APPLICATION NO.: 4-95-112

APPLICANT: L.A. County Department of Beaches and Harbors AGENT: Dusty Brogan

PROJECT LOCATION: Nicholas Canyon County Beach, Zuma County Beach, Point Dume State Beach, Malibu Surfrider State Beach, and Las Tunas State Beach, in the City of Malibu; Los Angeles County and Topanga State Beach in the County of Los Angeles.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The installation of 3 pre-fabricated shelters with benches on cement slabs (Sunshelters) and 7 kiosks. Two sunshelters are proposed at Zuma County Beach and one sunshelter is at Topanga State Beach. There are two kiosks proposed at Zuma Beach and one kiosk at each of the other five subject beaches listed above. The project also includes the removal of the sunshelter at Las Tunas Beach, and the relocation of the sunshelter from the sandy beach to an area surrounded by existing paving at Topanga State Beach. The panels of the sunshelters and kiosks will contain both advertising and public service messages. At least one panel on each sunshelter and three sided kiosk and at least two panels on each four sided kiosk will be reserved for public service messages.

Building coverage: Shelter: 112 sq. ft.; kiosk: 9 sq. ft.
Pavement coverage: Approximately 160 sq. ft. for shelter at Topanga State Beach Site only.
Ht abv fin grade: Shelter: 10 ft.; kiosk: 8 sq. ft.

LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED: California State Parks and Recreation approval for structures on State Beaches.

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS: Malibu Land Use Plan, Coastal Development Permit Application 5-95-144 (L.A. Co. Dept. of Beaches and Harbors and Ca. State Parks and Recreation)

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This is a partial after-the-fact application for the installation of 3 sunshelters and 7 kiosks, and the removal of one sunshelter, on County and State beaches in the Malibu area of Los Angeles County. Four sunshelters have been put in place; one of these shelters will be removed (Las Tunas State
Beach) and one will be relocated (Topanga State Beach). None of the kiosks have been built. The proposed development, with the relocation and removal of two of the sunshelters is consistent with the visual and public access sections of the Coastal Act. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the project with three special conditions requiring the removal and relocation of the two sunshelters in a timely manner, limiting the location of the kiosk at Las Tunas State Beach to within fifteen feet of the lifeguard station, and requiring an amendment to the permit for any change to the structures.

STAFF NOTE:

At the May 1996 hearing the Commission asked staff to provide more information about the statutory condition governing the grant of eight beaches from the State of California to the County of Los Angeles with respect to the proposed project's consistency or inconsistency with the statutory limitation on placing "commercial development" on beaches. Public Resource Code Section 5002.6, applicable to the grant of eight specified beaches to the County from the State, sets forth the following in subsection (e)(l)(A): "No new or expanded commercial development shall be allowed on the granted real property."

Persons and entities interested in this application appear to disagree on whether this proposed development is "commercial development" as used in the statute. To date, staff has received written comments from the applicant asserting that the proposed project is not inconsistent with the statute. So that the Commission may review all written comments received by the South Central Coast District Office, all correspondence regarding this project have been included as Exhibits 13-18. If any additional information becomes available prior to the Commission hearing, staff will provide that information to the Commission.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends that the Commission adopt the following resolution:

I. Approval with Conditions.

The Commission hereby grants, subject to the conditions below, a permit for the proposed development on the grounds that the development, as conditioned, will be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act of 1976, will not prejudice the ability of the local governments having jurisdiction over the area to prepare a Local Coastal Program conforming to the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, is located between the sea and first public road nearest the shoreline and is in conformance with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and will not have any significant adverse impacts on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act.

II. Standard Conditions.

1. Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment. The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
2. Expiration. If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date this permit is reported to the Commission. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.

3. Compliance. All development must occur in strict compliance with the proposal as set forth in the application for permit, subject to any special conditions set forth below. Any deviation from the approved plans must be reviewed and approved by the staff and may require Commission approval.

4. Interpretation. Any questions of intent or interpretation of any condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.

5. Inspections. The Commission staff shall be allowed to inspect the site and the project during its development, subject to 24-hour advance notice.

6. Assignment. The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.

7. Terms and Conditions Run with the Land. These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

III. Special Conditions.

1. Removal of Structures

The applicant agrees that, within 90 days of the issuance of the coastal development permit, the sunshelter and cement pad, including any debris from the construction or demolition at Las Tunas Beach shall be removed from the site, and the sunshelter and cement pad, including any debris from the construction or demolition at Topanga State Beach will be relocated to another location at Topanga State Beach as shown in Exhibits 6 and 7B, respectively. Any debris generated from removing the cement pads shall be removed by the applicant. At the end of the 90 days from the date of issuance of the permit, the applicant shall notify the Executive Director of completion of work.

2. Kiosk Location at Las Tunas State Beach

The applicant agrees that the kiosk located at Las Tunas State Beach shall be located within 15 feet of the existing lifeguard station.

3. Future Change

The applicant agrees that any changes to the design or project description of any sunshelter or kiosk will require an amendment from the California Coastal Commission. Such changes include but are not limited to a change in the number of display panels or changes that reduce the number of display panels devoted to public service information on any sunshelter or kiosk.
IV. Findings and Declarations.

