

Community Land Trust Association of West Marin (CLAM)

Coast Guard Property



CLAM was critically instrumental in organizing community support to prevent an auction sale of the Coast Guard neighborhood. In mid-**2014**, the US Coast Guard designated its Housing Facility in Point Reyes Station as surplus property. It planned to sell this 32-acre neighborhood, with its 36 town homes, to the highest bidder on an online governmental auction.

Seeing that this property presented an unsurpassed, once-in-a-generation opportunity for the community to gain

dozens of affordable homes, CLAM worked with Congressman Jared Huffman and Marin County Supervisor Steve Kinsey to prevent an auction sale. The goal was to direct the site to be sold to the County of Marin, which would then work with CLAM to repurpose the property for affordable homes.

In late 2014, Congressman Huffman introduced legislation to direct the US Coast Guard to sell the property to the County. CLAM invited letters of support for the legislation from our local community, ultimately sending more than 150 letters to Congressman Huffman, California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, and to Supervisor Kinsey, who worked with the Marin County Board of Supervisors to pass a resolution that supported the federal legislation.

The legislation moved successfully through both the House and Senate in **2015**, with CLAM demonstrating extensive community support for this property to be used as affordable homes. One staff member for the General Services Administration, commenting on the community and political support for this property, said, “We have never seen anything like this!”

In February of **2016**, the legislation that Congressman Huffman introduced was signed into law by President Obama. As a result, the property should be sold to Marin County for the purposes of affordable housing!

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