

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
PHONE: (831) 427-4863
FAX: (831) 427-4877
WEB: WWW.COASTAL.CA.GOV



W18a

Prepared July 10, 2017 for July 12, 2017 Hearing

To: Commissioners and Interested Persons

From: Susan Craig, Central Coast District Manager

Subject: Additional hearing materials for W18a
CDP Number 3-17-0335 (Pacific Grove Seawall)

Where checked in the boxes below, this package includes additional materials related to the above-referenced hearing item as follows:

- ☐ Staff report addendum
- ☒ Additional correspondence received in the time since the staff report was distributed
- ☐ Additional ex parte disclosures received in the time since the staff report was distributed
- ☐ Other.



CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
300 Forest Avenue • Pacific Grove, California

June 28, 2017

Chair Dayna Bochco
Members of the Coastal Commission
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Pacific Grove Seawall Repair – Coastal Development Permit (CDP) No. 3-17-0335

Dear Chair Bochco and Members of the Coastal Commission:

I am submitting this letter in support of Coastal Commission staff recommendations for CDP No. 3-17-0335, the proposed Pacific Grove Seawall Repair.

Coastal Commission staff recommends repairing this small, but important portion of the City's pre-Coastal Act sea wall that supports the linear Recreation Trail system. The Pacific Grove Recreation Trail is an oceanfront system of access paths, parks, beaches and other free and low-cost recreational amenities located along almost the entirety of Pacific Grove's shoreline.

The five-year timeframe specified in Special Condition #1 of Coastal Development Permit (CDP) No. 3-17-0335 provides adequate time for the City to seek additional funds from those allocated within the City's adopted Fiscal Year 2017-18 budget for updating the Coastal Parks Plan, and comprehensively addressing a variety of alternatives given site-specific constraints.

The City is aware that the Shoreline Management Plan required in Condition #3 in CDP 3-06-024 was not completed within two years of the permit issuance. This was primarily due to the onset of the 2007 Financial Crisis, and the corresponding steep drop in the City's finances and subsequent deep budget cuts that dramatically affected staffing and funding for capital improvement projects. These cuts have remained in place for nearly a decade, but the City is now in a more stable financial position. Within the last Fiscal Year (and continuing through Fiscal Year 2017-18), the City commenced the process of addressing deferred maintenance and requisite infrastructure repairs, including pre-Coastal Act sea walls that provide access along the City's shoreline, through an enhanced Capital Improvement Plan.

Current City Administration, under direction and with support from the City Council, is committed to developing a Shoreline Management Plan, and has been working diligently with Coastal Commission staff to update the City's Local Coastal Program. The City received a \$130,000 grant from the Coastal Commission in 2014 and has spent over \$450,000 in both additional consultant fees and staff time to date to update the City's 1989 LCP. The City recently received additional comments on the draft Implementation Plan, and is working with Coastal Commission staff to craft a document that reflects the policies in the draft Land Use Plan and Council direction. The City anticipates submitting both the Land Use Plan and Implementation Plan within the next 6-8 months for proposed certification.

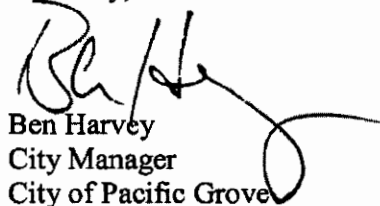
In the City's adopted Fiscal Year 17-18 budget, \$150,000 was allocated to update the Coastal Parks Plan, specifically the Chapter on Sea Walls, to reflect the new draft hazard policies in the Local Coastal Program that are in alignment with the Coastal Commission's Sea Level Rise Policy document. As you are aware, these are significant and costly planning efforts that take time, patience and technical expertise.

The Pont Pinos trail, a \$250,000 planning exercise funded by the Coastal Conservancy, serves as a template on how the update of the Coastal Parks Plan will address the City's shoreline recreation trail. The project examines a variety of alignments and associated costs given the current data on shoreline conditions, including sea level rise.

If left in its current unrepaired stated, the compromised condition of the sea wall poses a hazard and risk for trail users. If left unrepaired, it will only further destabilize adjacent portions of the wall, resulting in more significant repair costs. Additionally, the sewer main line and potable water lines are located nearby, just below Ocean View Boulevard. Leaving the seawall in its current unrepaired state also jeopardizes critical City infrastructure.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments and additional background for this vital sea wall repair project. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at bharvey@cityofpacificgrove.org or 831-648-3174.

Sincerely,



Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Pacific Grove

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Pacific Grove City Council
City of Pacific Grove Community & Economic Development Department
City of Pacific Grove Public Works Department

■ Anthony A. Ciani 220 Walnut Street Pacific Grove, California 93950

June 23, 2017

Chair Dayna Bochco
Members of the Coastal Commission
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street,
Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Pacific Grove Seawall Repair - Coastal Development Permit (CDP) No. 3-17-0335

Dear Chair Bochco and Members of the Coastal Commission:

A reasonable and affordable alternative to the proposed project that will avoid adverse impacts to the shoreline, provide safe public access, and help to restore the natural setting, is both practical and feasible.

The project should be an Amendment to the Commission's (2007) CDP No. 3-06-024, with the same special conditions, to be a part of the *comprehensive* structural repairs to the coastal trail, with the scope of work to be as follows:

- Locate the coastal trail on the bluff to align with the original path away from the artificial edge created by the old dump rock wall – see **Exhibit "A"**.
- Install a cable fence on the seaward side of the trail, similar to the rod and cable fencing at Asilomar State Beach bluff top trails.
- Remove the existing rubble debris from the beach and bluff including additional precarious and structurally unsound portions of the old dump wall and backfill.
- Relocate the bench nearby, to a widened clearing in the trail.
- Comply with all of the special conditions of CDP No. 3-6-024 – see attached **Exhibit "B"**.

This is an opportunity to assist the City to carry out its responsibilities to restore degraded areas of the shoreline and protect the public's access and safely enjoyment of the natural setting.

Respectfully,
Anthony A. Ciani

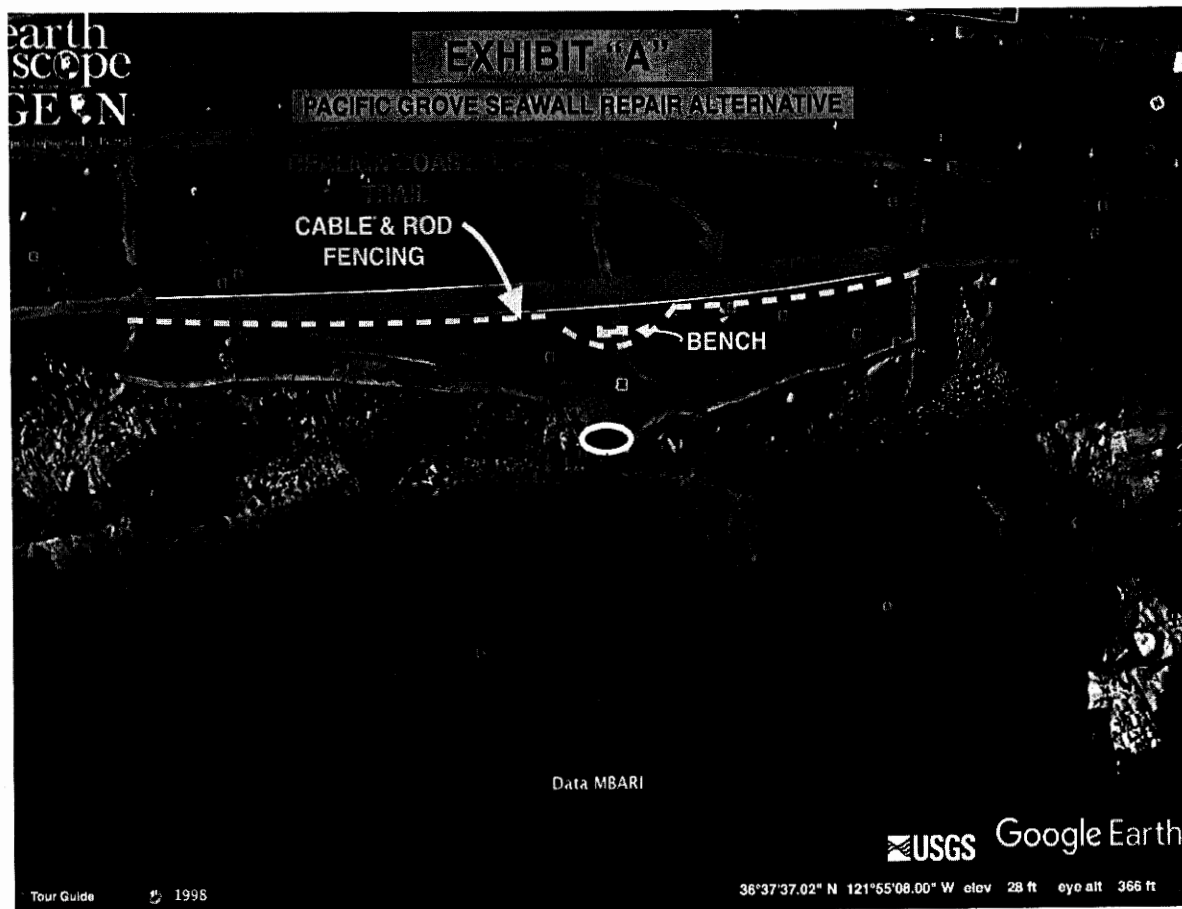
June 23, 2017

California Coastal Commission

PACIFIC GROVE SEAWALL REPAIR ALTERNATIVE

Page 2

“EXHIBIT “A”