The Commission hereby finds and declares as follows:

A. Project Description and Background

The County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors is proposing the installation of three sunshelters and 7 information and advertising kiosks and the removal of one sunshelter. The sunshelters have already been put into place; none of the kiosks have been installed. Specifically, the applicant is proposing a kiosk in the parking lot of Nicholas Canyon County beach; two sunshelters and two information kiosks at Zuma County Beach, which are to be located adjacent to existing buildings on existing cement slabs; one kiosk at Point Dume State Beach on an existing cement slab; one kiosk at Malibu Surfrider County beach in the parking area, but not in an area used for parking; one kiosk and the removal of the sunshelter and cement pad at Las Tunas State Beach; and one sunshelter, which will be relocated, and one kiosk at Topanga State Beach.

The sunshelters will be painted pre-fabricated metal structures consisting of four corner support posts, one side and one rear panel, and a tile roof (See Exhibit 10). The sunshelters will be painted beige, consistent with other County owned and operated beach facilities. The structures will measure approximately 16 feet long by 7 feet wide and 9 feet high. The side and rear panels are two-sided measuring approximately 4 feet by 6 feet. The side panel will be used for advertising and the rear will be used for public service messages on one side and advertising on the other. The side panels are currently being used for advertising. The rear panels, however, do not currently have any advertising or public service messages. The County intends to use the rear panel once a decision is made as to the content of the public service messages. The County has not had the time or resources to allocate this task.

The sunshelter at Topanga Beach requires the pouring of a concrete pad between the parking area and storm drains; it is not located on sandy beach. The sunshelters at Zuma Beach are proposed on existing cement slabs. None of the proposed kiosks will be located on sandy beach areas; all kiosks are proposed on existing cement slabs.

The kiosks will be either three-sided or four sided. Each side will measure approximately 4.5 feet across and will be approximately 6 feet in height (See Exhibit 11 and 12). According to the applicant the three sided kiosk will have one public service panel. The four sided kiosk will have two panels reserved for public service messages. The remaining panels of the kiosks will be used for advertising.

The sunshelters and kiosks will be constructed and maintained by an independent sponsor (contractor). However, the sunshelters and kiosks will be owned by the County of Los Angeles. According to the applicant, once any structure is placed on a County beach the structure becomes the property of the County. As such, the County maintains control over the type of advertising and the amount of public service panels. The County has indicated that the public service messages will provide information relating to coastal resources and recreation, such as, information on nearby facilities, local recreation programs, safety issues and educational information regarding
coastal resources. The County will provide the sponsor with the information to be used in the public service panels. The applicant further states that 30% of all revenues generated by advertising revenue that is sold on the panels the first year, and graduating to a maximum of 50% by the seventh year, will go to the Department of Beaches and Harbors. This revenue generated by advertising will help support the Department of Beaches and Harbors in providing a safe and clean beach.

The subject sunshelters and kiosks are located within the City of Malibu and an unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County; both these areas are within the jurisdiction of the South Central Coast office of the Commission. The County of Los Angeles is also proposing a number of sunshelter and kiosks within the City of Los Angeles; this area is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Commission office. The coastal permit request for those structures is being simultaneously reviewed by the Commission in coastal development permit 5-95-144. All development is located on either Los Angeles County or State Beaches. The State parks have been deeded to the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors. Finally, although the County beaches are located within the City of Malibu, for this coastal development permit no local approval is necessary because the City of Malibu has advised the Commission, in writing, that the City is not asserting authority over the proposed development with regard to the Commission's local approval requirements. The applicant is not, therefore, required to obtain approval from the City of Malibu.

This coastal development permit request was before the Commission in May of 1996. The Commission, however, postponed the hearing to the next local hearing.

B. Visual Impacts

Section 30251 of the Coastal Act states:

The scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, to minimize the alteration of natural land forms, to be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas, and, where feasible, to restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas. New development in highly scenic areas such as those designated in the California Coastline Preservation and Recreation Plan prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation and by local government shall be subordinate to the character of its setting.

In the Los Angeles County area the coastline is a visual resource of great variety. Available views include wide flat sandy beaches, rocky beaches, coastal bluffs, the Santa Monica Mountains and the ocean and its horizon.

In some areas, between the first public road and the sea, the scenic viewsheds are unobstructed. In other areas there is intense development between the first public road and the sea. Views to and along the ocean in these areas are generally intermittent as viewed from the first public road or landward of the road. Besides the views offered from the first public road coastal views are also available from areas such as public vistas, such as bluff tops, recreational areas, such as parks, and from the sandy beach itself.
Under Section 30251 of the Coastal Act, new development should be unobtrusive and subordinate to its setting and should be sited to protect coastal views. The visual impact of development can be minimized by design or by siting restrictions. Clustering structures near other existing natural and manmade features such as tree masses, hills or bluffs and existing buildings can minimize the visual impacts.

In order to determine if the proposed structures are consistent with the visual resource protection policies of the Coastal Act the Commission must find that the structures, individually and cumulatively, do not interfere with coastal views to and along the coastline and will not detract from the existing views by visually cluttering the beach.

In the Malibu and Topanga portions of Los Angeles County, the Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors is proposing a total of three sunshelters, the removal of a fourth sunshelter and the installation of 7 information kiosks. The sunshelters and kiosks, in general, will be placed on paved areas or on non-sandy beach areas adjacent to existing development, such as parking lots.

There are currently four sunshelters installed: two at Zuma County beach, one at Las Tunas State Beach and one at Topanga State Beach. With the exception of the sunshelter at Topanga State beach, all sunshelters are visible from Pacific Coast Highway. Pacific Coast Highway is a designated scenic highway in the Malibu Land Use Plan.

