

## Jennifer Blackman

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**From:** djolley <djolley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 29, 2023 7:41 PM  
**To:** BCPUD  
**Subject:** letter to supervisors  
**Attachments:** Letter of appeal.docx

To the Directors,

As promised at your most recent meeting, I am forwarding a sample letter in support of the effort to secure a dark sky certification for West Marin. The letter is a model for any interested in contacting the Board of Supervisors, and can be modified to suit individual needs. Please contact me if questions or concerns remain.

Thank you again for your interest and support.

Don Jolley  
Dark Sky West Marin

Hello (name of supervisor),

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am one of your constituents in the County of Marin (zip XXXXX). I'm writing to urge your support for establishing a county-wide lighting ordinance compliant with guidelines set forth by the International Dark Sky Association (IDSA). I believe the issue is a worthy goal, consistent with measures already in place to preserve and protect our county's abundant natural resources.

The effort to secure dark sky certification for Marin County has already received extensive media coverage; articles detailing the intent of the enterprise have appeared in the Point Reyes Light, the Marin Independent Journal, the San Francisco Chronicle, editions of both the NY and LA Times, and Esquire Magazine. Features have also been broadcast on Bay Area television and radio, including ABC and KQED's Forum. Meanwhile, local events to educate the public on the value of dark skies are on-going under auspices of Dark Sky West Marin.

Benefits of preserving the dark as a natural resource include:

- better sleep for citizens
- support for wildlife attuned to the dark
- energy savings in both private and public sectors

Funding for a dark skies ordinance has been at issue, both with Supervisor Rodoni and Sarah Jones of DWP. It is my belief, however, that costs for an ordinance and its regulation can be minimized by:

- adopting ordinances already in use elsewhere (from IDSA and other Dark Sky communities)
- realizing long-term energy savings to the county
- minimizing enforcement costs by only enforcing complaints from citizens

Please use your influence as County Supervisor to establish dark skies as a priority for funding, and support a county-wide lighting ordinance compliant with requirements per IDSA. With light pollution increasing at the rate of 10% per year, the time for informed action is upon us.

Thank you for your time and earnest consideration,

(Name)  
(contact optional)