June 23, 2017

California Coastal Commission

PACIFIC GROVE SEAWALL REPAIR ALTERNATIVE

Page 3

“EXHIBIT “B”

Coastal Development Permit No. 3-06-024 Pacific Grove Recreation Trail Shoreline Structures Repairs

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - THE RESOURCES AGENCY

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
726 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 437-4863

Th22a



Filed: 05/25/06
180th day: 11/21/06
270th day: 02/19/07
Staff: MW-SC
Staff report prepared: 12/28/06
Hearing date: 01/11/07

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

Application number.....3-06-024, Pacific Grove Recreation Trail Shoreline Structures Repairs

Applicant.....City of Pacific Grove, Public Works Department

Project location.....Various locations along Pacific Grove shoreline seaward of Ocean View Boulevard (first public road) and the Pacific Grove coastal recreation trail, between 4th Street and Beach Street, Pacific Grove, Monterey County (APNs 006-181-95, 006-181-96, 006-181-97, 006-181-99, 006-071-99, 006-061-99, 006-031-99, 006-021-99).

Project description.....Repair, replacement, construction and reconstruction of existing shoreline structures at 18 locations along the Pacific Grove coastal recreation trail, including repair of existing rip-rap revetments, replacing wood crib walls with vertical concrete seawalls, filling voids beneath rock and mortar walls, and backfilling sinkholes.

Local approval.....The City of Pacific Grove adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration on November 2, 2005.

File documents.....Coastal Development Permit Application files 3-06-024, 3-03-092-W, 3-93-015, and 3-84-077; November 2, 2005 Mitigated Negative Declaration.

Staff recommendation....Approval with Conditions

Summary: Staff recommends that the Commission approve with conditions, the proposed seawall repairs to protect the Pacific Grove Recreation Trail and trail amenities, Ocean View Boulevard, and the municipal wastewater and storm water infrastructure directly inland of the edge of the bluff.

The Pacific Grove Recreation Trail is an oceanfront system of lateral and vertical access paths, parks, benches, and other low-cost recreational amenities located along the northeastern shore of Pacific Grove. The recreation trail is an extremely popular visitor serving destination of local and statewide significance. The trail was formalized via Coastal Development Permit # 3-84-077 and represents an important segment in the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail that extends from Castroville to Pacific Grove.

There are eighteen (18) repair sites proposed along the approximately 1.5 mile stretch of blufftop



California Coastal Commission
January 11, 2007 Meeting in Long Beach

Staff: Michael Watson Approved by:

G:\Central Coast\STAFF REPORTS\2. CCC Meeting Packet\2007\01\3-06-024 Pacific Grove Recreation Trail & shoreline structure repairs
12.28.06.doc

July 6, 2017

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street
Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Luke Coletti
718 Walnut Street
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

RE: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) No. 3-17-0335, Pacific Grove Seawall Repair

Dear Chair Bochco and Coastal Commissioners:

As a lifelong resident of Pacific Grove I find staff's narrative of the site in question to be incorrect and flawed. Therefore, the rationale for the CDP is flawed. Further, its approval will perpetuate the City's misguided short-term repairs instead of complying with the long-term goals approved by the Commission in 2007.

- **Staff claims:** The "rock and mortar seawall that was originally constructed to protect the former Southern Pacific Railroad"

Facts: This is NOT a "Seawall"; it is a retaining wall built on top of a ragged bluff. (See Figures 1 & 4) This wall was NOT built to protect the railroad which was located inland approximately 600 feet to the south of this section of the shoreline. (See Figure 2)

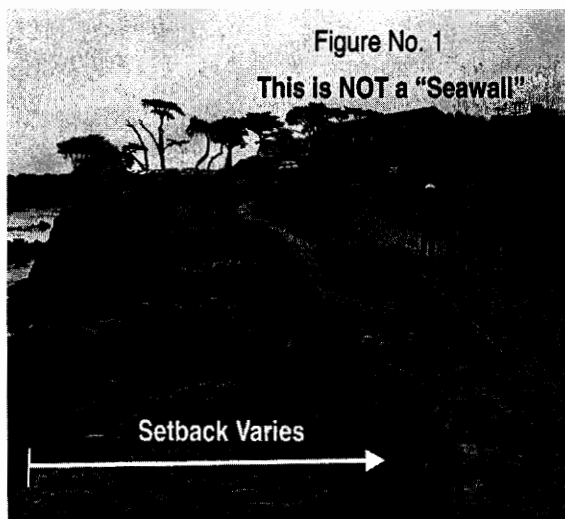


Figure 1

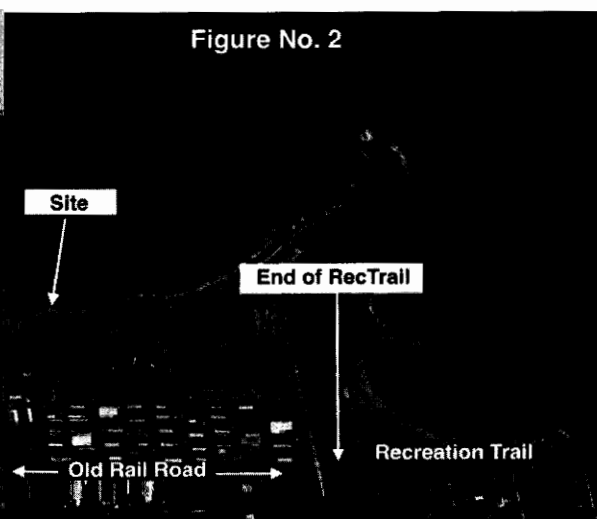


Figure 2

- **Staff claims:** *"The seawall now protects and supports the designated Pacific Grove Recreational Trail and Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail."*

Facts: The Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail ("Recreational Trail") extends from the Monterey Bay Aquarium to Lovers Point. It terminates approx. 1,000 feet southeast from the rock wall site. (See Figure 2, above) The rock wall site is located at the east end of Perkins Park and is adjacent to the park's trail. The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail is an ongoing regional effort, which simply incorporates the existing Perkins Park Trail.