The two sunshelters proposed at Zuma County Beach are located on existing cement slabs and are adjacent to existing buildings (food concession stands and restrooms). The sunshelters are located adjacent to the parking area which is separated by the beach by a small wall. The sunshelters are low in profile, and small in size in comparison to the existing buildings, and as such will not obstruct coastal views. Furthermore, the design and color will be consistent with existing development making the structures visually compatible with the surrounding development. When viewed from Pacific Coast Highway the sunshelters at this location do not create an adverse visual impact, as such they can be found consistent with Section 30251 of the Coastal Act.

There is a sunshelter at Las Tunas State Beach which the applicant is proposing to remove. The sunshelter, placed on the site without a coastal development permit, is located on a coastal bluff and is not located next to any existing development. The only development on Las Tunas Beach is a lifeguard station which is located in the center of this coastal bluff strip, and portable restrooms which are located at the north end of the property. This sunshelter, is located on the top of the bluff and is not clustered with any other development, is highly visible from Pacific Coast Highway, and blocks an otherwise unobstructed view of the ocean. Because this sunshelter does create adverse visual impacts and cannot be found consistent with Section 30251 of the Coastal Act, the applicant has agreed to remove this sunshelter as part of the project description. To ensure that the applicant removes the unpermitted development in a timely manner, the Commission finds it necessary to require the applicant to remove the sunshelter as noted in special condition 1. The applicant is in agreement with this condition.
The fourth sunshelter is proposed at Topanga State Beach. This sunshelter is proposed on the beach. At Topanga State Beach there is a driveway and parking area at the base of the bluff, at the beach level. These developments are visible from the beach, but not from Pacific Coast Highway. The sunshelter is currently located seaward of the parking lot and driveway on a sandy beach area (Exhibit 7B). This location is visible from the beach, access driveway, picnic area, handicapped parking area and access stairway from the parking lot on top of the bluff. As such, the sunshelter in its present location does create an adverse visual impact and cannot be found consistent with Section 30251 of the Coastal Act. In response to staff's concerns regarding the visual impact of siting the sunshelter in this location, the applicant has agreed to relocate this sunshelter to a less obtrusive location adjacent to the parking area next to a paved area with storm drains (Exhibit 7B). This relocation is part of the applicant's proposal. The relocated sunshelter is consistent with Section 30251 of the Coastal Act. To ensure the applicant removes the unpermitted development in a timely manner, the Commission finds it necessary to require the applicant to remove the sunshelter within 90 days of issuance of the permit as noted in special condition 1. The applicant is in agreement with this condition. Finally, it should be noted that the applicant was proposing a second sunshelter at the top of the bluff. This sunshelter was not built and due to the adverse visual impacts it would cause, the applicant volunteered to remove this sunshelter from the plans.

In addition to the sunshelters, the applicant is proposing to install seven information and advertising kiosks. The first is at Nicholas Canyon County Beach. At this location, the parking lot is located on the top of the bluff, and there are stairs leading down to the ocean. The kiosk is proposed to be located in the parking lot at the top of the bluff. The kiosk is setback over fifty feet from the top of the bluff and will not be visible from the beach or Pacific Coast Highway. As such, it will not create any adverse visual impacts.

At Zuma County Beach there will be two kiosks. As with the sunshelters, there are proposed to be adjacent to the existing developments on existing cement slabs. There are no adverse visual impacts created by these kiosks. Similarly, the kiosk proposed at Malibu Surfrider beach will also be in the parking lot and will not create any adverse visual impacts. Although it may be visible from Pacific Coast Highway when the lot is empty, the kiosk is adjacent to a wall which already impedes the view of the ocean from certain points along Pacific Coast Highway. Thus a kiosk at this location does not create adverse visual impacts.

There is one kiosk proposed at Point Dume State Beach. This kiosk will be located on the existing cement slab at the restroom facility. The kiosk will not be isolated and will not increase any visual impact which may already exist from the restrooms. Therefore, a kiosk at this location does not create adverse visual impacts.

At Las Tunas State Beach there is one proposed kiosk. As previously mentioned above, this stretch of coastline offers unobstructed views of the beach and ocean. Any development along this section of coast will interrupt or obscure coastal views. There is currently a lifeguard tower and portable restrooms located toward the center of the State Beach on top of the low coastal bluff. The applicant has stated that the kiosk will be located within close proximity to the lifeguard station, but has not given its exact location. In
order to ensure that the placement of a kiosk at this location does not create any adverse visual impacts, the Commission finds it necessary to require that the kiosk on this site be located within 15 feet of the existing lifeguard station. Clustering the kiosk adjacent to these existing developments will minimize the visual impact of the proposed development and will not result in a significant adverse visual impact.

At Topanga State Beach, there is one kiosk proposed. This kiosk will be located on the top of the bluff in the parking lot area. The kiosk is proposed to be located adjacent to the existing fencing and landscaping and will not create an adverse visual impact from Pacific Coast Highway.

