needs to be dun to make sure Konrad is able to get his permit to allow Smilin' Dogs to continue to operate its coastal dog ranch. Being there, and knowing I'm going there when the van & rancher come to pick me up, really puts a smile on my face. It's my & my friends' "Happy Place"! We love it!!

Thank you,  
Woof woof!

*Molly Garrett*

## Planning\_Commission

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**From:** Sarah Santoro <smbasantoro@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026 7:22 AM  
**To:** Planning\_Commission  
**Cc:** Smilin Dogs  
**Subject:** Smilin Dogs permit support

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of granting Smilin Dogs a permit to continue operating. We, and our dog, have been clients of Smilin Dogs for over 10 years and cannot overstate the importance of the company in our lives. We have a border collie mix who needs a lot of exercise, and to be honest, the best way to tire her out is to let her run far and fast off leash.

Without the hikes that Smilin Dogs provides, we would have one less option of giving her the exercise she needs. Even at 14 years old, she still enjoys her Smilin Dogs days. We don't doubt that this has also helped her to continue to be very active and happy even as she's aging.

There are so few options for off leash exercise for dogs in the county that we would hate to lose one that is run responsibly, and that provides a very specialized service for dog owners in the county. The employees we deal with have always been friendly and helpful and take care of our dog the way we do. Please allow them to continue!

Regards,  
Sarah Santoro  
Menlo Park

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Elisa Odabashian](#)  
**To:** [Planning Commission](#); [Smilindogs](#); [Ash McNeely](#)  
**Subject:** Please grant Smilindogs a dog walking permit!  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026 5:18:55 PM

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Dear Planning Committee,

We are 40+ year members of the San Mateo County community and we depend on Smilindogs services regularly to take our two Golden Retrievers out to their ranch coastside of a day of fun exercise. We and our pups would be devastated to lose this important service to the community. Please re-permit Smilingdogs when this issue comes before you. Thanks very much.

Sincerely,

Elisa Odabashian and Ash McNeely