- **Staff claims:** *"The existing 150-foot long seawall is keyed into the granite bedrock portion of the bluff"*

Facts: Seawalls are built at the toe of the slope, not on top of it. As mentioned above, this is not a "seawall", it is a retaining wall, which varies from 2 to 5 feet in height, and is **NOT** "keyed into the granite bedrock". It was built on top of a 15-foot high, uneven and ragged rocky bluff. The set back of the low wall from the top edge of the bluff varies from 10 to 20 ft. (See Figures 1, 3 & 4)

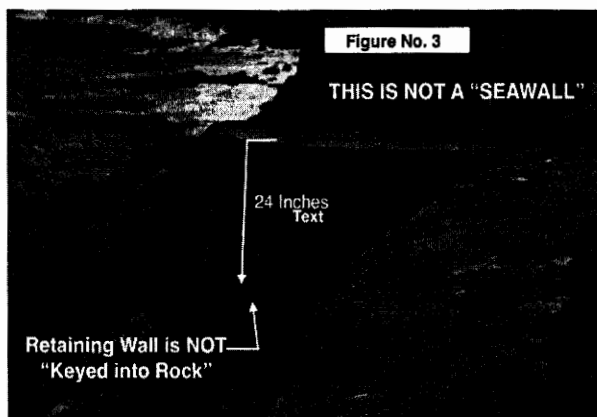


Figure 3

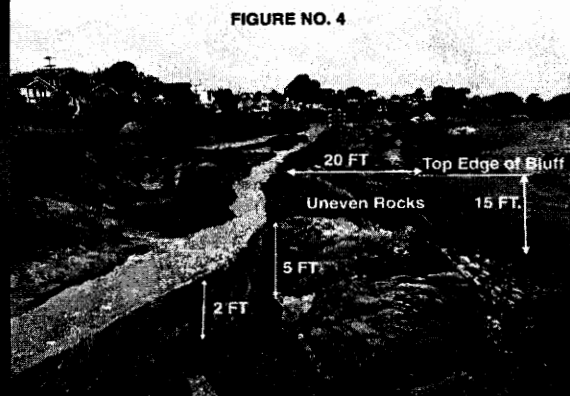


Figure 4

The Staff Report implies the rock wall is well built and designed to support the heavy weight of locomotives (freight and passenger trains) and to protect the railroad from the sea, which is simply not true. The Coastal Act does not allow repairs to bluff top retaining walls where there are less environmentally damaging alternatives. The Perkins Park Trail can be easily and economically realigned. Therefore, please consider trail realignment instead of patching a ramshackle wall from a bygone age. The choices necessary to properly manage and protect Pacific Grove's shoreline should be made now, not five years from now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Luke Coletti
Pacific Grove, CA

O'Neill, Brian@Coastal

From: Carl, Dan@Coastal
Sent: Sunday, July 09, 2017 2:32 PM
To: O'Neill, Brian@Coastal
Cc: Craig, Susan@Coastal; Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; Moroney, Ryan@Coastal
Subject: Fw: Coastal Development Permit No. 3-17-0335, Pacific Grove Seawall Repair

From: Ainsworth, John@Coastal
Sent: Friday, July 7, 2017 5:03 PM
To: Carl, Dan@Coastal
Subject: FW: Coastal Development Permit No. 3-17-0335, Pacific Grove Seawall Repair

FYI

*John (Jack) Ainsworth
Executive Director
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
(415) 904-5202
(415) 904-5203 (Voicemail)
john.ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov*

From: Inge Lorentzen Daumer [<mailto:ilwd50@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2017 5:01 PM
To: Bochco, Dayna@Coastal; Carole Groom; O'Neill, Brian@Coastal; Ainsworth, John@Coastal
Subject: Coastal Development Permit No. 3-17-0335, Pacific Grove Seawall Repair

Dear California Coastal Commissioners,

I want to thank you for denying the Waiver and requiring a full review for Pacific Grove's seawall repair project.

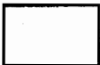
If Pacific Grove had followed the Conditions set forth for the last Emergency Repair, we would not be in this position today. Building a seawall on top of the old dump is still not the answer, even with your staff's Conditions for this Permit, especially when there is room to realign that portion of the Scenic Trail to a much better configuration. Why spend more money for another "temporary" fix, when the opportunity to make a more lasting "fix" is Now? Pacific Grove seems to lack the will to follow

direction from the CCC and to keep records and follow-through for what Conditions are required. I simply don't see the culture of "do now, and ask permission later" to be a good fit for the aspirations of public access and protection that all Californians aspire.

We have a perfect opportunity to make a positive change, Now. Let's do it!

Thank you,
Inge Lorentzen Daumer
180 Sloat Ave.
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
(831) 649-1363

coastal C



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1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, California 94612
(510) 286-1015
FAX (510) 286-0470

June 28, 2017

To: Coastal Commissioners

Fr: Trish Chapman, Central Coast Program Manager, State Coastal Conservancy

Re: **CDP application by City of Pacific Grove- Coastal Trail Repairs**
(Application No. 3-17-0335)

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express the Coastal Conservancy's support for the City of Pacific Grove request for permit approval to construct repairs to its hugely popular Coastal Trail. We support your staff's recommendation to approve the permit.

The Coastal Conservancy is currently providing grant funds to the City of Pacific Grove to design and permit a new segment of the Coastal Trail around Point Pinos. Once constructed, the City's four mile section of the state's Coastal Trail will be completed. Together with City staff our staff has been working closely with your staff to ensure the project design is consistent with the new policies proposed in the City's draft LCP update. Specifically, the current preferred alternative addresses coastal erosion and sea level rise by relocating the existing parking areas and trail inland and does not call for any new shoreline armoring. In response to future erosion these public access facilities are to be relocated upland on City-owned property around their community golf course.

Over the past several decades City of Pacific Grove leaders and staff have worked very hard and invested significant city funds to improve its Coastal Trail and public access facilities. As a result, the City's scenic bluffs, trails and beaches are enjoyed by millions of local, state and international visitors each year.

With your support the City will be able to proceed with critical repairs to this special segment of the state's Coastal Trail.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300
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WEB: WWW.COASTAL.CA.GOV



W18a

3-17-0335 (PACIFIC GROVE SEAWALL REPAIRS)

JULY 12, 2017

CORRESPONDENCE

From: [Anthony Ciani](#)
To: [O'Neill, Brian@Coastal](#)
Cc: [Craig, Susan@Coastal](#); [Carl, Dan@Coastal](#); [Watson, Michael@Coastal](#); [Haage, Lisa@Coastal](#); [Traylor, Sharif@Coastal](#); [Veesart, Pat@Coastal](#); [Repech, Emily@Coastal](#)
Subject: Pacific Grove - Seawall CDP - Waiver 3-17-0335-W.
Date: Monday, May 15, 2017 10:26:03 AM

Hello Brian,

I am copying Susan Craig , co-author of the proposed waiver; Mike Watson and Dan Carl, for their knowledge of CDP 3-06-024; and the enforcement team investigating my complaint regarding the apparent failure by the City to comply with CDP 3-06-24 and apparent placement of construction debris on the shoreline beaches and inter tidal areas.

I am sure you are aware that the Commission did not accept proposed Waiver No. 3-17-0335-W. Anticipating the City of Pacific Grove Public Works Dept. may now apply for a CDP, I request the opportunity to meet with you and key members of the Commission's staff to discuss the project in the context of the past project CDP No. 3-06-024 and other pertinent information/

To my knowledge, the City has still to locate its copy Coastal Development Permit 3-06-024, or any of the relevant work products required by that permit's Special Conditions, or any evidence they complied with the other important CEQA and CDP mitigation measures, such as removal of construction debris from the pocket beaches and inter tidal areas, and the MMRP work. Please see the City Clerk's response on February 22, 2017 below - I have highlighted in yellow, what I believe is the City's last word on their knowledge regarding compliance with the subject CDP:

Sandra Kandell <skandell@cityofpacificgrove.org>

Feb 22

to me, Kerry



Mr. Ciani:

This email both confirms receipt of and responds to your Public Records Act request first received on December 20, 2017, and again on February 2, 6, and 16, 2017. Please see the City's response following each of your requests below:

1) The City's Coastal Development Permit Numbers were due on an on-going basis, 60 days after the completion of each of the (18) segments of the shoreline improvements 3-06-024 and 3-06-024-A-1;

Our Office has made extensive efforts to locate records that might fall within the scope of your records request; however our search failed to identify any related documents. If you have knowledge of a specific document that has not been provided in response to your request, please notify us and we will be happy to provide the document(s) to you unless, of course, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code §6254. Also, should later investigation identify additional disclosable records that meet your request, we will contact you.

2) The As-Built Plans for each site with signatures of the Contractor and Geo-engineer confirming the repairs were completed in conformance with the approved plans, with photos, were due on an on-going basis, 60 days after the completion of each of the (18) segments of the shoreline improvements per Special Condition No. 4 of Coastal Development Permit Numbers-06-024 and 3-06-024-A-1;

Our Office has made extensive efforts to locate records that might fall within the scope of your records request; however our search failed to identify any related documents. If you have knowledge of a specific document that has not been provided in response to your request, please notify us and we will be happy to provide the document(s) to you unless, of course, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code §6254. Also, should later investigation identify additional disclosable records that meet your request, we will contact you.

3) The Shoreline Management Plan, in CDP 3-06-024 and 3-06-024-A-1 Condition No. 3 that was required within two years of approval (which occurred on 1/11/2007) to be sent to the Commission's Executive Director for [his] review and approval. Therefore, it was due by 1/11/2009.