In conclusion, the proposed sunshelters and kiosks, as conditioned by this permit, will not individually or cumulatively adversely impact the visual resources offered from or along the coast. The sunshelters and kiosks are spread out over 27 miles of beach in Los Angeles and as such do not adversely affect the density, relative to the number of structures, of any beach in relation to cluttering the beach areas with visual obstructions. In addition to being clustered adjacent to other structures on the beach, the structures are spaced far enough apart from each other over the length of beaches in Los Angeles that they do not detract from the visual quality of these areas. Furthermore, the County has indicated that they will not add any additional sunshelters or kiosks on these beaches. All structures will be sited to protect views to and along the ocean and other scenic areas and will be visually compatible with the character of the surrounding area. Therefore, the Commission finds that as conditioned the project is consistent with Section 30251 of the Coastal Act.

C. Public Access and Recreation

This project involves the installation of sunshelters and kiosks on property immediately along the beach at several County and State operated public beaches. As such, the development of this project must be reviewed for compliance with the Coastal Act Sections which address public access and recreation to ensure that the development of this project will not inhibit the use of these public beaches. The applicable Coastal Act sections are as follows:

Section 30210:

In carrying out the requirement of Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution, maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse.

Section 30211:

Development shall not interfere with the public's right of access to the sea where acquired through use or legislative authorization, including, but not limited to, the use of dry sand and rocky coastal beaches to the first line of terrestrial vegetation.
Section 30213:

Lower cost visitor and recreational facilities shall be protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided. Developments providing public recreational opportunities are preferred.

Section 30221:

Oceanfront land suitable for recreational use shall be protected for recreational use and development unless present and foreseeable future demand for public or commercial recreational activities that could be accommodated on the property is already adequately provided for in the area.

Section 30252:

The location and amount of new development should maintain and enhance public access to the coast ...

The sunshelter located at Las Tunas State beach, in its current location, blocks parking and access to the beach. This sunshelter is located on the bluff above the beach, an area which is used for public parking and viewing of the ocean. The applicant is proposing to remove this sunshelter which would alleviate the adverse impact caused by its development. Without the sunshelter at this site, public parking will not be blocked. In the preceding section, the Commission required that this sunshelter to be removed in a timely manner. This action will make this portion of the development consistent with the public access policies of the Coastal Act.

The three remaining sunshelters and the seven kiosks are located adjacent to existing developments and are not located in any existing parking area. None of the sunshelters or kiosks are located on trails or walkways leading to the beach. There is no public access which will be inhibited or blocked by the developments of these structures. The Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned, is consistent with the public access sections of the Coastal Act.

The Coastal Act mandates that oceanfront parcels suitable for recreation be preserved and enhanced to provide such services. Although none of the sunshelters or kiosks will be on sandy beaches, each will be on public areas immediately adjacent to sandy beach. These areas are oceanfront lands that are suitable for recreational purposes and are considered part of the beach. In the Los Angeles there are numerous beaches which have been designated and developed for recreational uses. These beaches, such as the subject beaches, have been developed with concession stands, paved parking lots, restrooms, volleyball courts and playsets, for example. These beaches have been developed specifically for recreational uses as opposed to beaches which are left undeveloped to be protected as natural beaches. All of the sunshelters and kiosks will be located on beaches that are designated for and heavily used for recreation.

As one step toward enhancing the recreation opportunities of these recreational beaches, the County of Los Angeles wants to provide sunshelters which provide a place for beachgoers to sit out of the sun and rest. The
County of Los Angeles is also proposing that these sunshelters provide public service messages. Likewise, the County of Los Angeles is proposing kiosks which will also provide public service messages. These public service messages will include, but are not limited to, information regarding beach and surf conditions, public "Adopt the Beach" programs, local recreation programs, etc. Because the structures will contain information relating to coastal resources and recreation, they will enhance recreational use of the beach. Due to budgetary constraints, the County of Los Angeles Department of Beaches and Harbors can not allocate the funds for construction and maintenance of these sunshelters and kiosks. Instead, the County of Los Angeles is proposing to have these sunshelters and kiosks constructed and maintained by an independent sponsor (contractor).

The County of Los Angeles has control over the amount and type of public advertising and has stated that each sunshelter and kiosk will also contain public service messages. All advertising will be reviewed by the County prior to the placement of such advertising on either a kiosk or sunshelter. The County will monitor the type of advertising and has stated that advertising for alcohol or tobacco products will be prohibited. As proposed, in providing a public resting area and public service messages regarding coastal resources, these developments are consistent with the public recreation policies of the Coastal Act. In order to ensure that this development continues to provide a service that enhances public recreational uses of the beaches, consistent with the County's proposal, the Commission finds it necessary to require the applicant to obtain an amendment for any changes to the kiosks or sunshelters including structural changes or changes regarding the amount of panels devoted to public service messages. Generally, a change that eliminated or reduces the sunshelter's or kiosk' function as a source of coastal related information or as a place to rest would require an evaluation as to its consistency with the recreation policies of the Coastal Act. Therefore, as conditioned, the proposed project is consistent with the public access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act.

D. Violation

This project includes the after-the-fact request for the installation of three sunshelters and the removal of a fourth sunshelter already in place. A total of four sunshelters were installed without the benefit of a coastal development permit.

Although unpermitted development may have taken place prior to submission of this permit application, consideration of the application by the Commission has been based solely upon the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act. Approval of the permit does not constitute a waiver of any legal action with regard to the alleged violation nor does it constitute an admission as to the legality of any development undertaken on the subject site without a Coastal permit.

E. Local Coastal Program

Section 30604(a):

(a) Prior to certification of the local coastal program, a coastal development permit shall be issued if the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, finds that the proposed development is in
conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200 of the division and that the permitted development will not prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare a local coastal program that is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 30200).

