7/12/06

# **CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

South Coast Area Office 200 Oceangate, Suite 1000 Long Beach, CA 90802-4302 (562) 590-5071

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Filed: 5/23/06 49th Day: 7/11/06 180th Day: 11/19/06 Staff: Al Padilla-LB Staff Report: 6/16/06

Commission Action:

Hearing Date:

### STAFF REPORT: CONSENT CALENDAR

**APPLICATION NUMBER: 5-06-194** 

**APPLICANT:** Joshua Prager

PROJECT LOCATION: 964 Palisades Beach Road, Santa Monica (Los Angeles

County)

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Remodel and addition of 1,358 square feet, and replace

existing perimeter footing foundation, for an existing threestory, with basement, 6,367 square foot single family

residence.

Lot Area: 6,006 sq. ft. Height: 40 feet

Zoning: R2B—Low Density Residential

LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED: City of Santa Monica Approval in Concept

SUBSTANTIVE FILE DOCUMENTS: CDPs 5-99-401(Check Investments); (5-97-199(Risa, Inc); 5-97-112(Ephraim); 5-96-109(Warschaw); 5-03-369(Rosenthal)

#### **SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends **APPROVAL** of the proposed development with special conditions regarding assumption of risk, future improvements and recordation of a deed restriction against the property, referencing all of the Standard and Special Conditions contained in this staff report.

### I. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission adopt the following resolution to **APPROVE** the coastal development permit application:

**MOTION**: I move that the Commission approve coastal development permit

applications included on the consent calendar in accordance with the

staff recommendations.

Staff recommends a **YES** vote. Passage of this motion will result in approval of all permits included on the consent calendar. An affirmative vote of a majority of the Commissioners present is needed to pass the motion.

### **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PERMIT:**

The Commission hereby approves a permit, subject to the conditions below, for the proposed development and adopts the findings set forth below on grounds that the development as conditioned will be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Coastal Act and will not prejudice the ability of the local government having jurisdiction over the area to prepare a local coastal program conforming to the provisions of Chapter 3. Approval of the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/ or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible mitigation measures or alternative that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts of the development on the environment.

#### II. STANDARD CONDITIONS:

- 1. <u>Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment.</u> 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. <u>Expiration.</u> 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. <u>Interpretation.</u> Any questions of intent or interpretation of any term or condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
- 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.

5. <u>Terms and Conditions Run with the Land.</u> 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. ASSUMPTION OF RISK, WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

By acceptance of this permit, the applicant acknowledges and agrees (i) that the site may be subject to hazards from waves, storm waves or flooding; (ii) to assume the risks to the applicant and the property that is the subject of this permit of injury and damage from such hazards in connection with this permitted development; (iii) to unconditionally waive any claim of damage or liability against the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees for injury or damage from such hazards; and (iv) to indemnify and hold harmless the Commission, its officers, agents, and employees with respect to the Commission's approval of the project against any and all liability, claims, demands, damages, costs (including costs and fees incurred in defense of such claims), expenses, and amounts paid in settlement arising from any injury or damage due to such hazards.

## 2. No Future Improvements Restriction

This permit is only for the development described in coastal development permit No. **5-06-194**. Except as provided in Public Resources Code section 30610 and applicable regulations, any future development as defined in PRC section 30106, including, but not limited to, a change in the density or intensity of use land, shall require an amendment to Permit No. **5-06-194** from the California Coastal Commission or shall require an additional coastal development permit from the California Coastal Commission or from the applicable certified local government.

#### 3. Deed Restriction

PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF THE COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT, the applicant shall submit to the Executive Director for review and approval documentation demonstrating that the applicant has executed and recorded against the parcel(s) governed by this permit a deed restriction, in a form and content acceptable to the Executive Director: (1) indicating that, pursuant to this permit, the California Coastal Commission has authorized development on the subject property, subject to terms and conditions that restrict the use and enjoyment of that property; and (2) imposing the Special Conditions of this permit as covenants, conditions and restrictions on the use and enjoyment of the Property. The deed restriction shall include a legal description of the entire parcel or parcels governed by this permit. The deed restriction shall also indicate that, in the event of an extinguishment or termination of the deed restriction for any reason, the terms and conditions of this permit shall

continue to restrict the use and enjoyment of the subject property so long as either this permit or the development it authorizes, or any part, modification, or amendment thereof, remains in existence on or with respect to the subject property.

#### IV. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS:

The Commission hereby finds and declares:

### A. <u>Project Description and Location</u>

The proposed project involves a three-story, 40 foot high, 1,358 square foot addition, and replacement of the existing perimeter footing foundation with a piling foundation for an existing three-story, 38 foot high, with basement, 6,367 square foot single—family residence. The existing residence also includes a two-car garage and swimming pool.