Our Office has made extensive efforts to locate records that might fall within the scope of your records request; however our search failed to identify any related documents. If you have knowledge of a specific document that has not been provided in response to your request, please notify us and we will be happy to provide the document(s) to you unless, of course, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code §6254. Also, should later investigation identify

additional disclosable records that meet your request, we will contact you.

4) The Long-Term Monitoring and Maintenance Program with bi-annual topographic surveys of specific Beach Profiles was due (3) months after completion of the project, for the first five years after completion and then one survey each year, submitted every five years for the life of the project, as required by CDP 3-06-024 and 3-06-024-A-1 No. 5, 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D.

Our Office has made extensive efforts to locate records that might fall within the scope of your records request; however our search failed to identify any related documents. If you have knowledge of a specific document that has not been provided in response to your request, please notify us and we will be happy to provide the document(s) to you unless, of course, it is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code §6254. Also, should later investigation identify additional disclosable records that meet your request, we will contact you.

As set forth in previous responses to your requests, the City is not in possession of any of these documents. However, the City is making due diligence in following up with the various consultants during that time period as to their archival records, should any exist, and will keep you apprised as our findings.

Please let me know if I may be of further assistance. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Sandra Ann Kandell
City Clerk
City of Pacific Grove
300 Forest Ave
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
(831) 648-3181**

Please be Green! We're doing our part and we urge you to please think twice before printing this email. Thank you.

E-mail correspondence with the City of Pacific Grove (and attachments, if any) may be subject to the California Public Records Act, and as such may, therefore, be subject to public disclosure unless otherwise exempt under the act.

Note: Using the "Reply All" option may inadvertently result in a Brown Act violation.

The last sentence in Ms. Kandell's letter indicates her continued effort to assist with finding the information through the project consultants, etc.. The proposed 2017 CDP waiver is based on a "report" by the same consultant, HKA that the City used for CDP 3-06-024. Therefore; I assume HKA was not able to help locate the mitigation studies, or Shoreline Management Plan, etc. Also, the City hired HKA in 2016 prepare an entirely new report for the "Esplanade" shoreline including a design and alternatives that overlaps the western section of shoreline of CDP 3-06-024. That report was completed in December 2016 and released within the last month, apparently the City has taken no action to implement those recommendations. (It is unclear to me how the City processes Public Works Permits, i.e., public notices and hearings, etc. For example, I don't believe the City held any public hearings to review the subject of this proposed waiver. Thus, the only opportunity to address it was at the Coastal Commission's public hearing on May 10, 2017.)

As I originally mentioned, my goal is to source out all available information regarding the existing natural and manmade conditions, public access and uses of the shoreline, to voluntarily prepare an existing conditions map and report for the PG shoreline, to contribute as part of the LUP Access and Recreation Element that I still believe is inadequate. Discovery of the 1985 Neill Engineering report and Executive Director's letters regarding "Consistency findings" for Point Pinos, the 1985 report and CDP for the Pacific Grove Coastal Trail, and the 2007 CDP 3-06-024, EIR, etc.; all provide empirical data. The Special Conditions for CDP 3-06-024, clearly anticipated the need for further study to guide projects, small and large, such as the subject of the proposed seawall repair. Thus, my efforts to seek compliance with those conditions, piece-by-piece, or better yet, comprehensively.

The decision by the Commission to deny the waiver and require a CDP is an opportunity for the Commission to work with the City and public, to demonstrate the value of its thorough

analysis in CDP 3-06-024, and to implement those conditions which are perpetual and run with the land, as well as, to use the 2015 adopted Commission's Sea Level Rise Policy Guidance, to provide a comprehensive review at this time.

Respectfully,

Tony Ciani
220 Walnut Street
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

(858) 454-7141

June 2, 2017

California Coastal Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Ste. 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Pacific Grove Seawall Repair at the Recreation Trail at Ocean View Blvd. (West of Lover's Point)

Dear Chair Dayna Bochco and Coastal Commissioners:

I appreciate your decision to deny waiver application #3-17-0335-W for a seawall repair in Pacific Grove, and to require the full review of a CDP application.

I live in Pacific Grove and walk on that section of trail several days a week, daily now that it's Black Oystercatcher nesting season. I have been a monitor with the Central Coast Black Oystercatcher Monitoring Project for the California Coastal National Monument/BLM since the 2015 nesting season.

I have just written to Brian O'Neill about the importance of requiring the City of Pacific Grove to recognize the adverse impacts of construction, at the location of this project, on the Black Oystercatcher pair that nest on a sea stack on the beach at a distance of approximately 80 feet from the seawall. If the City is allowed to do any work at this location, they should be required to plan the work outside the nesting season. Black Oystercatchers are already negatively impacted by human activity limiting their choices of nesting sites. Roping off the nesting sites that are readily accessible from shore, including foraging areas for the chicks, and providing signs along the ropes gives these special status shorebirds some chance of success.

I was on the coast all day on January 21, the day the huge surf caused this unreinforced wall to collapse, and destroyed much of the nearby wooden fence/railing along the street/trail across from Borg's Motel, as well as washing over the top of Lovers Point where many people were out enjoying the spectacle. The waves did not observe the boundaries of A-frames in the park placed by the police to keep people out of harm's way, and it was very fortunate that no one was hurt.

It seems senseless to rebuild an extension seaward of the trail as an "overlook", requiring destruction and removal of a section of the natural bluff. The entire trail is an overlook with many benches—and no trail has been lost. There is plenty of room to move the trail away from the edge toward the road if that is deemed necessary for protection. There is no need to extend out over the beach a few more feet when the natural bluff wants to recede. Our beautiful fractured granite bluffs replenish our beach sand by both very slow erosion of the granite through wave action, which undercuts the bluffs, and breaking off of segments at the fracture lines allowing it to wear away as waves move it back and forth across the beach. Surely

rebuilding this section of wall in a surf impact area is not consistent with your Sea Level Rise Guidance document.

Simply cleaning up the debris—after Black Oystercatcher nesting season is over—would improve the situation. There needs to be careful attention to what the alternatives are, balancing access for people with conservation of our precious resources. People come to Pacific Grove's shoreline to see the extraordinary natural setting. Please help us protect the natural shoreline.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ciani

220 Walnut Street
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

From: [John Pearse](#)
To: [Anthony Ciani](#)
Cc: [Craig, Susan@Coastal](#); [O'Neill, Brian@Coastal](#); [Carl, Dan@Coastal](#); [Watson, Michael@Coastal](#)
Subject: Re: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver No. 3-17-0335-W
Date: Sunday, May 07, 2017 2:08:05 PM

Tony,

I would like to fully support your message to the Coastal Commission regarding the repairing the damaged sea wall versus realignment of the coastal trail through Perkins Park in Pacific Grove. In view of the inevitable rise in sea level and increase in storm surges, it is a was of effort, time, and funds to attempt to repair the sea wall.

I am attaching a photo of the east end of the area (where your proposed realigned would begin) that I took this morning. There were only moderate swells at the time, but as be seen, sea spray is on the trail. Moreover, on the seaward side of the trail is a stand of pickleweed (*Sarcocornia pacifica*), which is characteristic of salt marshes. I do not know how it got there, but most likely it was carried by birds from Elkhorn Slough. Its presence is indisputable evidence that this part of the trail is regularly splashed by salt water splashing up above the sea wall. It will only expand as sea level and storm surges increase. It is definitely time to consider gradual retreat, and your proposed realignment of the trail appears to be the easiest, cheapest way to proceed.

I am copying this to all the people you sent your message to, and request that Ms Craig forward it to the Commission to be considered in their deliberations of the "Waiver." Thanks very much for being so thorough and proactive.

John

John Pearse
Professor Emeritus, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of California, Santa Cruz
831-648-9245
e-mail: pearsester@gmail.com
183 Ocean View Blvd, Pacific Grove, CA 93950

On Tue, May 2, 2017 at 5:15 PM, Anthony Ciani <aciani@cianiarchitecture.com> wrote:

Hello Ms. Craig,

Please forward my letter to the Commission regarding this matter for their timely consideration. As you can see, I disagree with the proposed Staff Recommendation and Findings suggested for a "Waiver."

I believe it is much more appropriate as an Amendment to the CDP for the major repairs conducted in 2008 that are on the same lands and property, including similar work on the same wall at the same location.