Section 30604(a) of the Coastal Act provides that the Commission shall issue a Coastal Permit only if the project will not prejudice the ability of the local government having jurisdiction to prepare a Local Coastal Program which conforms with Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act. The preceding sections provide findings that the proposed project will be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 if certain conditions are incorporated into the project and accepted by the applicant. As conditioned, the proposed development will not create adverse impacts and is found to be consistent with the applicable policies contained in Chapter 3. Therefore, the Commission finds that approval of the proposed development, as conditioned, will not prejudice the City's ability to prepare a Local Coastal Program for Malibu which is also consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act as required by Section 30604(a). In addition, the Commission finds that approval of the proposed development, as conditioned, will not prejudice the County of Los Angeles' ability to prepare a Local Coastal Program for Malibu which is also consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act as required by Section 30604(a).

F. CEQA

Section 13096 of the Commission's administrative regulations requires Commission approval of Coastal Development Permit applications to be supported by a finding showing the application, as conditioned by any conditions of approval, to be consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21080.5(d)(2)(i) of CEQA prohibits a proposed development from being approved if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact which the activity may have on the environment.

The proposed project, as conditioned, is consistent with the applicable policies of the Coastal Act. There are no feasible alternatives or mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact which the activity may have on the environment. Therefore, the proposed amendment is found consistent with CEQA and the policies of the Coastal Act.
Exhibit 3b: Zuma County Beach
4-95-112
Exhibit 3: Zuma County beach
4-95-112
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES AND HARBORS

April 9, 1996

California Coastal Commission
89 South California Street 2nd Floor
Ventura, Ca. 93001

Mrs. Susan Friend:

This letter is to bring forth the changes made to the Coastal Permit Application submitted by the Department of Beaches and Harbors. These amendments were made in an effort to conform with the guidelines set forth by the California Coastal Commission.

Cabrillo Beach-two location changes.
The first location is near the lifeguard headquarters. This site will be moved approximately 75 yards north to blend in with the old museum and an existing picnic area. A cement pad will be built along the sidewalk. This will eliminate view obstruction.
The second location is near the entrance and blocks the beach view of people coming in. This site will be moved approximately 50 feet south in front of the old museum near the light post. No additional cement will be necessary.

White Point-temporary elimination of site.
The White's Point location has been put on hold until redevelopment is completed. Once construction is completed a site that meets the Coastal Commission's guidelines will be selected.

Torrance Beach-location change.
The site near the lifeguard tower will be moved to the east side of the bike path, so as not to obstruct the view of those using the bike path. It will also be moved north to an existing pad at Avenue E.

Dockweiler Beach-location change.
The site north of Imperial Highway will be moved south near the Grand Avenue parking lot. It will be placed between a Hyperion Plant utility yard and the bike path on an existing pad. This will eliminate view obstruction.

Venice Beach (Rose Ave)-location change.
The site will be moved directly across the bike path to the east side. A cement pad will be constructed in front of the restrooms at Rose Avenue. This will eliminate view obstruction as it pertains to bike path users.

Exhibit 8: Proposed changes to 4-95-112 project
Pacific Coast Highway-site relocation.
The site just south of Sunset Boulevard near Gladstone's will be relocated to Redondo Beach. The site selected is just south of Avenue D on an existing pad. View obstruction will be eliminated.

Topanga Beach—two location changes.
The site will be moved approximately 25 feet north near an existing walkway and cement pad so as not to block the view or take up beach space. A cement pad will be constructed. The second site identified on the map, along the bluffs, will be eliminated completely.

La Jolla Beach-site relocation.
This site will be relocated to Redondo Beach on an existing pad at Avenue B. View obstruction will be eliminated.

Very truly yours,

James A. Hewett, Ph.D.
Chief, Planning Division
TO: Al J. Padilla  
California Coastal Commission  
South Coast Area

FROM: Dusty Brogan, Head  
Marketing Section

SUBJECT: COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 5-95-144

This memorandum is to provide the information that you have requested with regard to the public service panels on the Beach Information Kiosks.

There will be a four sided and a three sided kiosk. The site location will determine the type of kiosk that will be used. There are access ways that are narrow and it will be necessary to place a three sided kiosk at those locations; however, where space is available, a four sided kiosk will be used.

The three sided kiosk will have one public service panel and the four sided kiosk will have two public service panels. The public service panels will provide the beach visitor with a map of the facility, along with various emergency and public service phone numbers and information regarding the flora and fauna that are indigenous to the area. We are going to work with the individual communities in developing the information for its public service panels. We have also been approached by agencies that are interested in placing public education information on the panels (e.g., "don’t dump toxic materials in a storm drain because it will end up in our ocean," with pictures to support that quote.)

The County will receive 50% of all advertising that is sold on the other two panels. It is estimated that the Beach Information Kiosks will generate approximately $300,000 annually for the County. This revenue will help to support the Department of Beaches and Harbors in providing a safe and clean beach in an urban environment for 60 million visitor a year. The vandalism and heavy usage of the Los Angeles County beaches have been mitigated by our various marketing programs.