The proposed addition will be located in the eastern portion of the existing residential structure and will not increase the existing building footprint. The existing foundation will be replaced with a piling foundation due to the age and deteriorated condition of the existing foundation.

The proposed project site is located at 964 Palisades Beach Road (Pacific Coast Highway), north of the Santa Monica Pier, in the North Beach area of the City of Santa Monica. The lot is 6,006 square feet, measuring approximately 33 feet wide by 190 feet deep, and is a beach fronting lot. The lot is zoned R2B (Low Density Multiple Family Residential/Parking Overlay).

In past permit actions for the area, the Commission has consistently limited the height of development to 50 feet for all structures in the north beach subarea. The City currently limits development to a maximum height of 40 feet but also requires projects to conform to a view envelope to protect views from the Palisades Park bluffs. The view envelope is measured from a height of 30 feet at the beach setback line to a point 5 feet above the bluff. The height of the proposed addition is lower than the Commission's maximum height limit and conforms to the City's view envelope restriction.

The North Beach area contains the City's northern sandy beach area, beach clubs, single-family and multi-family residential development. The subject lot is located within a row of residentially developed lots and public beach parking lots. A 20-foot wide bicycle path is located approximately 60 feet seaward of the western property line on the public sandy beach. The beach area in front of the property is a broad beach, over 500 feet in width. Due to the width of the beach and the location of the Santa Monica breakwater, properties along the north beach area are generally protected from storm wave impacts and have not required shoreline protective devices.

The existing residential structure is setback over 60 feet from the western property line (1921 mean high tide line). The 1921 mean high tide line was formally established by survey as the legal property line between public and private property in this location, as part of a settlement (lease agreements) between State Lands, City of Santa Monica and the various property

owners. Although the Commission was not a party to the lease agreements, the Commission has required that no private, permanent improvements extend beyond the 1921 mean high tide line. In this particular case all proposed development is located landward of the 1921 mean high tide line. An existing 6 foot high wooden fence located along the side and rear yard currently encroaches approximately 20 feet beyond the 1921 mean high tide line, however, based on aerial photographs of the area, the fence has existed since 1972, therefore, the existing fence is not subject to coastal permit requirements. The fence, and any repairs or replacement of the fence, is not part of this coastal development permit application and is not approved in this action and will require a separate Coastal Development Permit application.

### B. Access

As conditioned, the proposed development will not have any new adverse impact on public access to the coast or to nearby recreational facilities. Thus, as conditioned, the proposed development conforms with Sections 30210 through 30214, Sections 30220 through 30224, and 30252 of the Coastal Act.

#### C. Development

Development adjacent to the ocean is inherently hazardous. Development which may require a protective device in the future cannot be allowed due to the adverse impacts such devices have upon, among other things, public access, visual resources and shoreline processes. To minimize the project's impact on shoreline processes, and to minimize risks to life and property, the development has been conditioned to require a future improvements condition and to require that the landowner and any successor-ininterest assume the risk of undertaking the development. As conditioned, the Commission finds that the development conforms to the requirements of Sections 30235 and 30253 of the Coastal Act regarding the siting of development in hazardous locations.

### D. Water Quality

The proposed development does not alter the existing residential structure. Existing drainage is directed to area drains that drain to the street. The proposed addition will not significantly increase site runoff. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed development conforms with Sections 30230 and 30231 of the Coastal Act regarding the protection of water quality to promote the biological productivity of coastal waters and to protect human health.