My letter outlines how the Waiver fails to provide the necessary protection for coastal resources, or feasible alternatives to address the impacts of climate change (more frequent extreme storms and sea level rise, etc.), to relocate the coastal trail where there is ample room at this location.

I request that you review the information I have provided in my letter, and

consider changing your recommendation to require an amendment to CDP # 3-06-024.

Thank you,

Tony Ciani
[\(858\) 454-7141](tel:(858)454-7141)



W18

CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
Public Works Department
2100 Sunset Drive, Pacific Grove, CA 93950
T : 831.648.5722 • www.cityofpacificgrove.org/publicworks

Mr. Brian O'Neill
Coastal Planner
California Coastal Commission
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

May 5, 2017

Subject: Coastal Development Permit Application No. 3-17-0335-W (Coastal Bluff Protection Repair, City of Pacific Grove)

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

This letter provides a response to a letter submitted on May 4, 2017 from Mr. Anthony Ciani regarding nesting birds that may be located within the project site of CDP application permit # 3-17-0335-W.

The purpose of this project is to address an existing rock and motor seawall and outlook that received damage during intense wave action on January 21, 2017. During the storm a portion of the seawall failed leaving the trail and overlook exposed to increased damage and potential pedestrian safety. The City proposes repairing the existing wall to like conditions and reestablishing the trail and scenic overlook.

The concern of Mr. Ciani is the potential presences of the Black Oystercatcher. The City of Pacific Grove is committed to our natural environment and has already identified numerous measures as part of the waiver that will be implemented prior to construction. In addition to the already specified BMP's associated with this project the City will also conduct a pre-construction bird survey at within two weeks prior to any prior to any construction activities.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by email at dgho@cityofpacificgrove.org or by phone at (831) 648-5722.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ghossein

City of Pacific Grove Public Works Director

Coastal Development Permit Application No. 3-17-0335

O'Neill, Brian@Coastal

From: Anthony Ciani <aciani@cianiarchitecture.com>
Sent: Friday, May 05, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Craig, Susan@Coastal
Cc: O'Neill, Brian@Coastal; Carl, Dan@Coastal; Watson, Michael@Coastal
Subject: Re: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver No. 3-17-0335-W

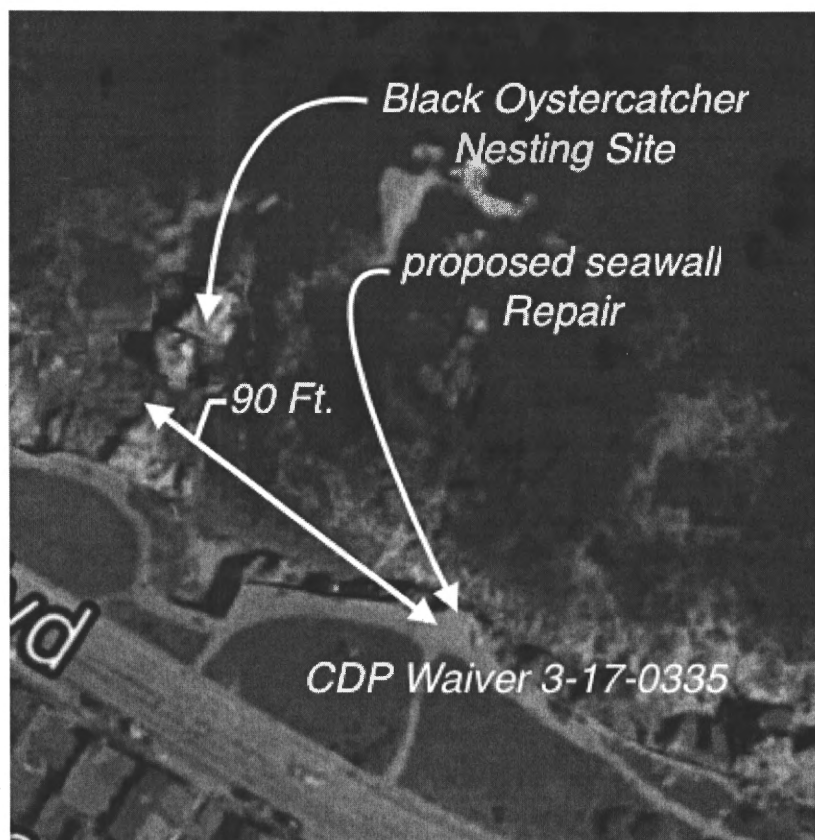
Brian,

I received your email with the City's letter. Thank you for bringing this matter to their attention, however, this does not respond to building in a hazardous area and public liability. It does not provide an analysis of alternative locations for the trail that would have less environmentally damaging consequences to the shoreline including, but limited to the proposed removal of natural granite formations, etc. (CA Section 30235)

I just physically measured the distance from the proposed project site to the Rock Island (called Oak Rock) to be less than 90 feet. The Rock Island is part of the designated California Coastal National Monument lands governed by the BLM who has an interest in protecting the Black Oystercatcher shore birds. Oak Rock is the location of the territorial pair monitored as MP-9.

The proposed project is likely to disturb the birds breeding, nesting/incubating, etc. I believe the Coastal Commission has a responsibility to seek the assistance and advice from BLM before proceeding with this proposed waiver. Did you seek input from BLM regarding potential impacts to the natural resources in their jurisdiction?

See attached Map:



Please include all of our correspondence regarding this matter in the Commission's next packet of information for this item.

Thank you,

Tony Ciani

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Thank you,

Tony Ciani
(858) 454-7141

W18

■ Anthony A. Ciani 220 Walnut Street Pacific Grove, California 93950

Wednesday May 10, 2017

W18

Chair Dayna Bochco
Members of the Coastal Commission
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street,
Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

c/o Brian O'Neill, Coastal Planner Via Email: Brian.O'Neill@coastal.ca.gov

RE: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver No. 3-17-0335-W

Dear Chair Bochco and Members of the Coastal Commission:

The following are important reasons why you should modify the Executive Director's recommendation for a CDP Waiver, to require a Coastal Development Permit Amendment for this project as part of CDP # 3-06-024 "Pacific Grove Recreation Trail and Shoreline Structures Repair" (2008):

- 1) The 2008, CDP # 3-06-024, is a "substantive" Coastal Development Permit with effective Special Conditions that are "perpetual ... to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property", including this site. **Repair of this same seawall was described in the 2008 CDP as:** [The] "Site is located approximately 800 feet west of Lover's Point (see vicinity and site maps **Exhibit "A"**, Attached). Erosion has undermined approximately 30 linear feet of an existing tall rock and mortar seawall. Wave run-up contributed to the damage". (CDP Plans, Sheet 2 of 18) – **See attached 2017 Photos illustrating dangerous wave run-up Exhibit "B"**.
- 2) The predecessor Commission's permit findings in CDP # 3-06-024 regarding the direct and cumulative adverse effects on sand supply to pocket beaches, apply now, to this project. **Their findings are significant**, and *NOT de minimis*, or a candidate for *this proposed waiver* (Internet link to CDP # 3-06-024 attached in **Exhibit "C"**).
- 3) The Special Conditions in CDP # 3-06-024 are essential to enforce protection of the natural resources at, and adjacent to, this site, including *the nesting sites of breeding shoreline birds, such as the Black Oystercatcher (MP-9 territorial pair, identified by the California Central Coast Black Oystercatcher Monitoring Project to be at this location), a USFWS "Bird of Conservation Concern" and "focal species for priority action"*. *The proposed waiver fails to protect breeding/nesting shorebirds and their nesting sites from direct impacts and construction noise*. The waiver provides no protections for wildlife.

RE: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver No. 3-17-0335-W

- 4) This Waiver would allow removal of "bedrock" from the *indigenous* granite formation on the coastal bluff, *which is the source of sandy deposits at this location; and the Waiver is inadequate to protect beaches and intertidal zone.*
- 5) The overlook is located in a hazardous location on the edge of the bluff-top, that is subject to overtopping waves during extreme winter storms which presents a substantial risk to public safety, see photos Exhibit "B". The coastal trail is approximately 78 feet seaward of the walkway along the road, which provides ample space to re-design alternative routes to retreat and construct the trail inland, and on higher ground, to be out of harm's way. See attached **Site and Vicinity Maps Exhibit "A"**.
- 6) The proposed waiver does NOT provide an **"Assumption of the Risks, Waiver of Liability and Indemnity Agreement"** by the City, acknowledging the site is subject to hazards such as, episodic wave and storm events, geologic instability, etc. that is in CDP # 3-06-024, page 12. (See CDP # 3-06-024, via Exhibit "C".)
- 7) The Special Conditions of CDP # 3-06-024 require a **Mitigation Monitoring Program** (CDP # 3-06-024, page 10) that the City has apparently failed to comply with, and which I understand is currently the subject of an investigation by the Commission's enforcement division. *Neither the City nor the Commission has been able to find any evidence of the Shoreline Management Plan* (See CDP # 3-06-024, page 9, Exhibit "C") that requires, among other things:
 - Removal of construction debris which remains on the adjacent beaches and intertidal areas since 2008;
 - annual studies of shoreline processes with to reports to the Ex. Director;
 - evaluate options to relocate facilities as alternatives to armoring;
 - analyze the cumulative impacts of existing and anticipated shoreline armoring on sand supplies, coastal access and recreational opportunities.