I want to thank you for all of your information and the support you have provided in the competition our coastal permit application. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 310/305-9562.
Exhibit 10: Plan for Sunshelter
4-95-112
DATE: May 2, 1998
TO: California Coastal Commission
89 S. California St. Ste. 200
Ventura, CA 93001
(805) 641-0142
RE: Permit Number 4-95-112
APPLICANT: L.A. County Dept. of Beaches and Harbors
PROJECT: Installation of Pre-fabricated Shelters and Kiosks at Zuma and Topanga State Beaches

Dear California Coastal Commission,

As residents of Malibu, we wish to voice our objection to the above-mentioned project.

We have reviewed the project proposal package and would like to reference Section IV, paragraph B, wherein it states that development items "...will be visually compatible..." and "...will not detract from the existing views by visually cluttering the beach."

In view of this requirement, we would like to say that the shelters and kiosks, with their bus-terminal-like appearance and multi-sided advertisement messages are not only very incompatible with the surrounding area but will visually clutter the beach and detract from the visual resource that is the coastal view. It is obvious that the primary purpose for these cage-like structures is their advertisement value.

Furthermore, it concerns us greatly that the proposed Zuma Beach kiosk located on Lots 9 and 10 (reference Exhibit 3c) will be situated directly in front of our home's deck. Contrary to the proposal's statement that "there are no adverse visual impacts created," there certainly will be impairment of the coastal view for our family and our neighbors.

The proposal also mentions that the L.A. County Dept. of Beaches and Harbors is seeking these permits as partial after-the-fact applications since two sun-shelters have already been installed at Zuma without permitted authorization. We further understand that development has already been accomplished in this area (metal railings along the coastline) without permits. We believe that the County should follow the proper procedures when they wish to develop an area, especially one as delicate and fragile as our coastline.

If L.A. County is concerned about generating revenue, it might be a good idea if they did not spend money installing un-permitted structures that they may have to remove when the public is allowed a vote in the matter.

We would appreciate any consideration you can give to this matter. Keeping the coastline as natural and uncluttered as possible can only enhance the value of these areas.

Sincerely,

Irene Grigoriadis and Stephen Casey
6463 Surfside Way
Malibu, CA 90265
(818) 566-3119

Exhibit 13: Letter opposing project 4-95-112 received 5-3-96
Att: Susan Friend, Coastal Program Analyst
California Coastal Commission
89 S. California Street, Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001

Re: Permit No. 4-95-112

Dear Ms. Friend:

My wife and I strenuously object to the above application of the L.A. County Department of Beaches for permit to blight the beach with sunshelters, kiosks, more concrete, and billboard advertising and messages on the exterior panels of proposed structures.

This proposal is the antithesis of what my wife and I voted for and intended by passing Proposition 20 in 1972. Proposition 20 was intended by the undersigned voters to prevent just this type of eyesore destruction of our natural coastline. We know that the California Coastal Commission would never let us install advertising signs on the sandy public beach, or on a private sandy beach, or even across the street from the public beach or private property even just within sight from the public beach or Coast Highway. I know that the CCC would never let us do it on private property in Malibu even across from the beach in a direction opposite of that in which people look from the highway, beach, or bluffs. Why then would the CCC even consider such an outrageous proposal to destroy California's precious scenic corridor? Any commissioner or staff who would even consider supporting such a proposal is unfit for the position and responsibility, and should be investigated for potential conflicts of interest, and replaced.

Yours truly,

Edward J. Roberts

EDWARD J. ROBERTS
LAW OFFICES

29039 SADDLEBROOK DRIVE
AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA 91301
(818) 706-0955

April 23, 1996
To: Susan P. Friend
California Coastal Commision
875 S. California Street, Suite 200
Ventura, CA 93001

From: Ray & Jackie Sako
17254 Coastline Drive
Malibu, CA 90265

Subject: Sunshelter and Beach Project

We are in favor of projects which beautify the beach and enhance their enjoyment. This sounds like one of them.

Ray Sako

RECEIVED
APR 26 1996

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
SOUTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT

Exhibit 15: Letter supporting project
4-95-112 Reacved 4-26-96
To: Gary Timm
Fax #: (805) 641-1732
Date: May 3, 1996
Pages: 3, including this cover sheet.

From: Frank P. Angel

Subject: Sunshelters and kiosks on LA County beaches

COMMENTS:

Dear Gary:

Pursuant to my telephone discussion with Al, I have attached Public Resources Code section 5002.6. You will note that subdivision (e)(1)(A) prohibits any new or expanded commercial development on any of the eight beaches transferred to the County, regardless of size or cost. (Compare subd. (e)(1)(B) (noncommercial development).) My client in this matter, the Sierra Club, lobbied very hard to get this provision included in the beach transfer legislation. (We opposed the transfer to begin with and may challenge it in court.) The obvious purpose of the commercial development prohibition in the legislation was to protect the public shoreline against incremental visual pollution, among other things. Our concern was that beach management by County Beaches and Harbors would depart from State Parks' public interest, resource protection-oriented management philosophy and practices. It sure has. Under State Parks jurisdiction, these new structures -- which incidentally clearly are "development" within the meaning of the Coastal Act -- never would have been allowed to begin with. Also, for purposes of commercial and public service advertising (the averred project objective), environmentally much less intrusive alternatives than sunshelters and kiosks are available (e.g., use of existing structures).

Thanks for taking another hard look at this matter.