### E. <u>Deed Restriction</u>

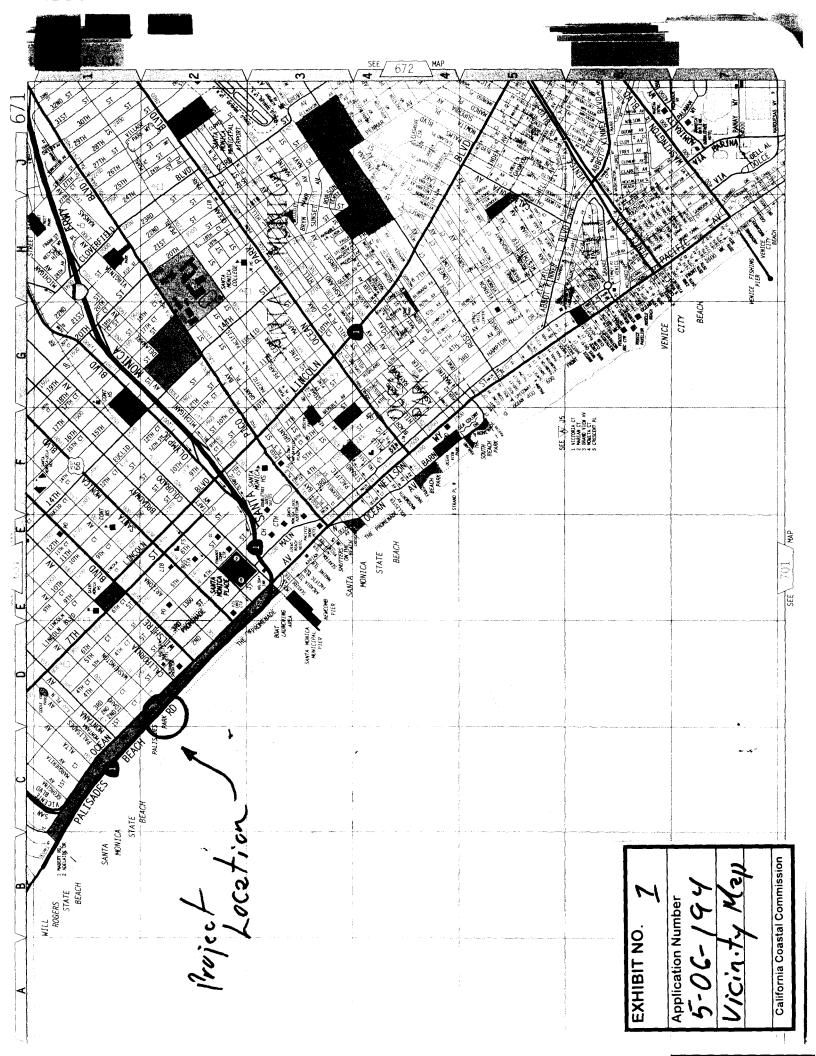
To ensure that any prospective future owners of the property are made aware of the applicability of the conditions of this permit, the Commission imposes one additional condition requiring that the property owner record a deed restriction against the property, referencing all of the above Special Conditions of this permit and imposing them as covenants, conditions and restrictions on the use and enjoyment of the Property. Thus, as conditioned, this permit ensures that any prospective future owner will receive actual notice of the restrictions and/or obligations imposed on the use and enjoyment of the land in connection with the authorized development, including the risks of the development and/or hazards to which the site is subject, and the Commission's immunity from liability.

# F. <u>Local Coastal Program</u>

Coastal Act section 30604(a) states that, prior to certification of a local coastal program ("LCP"), a coastal development permit can only be issued upon a finding that the proposed development is in conformity with Chapter 3 of the Act and that the permitted development will not prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare an LCP that is in conformity with Chapter 3. The City of Santa Monica has neither a certified LCP nor a certified Land Use Plan for the North Beach area. The proposed development is consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Approval of the project, as conditioned, 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 of the Coastal Act.

## G. <u>California Environmental Quality Act.</u>

There are no feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse effect which the activity may have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned, is the least environmentally damaging feasible alternative and can be found consistent with the requirements of the Coastal Act to conform to CEQA.



Location of 408 Western property line (1921 Meen High Tide Line

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EXHIBIT NO.

Application Number 5-06-194

California Coastal Commission

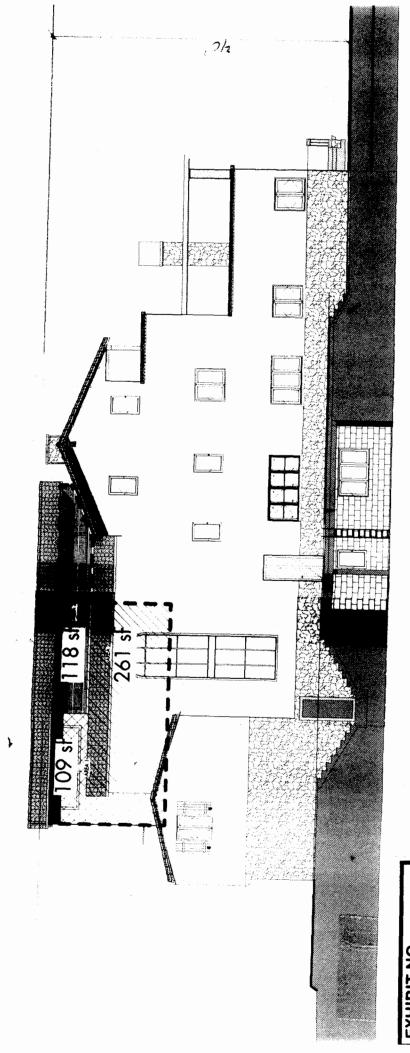


EXHIBIT NO. 4

Application Number

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California Coastal Commission