The proposed waiver for this project *will neutralize* implementation of the on-going Special Conditions of CDP # 3-06-024, and the Commission's finding: *"Only with these conditions can the project be found consistent with the relevant Chapter Three policies of the Coastal Act."* (CDP 3-06-024, Page 2 of the Staff Report). It may also prejudice the ability of City of Pacific Grove to prepare Local Coastal Program that is in conformity with Chapter 3 of the Coastal act (Coastal Act Section 30604 (a)); and, the proposed CDP-Waived development may also prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare its local coastal program.

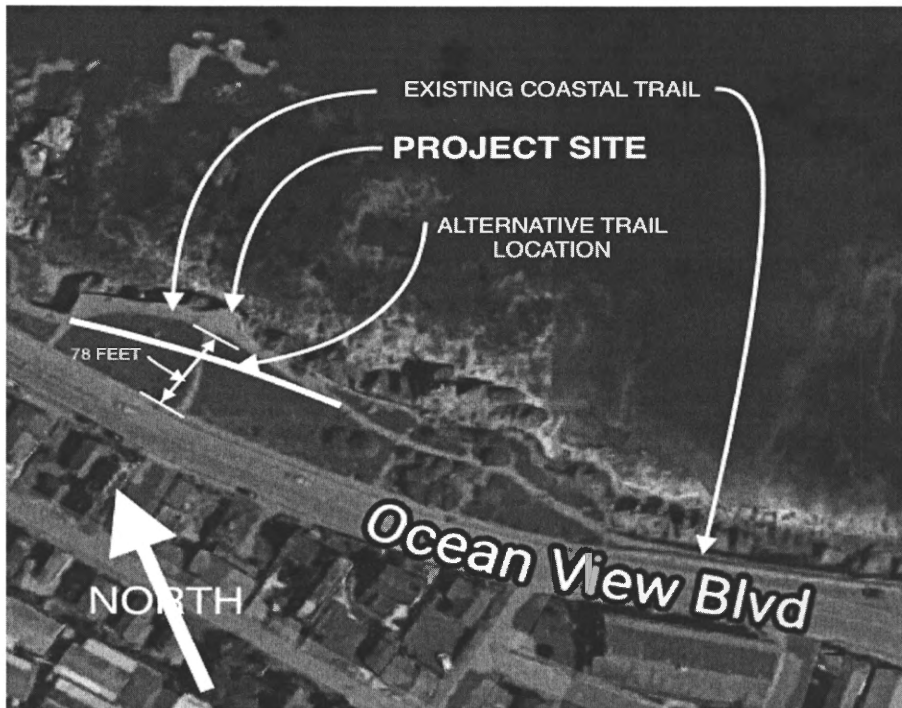
The proposed CDP Waiver fails to sufficiently carry out LUP Policies specifically to protect the natural and marine resources, avoid adverse environmental impacts to the Pacific Grove Marine Gardens State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a part of the ASBS; and, to avoid development in hazardous areas that are subject to wave run-up and overtopping; and, fails to consider all reasonable alternatives to this project. Therefore, **I strongly urge you to direct the Executive Director to require this trail repair and overlook project to retreat out of harm's way, and to be an Amendment to CDP # 3-06-024; and, to pursue the City's compliance with the essential Special Conditions they agreed to in 2008, in perpetuity.**

Respectfully, *Anthony A. Ciani*

EXHIBIT "A" – Location Maps

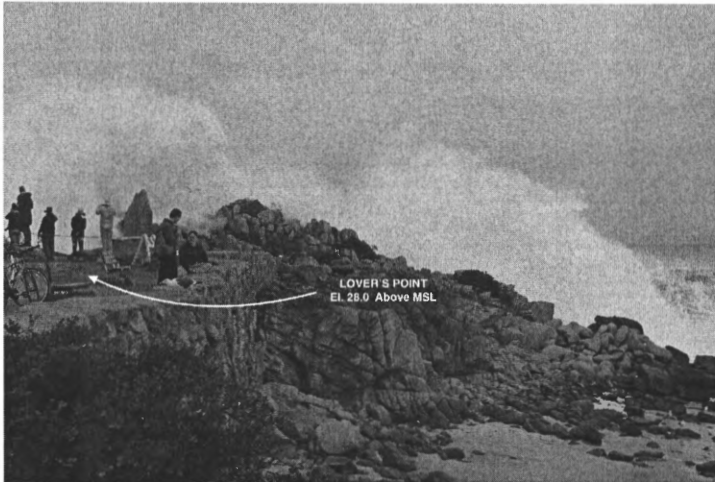


Vicinity Map



Site Map

EXHIBIT "B" Hazardous Conditions

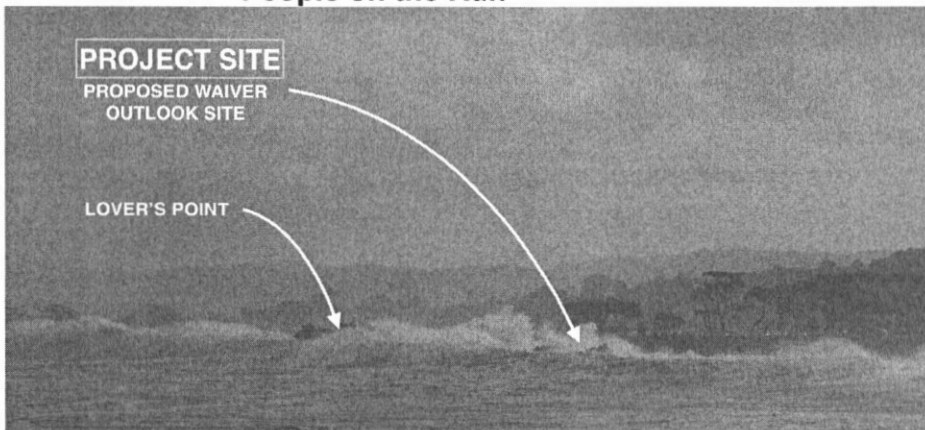


WAVE Over-topping at LOVER'S POINT

Over-the-top Wave Runoff



People on the Run



PROJECT SITE - Wave Splash Looking from West

(Photos: January 21, 2017)

Exhibit "C" CDP # 3-06-024

**Pacific Grove Recreation Trail &
Shoreline Structures Repairs Project (2008)**

Internet Link to full copy of Coastal Commission Findings & Conditions:

https://mail-attachment.googleusercontent.com/attachment/u/0/?ui=2&ik=3e074e1d09&view=att&th=1591324aa9abe69b&attid=0.1&disp=inline&realattid=f_iwuz2ks10&safe=1&zw&saddbat=ANGjdJ--S6u1RVQCLipV36gu2xusa8YLBW6cVm-BpjNoJ1Z-cqIQXLtatONF6AfRuszSIDoX-SeEZQteMP7yQOfy5nOnCbDR0h7rcetIJcwg6Cohk-8YrTocSul8pFWRaH-LzdLhJsW-2W-vhzC9V2_by-HXV8hvYY80Lpk-OCwZbyd-27PXTYgU-NOdKWsrQ6Phei6msN_m0PJ9Bssz31aNtjwm6n5Y_CFYweB-falXQh9KSQWpfw6U1T6ObeU0Xc-TR78nLjmf0nSVKuu-VE nNKEO17ygyA72cOS496QRoiXKgX3UB6iwEA6EbEmQh9wn0uIN-biK_P06cSBvY9VYpJ5VTIB_noOf56Ob2vSzIWz8IAhGid-lzewzK1z0Vyyd5BFaeDT3bSfJP7is8KPE3Mac-igNNs5J5tMM3w7p1_Zrm6DjwW6iQisu-BGvqX04vl6J2GV4wfMUWw2u5iZW-W57T6u1E_nYDgzjWjcjg0tzCBofPe0Qmqj0g_1VFbuqOa7RfE003-BY119Tgsv5eWTNGpkuFmm6MYCKhxQG1WlQj2sW7Vemple8om-rdEV2KJmurOKql9cLAB-9y6qYRlt8pxsSh-PVR2_LL9vmxV7c4UAD4csxgoCPzHZWuvJSgTdHEhsPORgEjrMNSRdBpsnhcu6

(copy and paste to your online search bar)

W18

Anthony A. Ciani 220 Walnut Street Pacific Grove, California 93950

Wednesday May 10, 2017

May 4, 2017

W18

Chair Dayna Bochco
Members of the Coastal Commission
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street,
Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

c/o Brian O'Neill, Coastal Planner Via Email: Brian.O'Neill@coastal.ca.gov

RE: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver No. 3-17-0335-W

Dear Chair Bochco and Members of the Coastal Commission:

The site of the proposed CDP Waiver is in the center of the Black Oystercatcher pair MP-9 nesting territory, see Map below.