Frank P. Angel

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Exhibit 16: Letter re: commercial Development
4-95-112 Received 5-2-96
Ms. Susan Friend
California Coastal Commission
South Central Coast Area Office
89 South California Street, Ste. 200
Ventura, California 93001

Dear Ms. Friend:

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT # 94-95-112

I was the negotiator for the Department of Beaches and Harbors regarding the transfer of eight beaches from the State to the County on September 15, 1995. The negotiator for the State Department of Parks and Recreation was Ken Jones, Deputy Director. Ken and I have discussed the meaning of the words "commercial development" which is prohibited in the deed restrictions contained in AB 909. In our last conversation, which was held on May 9, 1996, Ken said that his department had written to the Coastal Commission in support of our application for a permit, as well as our understanding of what "commercial development" was intended to mean.

It is our belief that the intent of the Legislature, in establishing these restrictions, was to prevent the County from reducing public access to the beaches by building major restaurants, hotels, or other, similar, large "commercial developments". Beaches and Harbors has agreed not to pursue these kinds of developments; however, we have public service programs that generate revenue. The primary function of these programs is to improve public access and safety, as well as to enhance public enjoyment of the beaches. Public parking lots, small concessions (food, skate and bike rentals, etc.) and elements of our marketing program are good examples.

Sun shelters and information directories are not "commercial developments" in the sense that Gladstone’s 4 Fish is. Sun shelters provide shade and comfort, as well as a bench to sit on, which may be critical to someone who suddenly becomes ill because they have been in direct sunlight too long. Our directories will not only provide information on nearby facilities, but will advise the public about safety issues, such as rip currents, as well as convey educational information regarding storm drain runoff and local flora and fauna. Sun shelters and directories are small in size and
they are not unlike public works, such as picnic shelters, restrooms, tables and barbecues, and security lighting, because they provide a valuable public service. They are not exclusionary, as they enhance public access, rather than limit it, like restaurants and hotels might.

In October, 1995, I requested a definition of "commercial development" in writing from Ken Jones, but he informed me that such a definition should come from the Legislative Counsel or Attorney General. When I contacted them on May 14, 1996, the Legislative Counsel told me that they only provide opinions to legislators. They did research AB 909, however, but found no definitions or notes that would document the Legislature's intent. It should be noted that the sun shelter program was in place prior to the transfer of the State beaches and the drafting of the deed restrictions. Furthermore, AB 909 granted the State Department of Parks and Recreation the right to pursue marketing/advertising agreements, like the sun shelters and information directories. Marketing/advertising programs are excellent examples of public/private partnership that help meet a growing mandate to develop non-tax dollar funding sources.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call me at (310) 305-9573.

Very truly yours,

STAN WISNIEWSKI, DIRECTOR

Dean R. Smith
Executive Assistant
June 20, 1996

Ms. Arlene Finsler, District Deputy
Assemblywoman Debra Bowen's Office
18411 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite 280
Torrance, CA 90504

Dear Ms. Finsler:

LOS ANGELES COUNTY - SUN SHELTERS
& BEACH INFORMATION DIRECTORIES

It was requested by your office that Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors (hereinafter variously "Department" or "County") provide information concerning the Sun Shelter and Beach Information Directories programs that are under permit consideration by the California Coastal Commission. In so doing, I would first like to provide background information on our Department's overall public service marketing programs and then focus on the Sun Shelter and Beach Information Directories programs in particular.

Background

The Department has been developing public service marketing programs since the mid eighties in an effort to continue providing quality services to the over 60 million beachgoers visiting County owned or operated beaches each year. Enclosed is a list of all of our current marketing programs in order that you can see the diversity of the various programs and the much-needed revenue and cost avoidance which are achieved through our various public/private marketing agreements.
Ms. Arlene Pizzler  
June 20, 1996  
Page 2

As you are aware, local government has experienced funding cuts for the past six years and our marketing program has allowed the County to continue to maintain the level of services/amenities at our beaches during these difficult times. With the downsizing of government, we found ourselves increasingly unable to maintain in good condition our beach amenities, thereby causing their removal to the detriment of beachgoers' needs. Through our marketing program contracts, private sponsors agree not only to construct and install these amenities, but also to maintain, repair and replace those which have become damaged or destroyed. Additionally, our corporate sponsors enable us to provide much-needed recreational programs for our youth. For instance, if it weren't for our Lifeguard Tower Safety Sign sponsor, the County would be forced to eliminate its successful W.A.T.E.R. (Water, Awareness, Training, Education and Recreation) program, which brings inner-city youth to the beach and teaches them to surf, swim and play with other children from various ethnic and geographic backgrounds at no cost to the participant.

The following is a description of the Sun Shelter and Beach Information Directory programs. I have enclosed a color photocopy of both a picture of a Sun Shelter and a rendering of a Beach Information Directory for your convenience. Specifications for both of these structures are contained on the shop/working drawings also enclosed.

**Sun Shelter Program**  

The Department developed the Sun Shelter program in 1992 in response to the flow of medical data being reported concerning the danger of overexposure to the sun. The program was also in response to lifeguards’ complaints that people experiencing fatigue on their bikes would stop in the middle of the bike path and cause accidents. Thus, our Sun Shelters with their interior benches were conceived and created to provide an oasis of shade and comfort, as well as a resting place, for those who have grown tired or need a respite from the effects of the sun.

It is interesting to note that Assemblywoman Bowen was then serving as a Board-appointed member of the County of Los Angeles Beach Advisory Committee and was present at the Committee meeting at which this particular program was endorsed. At that time, Assemblywoman Bowen voted along with the rest of her Committee colleagues to unanimously
recommend the Sun Shelter program to the Board of Supervisors. At that particular meeting, the tower safety sign, telephone kiosk, and bench and bike rack marketing contracts were also unanimously approved.

