

## RESOLUTION NO. 4026-2017

### RESOLUTION OF THE FORT BRAGG CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING REVIEW OF DESIGNATIONS OF GREATER FARALLONES AND CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

**WHEREAS**, the Mendocino Coast is one of the treasures of the nation, with the continent's strongest upwelling system creating a bountiful and beautiful coastal ecosystem whose riches include giant kelp forests, 33 species of marine mammals, migrating salmon and hundreds of other forms of sea life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mendocino County coast attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors a year and its scenic resources are a vital part of Fort Bragg's tourist economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Fort Bragg's fishing industry is wholly dependent on pollution-free waters to deliver delicious and nutritious seafood, including wild salmon and Dungeness crab to customers around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Fort Bragg has a long history of coastal protection, with its citizens taking an active role in protecting our coast against offshore drilling and other forms of pollution; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015 southern Mendocino County waters gained protection against pollution and seabed destruction through inclusion in the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary; and

**WHEREAS**, issues regarding the expansion of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries were thoroughly examined in 2008 in a hearing of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans, and resulted in the unanimous vote of the House of Representatives for expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fort Bragg previously voted unanimously in Resolutions No. 3314-2009, 2157-96, 2105-95, 972-81 and 901-80 to oppose offshore oil drilling and support marine sanctuaries to preserve the coastal ecosystem; and

**WHEREAS**, the designation of the expansion areas under the National Marine Sanctuary Act provided the opportunity for public input through public meetings, including several held in Mendocino County, and more than a thousand public comments over a two-year period were received; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Bragg City Council is aware that the Trump Administration has ordered a review of National Marine Sanctuaries designated in the last ten years to facilitate the opening of these waters to offshore oil exploration and drilling;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg does hereby find that a review of these designations ordered by the Trump Administration is an unneeded and unwarranted intrusion into settled law; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg urges all citizens of Fort Bragg, Mendocino County and the State of California to stand with them in support of the current designation of the expansion areas of the Greater

Farallones and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries and in opposition to any new policies that weaken the benefits and protections they bring.

The above and foregoing Resolution was introduced by Councilmember Lee, seconded by Councilmember Norvell, and passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fort Bragg held on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017, by the following vote:

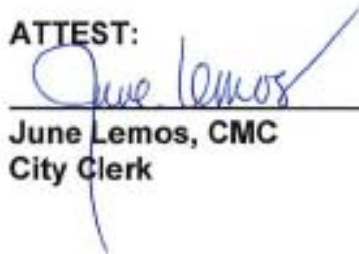
**AYES:** Councilmembers Cimolino, Lee, Norvell, Turner and Mayor Peters  
**NOES:** None.  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**ABSTAIN:** None.  
**RECUSED:** None.



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**LINDY PETERS**  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**



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**June Lemos, CMC**  
City Clerk