

Coastal Currently October 2025



Highlights from the California Coastal Commission's monthly public hearings

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Kate Huckelbridge provided an [update](#) on recent agency activities, including:

- The Coastal Commission released [draft guidance](#) on nature-based adaptation strategies, which is available for public comment until Oct. 24.
- The Coastal Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development are [seeking input from the public](#) as they work to develop guidance for local governments on ways to clarify and simplify the process for building accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in the Coastal Zone.
- The Coastal Commission released its [2024 Year in Review](#), highlighting the agency's major accomplishments last year.
- The Coastal Commission's annual [Coastal Art & Poetry Contest](#) is now accepting submissions from K-12 students through Jan. 29, 2026.
- The Coastal Commission is seeking public feedback on its draft [2026 to 2030 Strategic Plan](#).

Enforcement

The Coastal Commission [fined](#) a homeowner in Carlsbad more than \$1.4 million for blocking public access to a nearby beach and Buena Vista Lagoon in San Diego County. Approved enforcement orders require habitat restoration and opening and eventual removal of two gates.

Oil and Gas

The Coastal Commission [cleared the way](#) for the decommissioning and removal of fossil fuel infrastructure and remediation of impacted soils at the Carpinteria Oil and Gas Processing Facility in Santa Barbara County.

Transportation

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a road realignment in the city of Long Beach to accommodate protected bicycle and pedestrian paths along West Shoreline Drive.

Commercial

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a new ocean-front restaurant in the city of Los Angeles on the site of the former Gladstones restaurant. The new restaurant will feature a public deck, public parking, public restrooms and a new bus stop on Pacific Coast Highway to increase coastal access.

The Coastal Commission [cleared the way](#) for the renovation of a restaurant and theater in a historic building in the Venice neighborhood of the city of Los Angeles.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a permit amendment to downsize the Belmont Pool in Long Beach. The new plan will include a competitive pool, recreation pool and teaching pool, as well as a spa and diving well.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a proposal to convert a bank building into a restaurant in downtown Seal Beach in Orange County. The project includes the addition of a patio, onsite bicycle parking and employee transit passes.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a 28-unit hotel in San Clemente in Orange County, including six lower-cost units.

Housing

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) five ADUs at three sites in Santa Monica in Los Angeles County.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) two 530-square foot ADUs in the city of Hermosa Beach.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a two-story ADU on a lot with an existing duplex in the city of Del Mar.

*All actions taken at the Coastal Commission [public hearing](#) in Redondo Beach on Oct. 8 to 10, 2025. ([video](#))

**Banner photo by Nicholas Paoni, submitted for the 2024 [California Ocean & Coastal Amateur Photography Contest](#).