Monterey Peninsula 2016 BLOY Territories



The waiver fails to provide the standard protections required in the CDP for the prior repairs for this seawall (CDP # 3-06-024), including those for nesting birds from February 1 through September 15. See BIO-1, below for mitigation:

BIO-1. If noise generating construction activities begin during the nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), or if construction activities are suspended for at least two weeks and recommence during the nesting bird season, then the city shall retain a qualified biologist to conduct a pre- construction survey for nesting birds. The survey shall be performed within suitable nesting habitat areas adjacent to the site to ensure that no active nests would be disturbed during project implementation. This survey will be conducted no more than two weeks prior to the initiation of construction activities. A report documenting survey results and plans for active bird nest avoidance (if needed) will be completed by the qualified biologist and submitted to the city environmental programs manager, or their designee, for review and approval prior to construction activities.

If no active bird nests are detected during the survey, then project activities can proceed as scheduled. However, if an active bird nest of a protected species is detected during the survey, then a plan for bird nest avoidance shall determine and clearly delineate an appropriately sized, temporary protective buffer area around each active nest, depending on the nesting bird species, existing site conditions, and type of proposed noise-generating construction activities. The protective buffer area around an active bird nest is typically 75-250 feet, determined at the discretion of the qualified biologist. To ensure that no inadvertent impacts to an active bird nest will occur, no construction activities will occur within the protective buffer area(s) until the juvenile birds have fledged (left the nest), and there is no evidence of a second attempt at nesting, as determined by the qualified biologist.

Please revise the findings and recommendations to ensure that MP-9's nesting site is protected, as well as, people visiting this scenic, yet potentially hazardous area.

Respectfully,

Anthony A. Ciani

-- Briefing Paper --

**Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*)
& the California Central Coast BLOY Project**

Prepared by Herrick E. Hanks
California Central Coast Black Oystercatcher Project
March 20, 2017

Project

Purpose. The California Black Oystercatcher Project is a California coast-wide, multi-year effort designed to: (1) Identify Black Oystercatcher distribution and abundance, (2) Determine reproduction success of the Black Oystercatcher, and (3) Assess the habitat and threats to the habitat in order to determine what actions need to be taken to assist with the long-term success of the Black Oystercatcher. The project is coordinated by Audubon California in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and in conjunction with the US Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) and two of its partners -- Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History (a CCNM Collaborative Partner) and California State Parks (a CCNM Core-Managing Partner), along with its Point Lobos Docents.

Central Coast Effort. The California Central Coast Black Oystercatcher Project is the local portion of this coast-wide effort to assess this indicator species. Covering the area from the San Mateo County coast south along the coastline of Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties, the Central Coast effort is currently focused on two study area -- Monterey Bay South Coast (the area from Monterey to the south end of Point Lobos State Natural Reserve) and Monterey Bay North Coast (the area from Pescadero State Beach in San Mateo County to Natural Bridges State Beach in San Cruz County). Although the project is overseen by professional biologists from Audubon California and the California Coastal National Monument, it is currently operated almost exclusively as a citizen science effort using primarily BLM volunteers. The goal is to integrate this effort with some of the California Coastal National Monument partnership organizations operating in the Central Coast and use their volunteer, docent, intern and/or naturalist programs to provide the local citizen science monitors within their select portion of the monitoring areas.

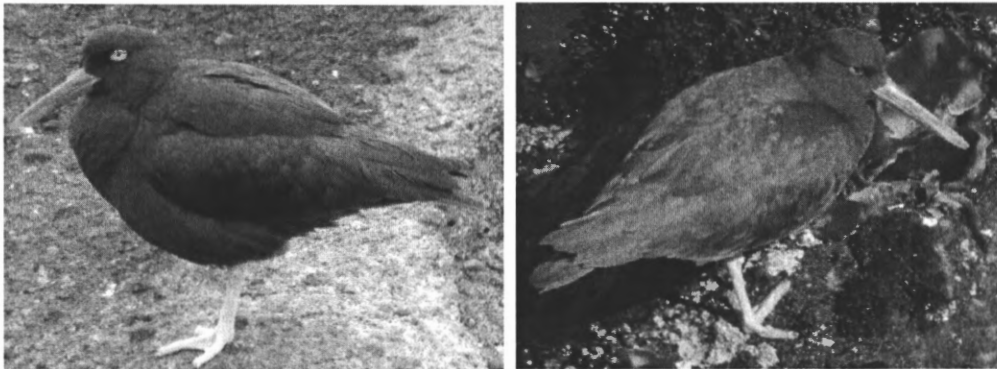
The Black Oystercatcher

Importance & Listing. Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus bachmani* is a keystone species along the North Pacific shoreline and is believed to be a particularly sensitive indicator of the overall health of the rocky intertidal community. The Black Oystercatcher was selected as a USFWS focal species for priority conservation action because of its considered vulnerable to decline owing to small global population size, low reproductive success, and complete dependence on rocky intertidal shorelines that are impacted by human use and rising sea levels. In addition, it is listed as a "species of high concern" within the United States, Canadian, Alaskan, and Northern and Southern Pacific shorebird conservation plans, and the USFWS also listed it as a "Bird of Conservation Concern."

Range & Population Size. The California coast is a critical part of the Black Oystercatcher range that extends from the Aleutian Islands to Baja California. The total population is estimated to be about 12,000, while the 2011 inventory along the 1,100 miles (1770 km) California coast resulted in an estimate of about 4,000 Black Oystercatchers for California.

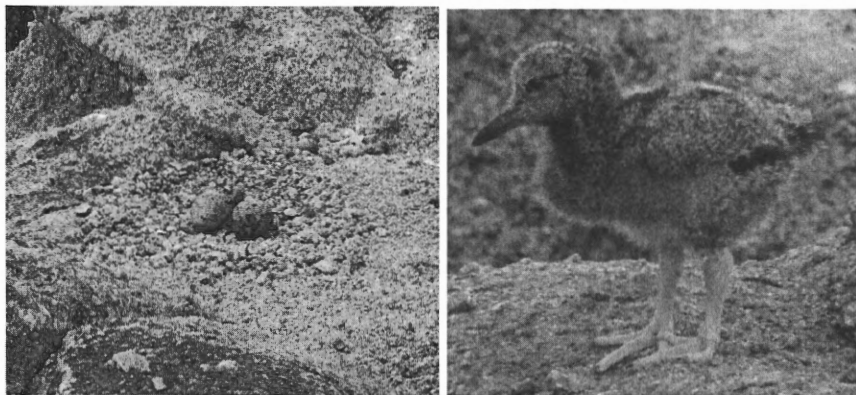
Physical Characteristics. The Black Oystercatcher is a large, robust, brownish-black shorebird about 17.5" (44.45 cm) in length with a 32" (81.28 cm) wingspan. Their legs and feet are a pale

flesh and they have a bright yellow eye with an orange-red eye ring. The Black Oystercatcher's most distinguishable feature, however, is its long, bilaterally flattened beak that is bright red-orange for adults and a grayish-black with orange and a dark tip for the juveniles as the beak grows out.



