CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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Staff Report: 1/22/07

Hearing Date: 2/14-16/07

Commission Action:

W 3g.

STAFF REPORT: CONSENT CALENDAR

APPLICATION NUMBER: 5-06-473

APPLICANT: Keith Bjelajac

PROJECT LOCATION: Vista Del Mar Lane at Fowling Street, Playa del Rey, City of

Los Angeles

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Vacate a public street easement of a portion of Vista Del

Mar Lane at Fowling Street. The area of the proposed vacation is a 1,900 square foot irregular-shaped portion of Vista Del Mar Lane adjoining Lots 7, 8, and 9, Block D,

Tract No. 8557.

LOCAL APPROVALS RECEIVED: City of Los Angeles Local Coastal Development

Permit No 06-02

SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends APPROVAL of the proposed development with no special conditions

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The staff recommends that the Commission adopt the following resolution:

I. APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS

The Commission hereby <u>GRANTS</u> a permit, subject to the conditions below, for the proposed development on the grounds that the development 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 government having jurisdiction over the area to prepare a Local Coastal Program conforming to the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act, and will not have any significant adverse effects on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act.

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: None

IV. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS:

The Commission hereby finds and declares:

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

The applicant proposes to have the City of Los Angeles vacate a portion of a public street easement along Vista Del Mar Lane near the intersection with Fowling Street, in the Playa Del Rey community of the City of Los Angeles (see Exhibit No. 1). The area of the proposed vacation is a 1,900 square foot irregular-shaped portion of Vista Del Mar Lane adjoining Lots 7, 8, and 9, Block D, Tract No. 8557 (see Exhibit No. 2 and 2a).

The existing roadway easement was dedicated in 1924 and was never improved or used for street purposes. The surrounding properties have since been developed with single-family residences and the public road and sidewalk (Vista Del Mar Lane) atop the bluff was constructed further inland and connecting with Fowling Street (see Exhibit No. 2a), making the proposed 1,900 square foot area obsolete for roadway or walkway purposes.

The purpose of the proposed vacation is to consolidate the proposed vacated area with the adjoining three existing lots to build driveway access to three future single-family dwellings on the three existing legal lots (dwellings and driveway access are not part of this coastal development permit application).

The property to be vacated is located on the west side of Vista Del Mar Lane on top of a bluff that descends to Vista Del Mar, which is the major thoroughfare paralleling the ocean. The area to be vacated is approximately 700 feet from Dockweiler State Beach. The 1,900 square foot area is located between the existing sidewalk and private property (Lots 7, 8, and 9). The existing pedestrian sidewalk and roadway will be maintained for public use and will not be affected by the vacation, except for curb cuts associated with future development. There is no public beach access, either from pedestrian accessways or streets, from the top the bluffs in this area.

The proposed project is located in the City of Los Angeles' dual permit jurisdiction area. The City approved a local Coastal Development Permit (06-002).

B. Access

The proposed development will not affect the public's ability to gain access to, and/or to make use of, the coast and nearby recreational facilities. Therefore, as proposed the development conforms with Sections 30210 through 30214, Sections 30220 through 30224, and 30252 of the Coastal Act.

C. <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 Los Angeles has neither a certified LCP nor a certified Land Use Plan for the Playa de Rey planning area. The proposed development is consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. Approval of the project 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.

D. California Environmental Quality Act

As proposed, 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 to mitigate the identified impacts, is the least environmentally damaging feasible alternative and can be found consistent with the requirements of the Coastal Act to conform to CEQA.