It is also important to note that the Sun Shelters had been installed for over three years when the State transferred the eight beaches to the County in 1995. At that time, the County was working with the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation as a co-applicant on the Coastal Commission permit for both the Sun Shelter and Beach Information Directories programs.

There are a total of twenty-two (22) Sun Shelter locations strategically placed along the 31 miles of coastline controlled by the County, seven of which are on beaches transferred from the State. No additional Sun Shelters are contemplated.

For the past two years, we have worked cooperatively with the Coastal Commission staff to evaluate each Sun Shelter location as to its public service value and to make certain that it does not interfere with the public's beach view corridor. As a part of this process, we agreed to relocate eight Sun Shelters to sites preferred/recommended by Coastal Commission staff. As a result of this cooperative effort, Coastal Commission staff were able to give our permit application a positive staff report. The County will implement the staff's recommendations upon receiving permit approval from the Commission.

The sponsor constructed, installed, and maintains the Sun Shelters, guaranteeing that the Sun Shelters will be repaired within 72 hours and are cleaned and the graffiti removed on a routine basis. The Mediterranean design of the Sun Shelter was required by the County and is consistent with the architecture of new beach facilities, e.g., restrooms.

Beach Information Directories Program

The concept of the Beach Information Directories grew out of a lifeguard's suggestion to provide facility brochures (with maps included) to beach patrons. We modified the suggestion to incorporate maps on a fixed information kiosk, believing that distributing paper maps would create potential litter problems.
Ms. Ariene Pinsler
June 20, 1996
Page 4

The proposed Beach Information Directories will be three- or four-sided kiosks placed in parking lots and next to beach accessways. Each kiosk will contain two public service message panels, one regarding site-specific information and the other containing ocean-related educational information. The site-specific panel will contain a map of the beach and the local environs, including the location of beach facilities (i.e., restrooms, accessways) and emergency services (i.e., police, fire, lifeguards). Emergency telephone numbers, a beach history, and coastal flora and fauna information. We will be coordinating with organizations such as the American Oceans Campaign, Coastal Commission, and local animal rescue operations to create the contents of the second information panel, to include educational information concerning, for instance, storm drain run-off, rip currents, and what to do if an ocean animal has been washed up on the shore.

Contemplated are a total of twenty-eight (28) Beach Information Directories' sites. Many local government agencies support the Beach Information Directories program and will work with us to design each area's facility map and public service information.

The sponsor will construct and install the Beach Information Directories, including the public service messages, and provide ongoing maintenance. The sponsor will also adapt the design of each Directory to the area's architecture.

**Conclusion**

It is the County's intent to provide a safe and enjoyable experience at our beaches for our local users, as well as for tourists. We, too, are concerned about the over-commercialization of our natural resources and, thus, have been quite sensitive to both the location and the totality of our public service programs. We believe we have been creative and respectful in designing public/private partnerships that recognize both the value of our beaches as natural resources and the need to provide amenities to satisfy urban beachgoer demands. These amenities require constant and intensive maintenance due to both natural (i.e., rust) and urban (i.e., vandalism and graffiti) occurrences. Given our fiscal limitations, we believe we have been uniquely successful in meeting user demands during these trying fiscal times.
Ms. Arlana Pinalier  
June 30, 1996  
Page 5

We believe our success has been specifically acknowledged by other governmental entities, including the State, and reflected in the very same State legislation which transferred the eight beaches to the County in 1995 and in our being approached by other jurisdictions to provide both marketing information and services to assist them in meeting their local needs. In this regard, we are completing a joint powers agreement with the State, Orange County and various Orange County beach cities to provide marketing services for Orange County beaches, because of their belief that similar marketing efforts will assist these entities in providing services to their residents and visitors. Additionally, in AB 800 (Boven), the State secured for itself the ability to enter into marketing agreements similar to the County's to assist the State in efforts to secure long-term private funding sources for all units in the State park system, thereby ensuring that these units are preserved and open for public use and enjoyment.

We would welcome your support. If we might provide you with further information or otherwise assist you, please feel free to call me at (310) 305-9562.

Very truly yours,

STAN WISNIEWSKI, DIRECTOR

D. E. Brogan  
Head, Marketing

SW:DB:cc  
Enclosures  

C: California Coastal Commission
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**Fiscal Year 1996-97**

**Marketing Section Revenue Generation**

**Program Description**

- **Program Operations**: Includes all general administrative expenses, staff salaries, and overhead costs associated with the program's operations.
- **Program Evaluation**: Involves the assessment of program outcomes and impact, including external reviews and feedback from stakeholders.
- **Program Management**: Focuses on strategic planning, resource allocation, and the efficient execution of program initiatives.
- **Program Services**: Provides direct services to program participants, adhering to predetermined standards and guidelines.
- **Program Administration**: Supports the day-to-day management of program activities, ensuring compliance with regulations and administrative procedures.
- **Program Support**: Offers additional resources and assistance to enhance program effectiveness and sustainability.
- **Program Development**: Invests in the development of new initiatives and program enhancements, including research and innovation.

**Revenue Generation**

- **CASH**: Represents the primary source of revenue, directly linked to the performance and success of the program.

**Conclusion**: The success of the program depends on a strategic allocation of resources, effective management, and continuous improvement in service delivery and revenue generation.