Images 1 & 2. MP8 male Black Oystercatcher (left) and Black Oystercatcher fledgling (right).
[Photos by H.E. Hanks]

Longevity & Nesting. The Black Oystercatcher is relatively long-lived. Black Oystercatchers banded on the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge lived for 9 to 15 years. Black Oystercatchers make their nests above the high tide line on offshore rocks, rocky shores, and sand/gravel beaches. The typical nest is a bed of rock flakes, pebbles, and shell fragments, usually pulled into a low bowl.

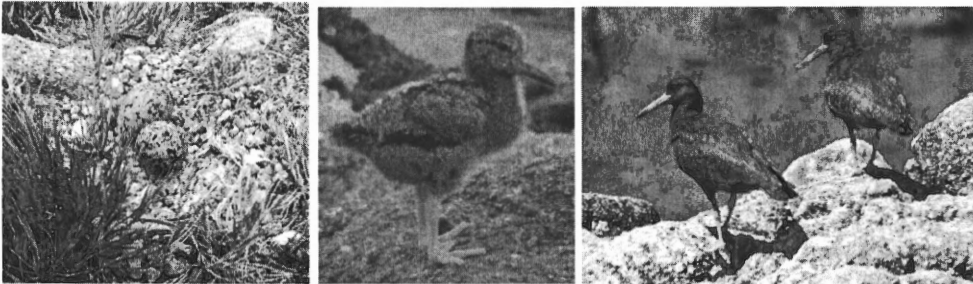


Images 3 & 4. MP8 (Hopkins East) nest with two eggs (left) and MP8 chick about a week old (right).
[Photos by H.E. Hanks]

Pre-Breeding Activities & Breeding Season. Pre-breeding season activities begin as early as February when copulation attempts may begin. During March and April, pairs can be observed doing rock tossing and nest scraping around their known nesting sites and in other locations within their respective territories. The Black Oystercatcher breeding season is from April through September. For the California Central Coast, egg laying usually begins in late April and runs through late June.

Eggs & Chicks. Black Oystercatchers lay 1 to 3 eggs, but usually raise 1 to 2 chicks to fledgling. Incubation ranges from 26 to 32 days and is shared by both the male and female. Chicks are capable of walking almost immediately after hatching. After hatching, chicks will be brooded nearly continuously for the first couple of days and only intermittently for the following week. When not brooded, chicks are always attended by at least one parent. Chicks are very mobile and

move around the area of the nesting site, including following the parents down to the wrack. The young chicks may move as far as 30 to 50 meters from the nesting site. Chicks fledge within 38 to 40 days. Fledglings can spend from 3 to more than 6 months with their parents in order to pick up foraging and basic survival skills, before the parents chase them out of their territory in order prepare for the new breeding season.



Images 5, 6 & 7. MP7 (Hopkins West) nest with two eggs (left), MP8 (Hopkins East) week old chick (middle), and two MP7 fledglings (right). [Photos by H.E. Hanks & H.J. Ceja]

Fledglings & Food. Black Oystercatcher fledglings take at least 12 months to develop “searching and handling” skills comparable to those of adults, but may require more than three years to develop a complete repertoire of efficient foraging skills. Oystercatchers feed on a variety of intertidal invertebrates including limpets, mussels, chitons, crabs, barnacles, and other small intertidal creatures.

Pair Bonds. It takes about 4 to 5 years for a Black Oystercatcher to reach breeding age, but after that strong pair bonds are formed. This means each adult may have 4 to 10+ years to replace itself in order for the population to remain stable. Black Oystercatchers usually mate for life.



Image 8. BLOY territorial pair MP8 (Hopkins East); Note round iris for male (front) and iris with fleck for female (back). [Photo by R.D. Parsons]

Territories. Black Oystercatchers are very territorial. Once a pair has been formed, they need to establish a territory in an environment where most of the prime habitat is already occupied by other Black Oystercatchers pairs. Once a territory is established, the pair will vigorously defend their territory from all other Black Oystercatchers. In 2016, 62 territorial pairs were monitored in the Monterey Bay area – 41 in the South Coast study area (14 on the Monterey Peninsula, 14 at Pebble Beach, and 13 on Point Lobos State Natural Reserve) and 21 in the North Coast study area (13 in Santa Cruz County and 8 in San Mateo County).

Fledging Success Rates. The literature states that the range-wide (Alaska to Baja California) breeding success is reported to be about 12-39%. During the 2016 breeding season, the fledging success (breeding pairs/fledgling) for the Monterey Bay region was as low as 10% (Monterey Peninsula with 1 fledgling from 10 breeding pairs) and as high as 100% (San Mateo County with 7 fledgling from 7 breeding pairs). This an amazing range of 90%. Regardless of low breeding success rates for the Monterey Peninsula and Point Lobos (11%), the average breeding success for the entire Monterey Bay region was 40% (18 fledglings from 45 breeding pairs), the high end of the populations success rate. From the three other Black Oystercatcher monitoring efforts along the California coast (Morro Bay in San Luis Obsipo County, The Sea Ranch in Sonoma County, and Mendocino Coast in Mendocino County), there was a 2016 average breeding success of 46% (38 fledglings from 83 breeding pairs). The breeding success of the combined state-wide effort was 44% (56 fledglings from 128 breeding pairs). Overall, the California Black Oystercatcher population would appear to be doing well. Even if you assess the 2016 monitoring results using the number of fledglings from the total number of Black Oystercatcher territories (56 fledglings from 171 territorial pairs observed), that is still almost a 33% success rate, well within the higher half of the range-wide breeding success rate.

Summary of Monitoring Method

The monitoring methodology used is based on the Black Oystercatcher standardized protocols for monitoring population size and reproductive success developed by the U.S. Geological Survey, with slight modifications adapted by Audubon California. The primary monitoring is conducted during the breeding season from March through September, but more limited observations are made throughout the non-breeding season in order to keep track of the territorial pairs, locate new territories, and document survival after fledging.

Observations are made in each territory using binoculars and spotting scopes from land. During the breeding season, each territory is monitored for a minimum of 30 to 60 minutes once a week and some times as much as daily for short periods during egg laying, near hatching, and fledging. At least one of the project's co-coordinators monitors each territory once a week, while trained citizen science volunteers also monitor assigned territories (i.e., usually two and in some cases three or more territories) at least once a week and may assist with the monitoring of other territories or nesting sites. The daily monitoring observations are recorded on hardcopy monitoring forms and on Google Docs spreadsheet for each Black Oystercatcher territory.

Territory size was determined as a result of observations made of the individual Black Oystercatcher pair's foraging distance, encounters with neighboring pairs, and distance of territorial chases of interloping Black Oystercatchers. Google Earth™ was used to obtain GPS coordinates and to map observations of nest locations and territory size.



Image 9. PL7 (Whalers Cove) parents leading fledgling to a foraging site, Point Lobos SNR.
[Photo by H.J. Ceja]

Conservation Measures

Currently, conservation efforts for the black oystercatcher are limited by a lack of baseline information for many of the following areas: (1) The locations and sizes of important breeding populations; (2) Local and overall population status and trends; (3) Hatching success; (4) Fledging success and adult survival; (5) Regional threats to survival and productivity; and (6) Population structure. In Oregon, management plans to protect the Black Oystercatcher are being developed and will likely begin with signage at key nesting sites to prevent disturbance by recreationists. On the California Central Coast, signage and roping have been applied to select nesting sites in the Point Pinos and Asilomar State Beach areas over the past three seasons. As more data become available, more effective conservation measures will be developed and applied to not only nesting sites, but possibly to critical Black Oystercatcher foraging areas and areas where focused conservation measure may be most effective.



Images 10, 11 & 12. Signs at Point Pinos at the end of the Monterey Peninsula: Permanent sign (left); Temporary rope and signing around nesting site (middle); and Temporary rope and signing low across trail entrance (right). [Photos by H.E. Hanks]

References

- Alaska Shorebird Group. 2008. Alaska Shorebird Conservation Plan. Version II. Anchorage, AK: Alaska Shorebird Group. Available at:
<http://www.shorebirdplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/AlaskaPlan2008.pdf>
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http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/coastal_monument.Par.36201.File.dat/Black%20Oystercatcher%20Monitoring%20Report%202013.pdf

Ceja, H. J. & Hanks, H. E. 2014. Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*) reproductive success 2013 monitoring report, Point Pinos to Asilomar, Monterey Peninsula, Pacific Grove, California. Hollister, CA: U.S. Bureau of Land Management. Available at: http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ca/pdf/coastal_monument.Par.50133.File.dat/BLOY_Monitoring_Report_2014.pdf

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