

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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



W20a

APPEAL NO. A-5-LOB-19-0005

(CITY OF LONG BEACH)

MARCH 6, 2019

CORRESPONDENCE

From: anngadfly@aol.com
To: Ainsworth_John@Coastal; steve.hudson@coastal.gov; Sanchez_Jordan@Coastal; Ziff_Dani@Coastal; Willis_Andrew@Coastal
Cc: achris259@yahoo.com; leslierash.lb@gmail.com; tami_bennett@hotmail.com; mbcotton@hotmail.com; Hoorae1@aol.com; renee_matt@live.com; corlisslee@aol.com; mpshogrl@msn.com; jweins123@hotmail.com
Subject: Unable to contact LB Staff
Date: Friday, February 22, 2019 11:24:02 AM

Dear Decision Makers:

Yesterday I received the e-mail below from Andrew Willis stating that LB staff is unavailable by phone or e-mail until Wed. Feb. 27.

Those of us who have an appeal before the CCC on Wed. Mar. 6, are very concerned about not being able to contact Long Beach staff. We have concerns about the netting covering the Palms to keep out nesting birds and we need to talk to Dani Ziff about her staff report. Not being able to contact staff is detrimental to our appeals.

We would like to ask that item 20 on the March 6 agenda be postponed to allow for more dialog on possible design changes, especially in regards to the 15 foot sidewalk on the east side of Marina Dr.

The sidewalk on the west side of Marina Dr. is to be 5 feet in width. ADA requires a 3 foot sidewalk. We believe the 15 foot sidewalk could be narrowed to allow the Great Blue Heron nesting trees to stay in place and still provide plenty of room for pedestrians.

If a postponement is not possible, we would like to ask that Dani Ziff contact us as soon as possible as our comments to the Commission are due on Friday, March 1.

Gratefully,
Anna Christensen
Protect the Los Cerritos Wetlands
Ann Cantrell
CARP

-----Original Message-----

From: Willis, Andrew@Coastal <Andrew.Willis@coastal.ca.gov>
To: anngadfly@aol.com <anngadfly@aol.com>
Sent: Thu, Feb 21, 2019 1:51 pm
Subject: Automatic reply: Photo taken at 11:15 am Thursday, Feb. 21 - More Palms Bagged on Marina Drive

**The Coastal Commission's Long Beach Office is moving.
New location: 301 E. Ocean Blvd, Suite 300, Long Beach,
CA, 90802**

Phone: (562) 590-5071 Fax: (562) 590-5084

The Commission's Long Beach office will be closed while we are relocating to our new offices beginning on Friday, February 22, 2019 and will fully reopen on Wednesday, February 27, 2019.

From: anngadfly@aol.com
To: [Ainsworth, John@Coastal](mailto:Ainsworth.John@Coastal); [Hudson, Steve@Coastal](mailto:Hudson.Steve@Coastal); Craig.Beck@longbeach.gov; [Tatum, Linda@City of Long Beach](mailto:Tatum.Linda@City of Long Beach); christopher.koontz@longbeach.gov; [West, Patrick@City of Long Beach](mailto:West.Patrick@City of Long Beach); district2@longbeach.gov; district3@longbeach.gov; district4@longbeach.gov; district5@longbeach.gov; district6@longbeach.gov; district7@longbeach.gov; district8@longbeach.gov; district9@longbeach.gov; mayor@longbeach.gov; district1@longbeach.gov; [Ziff, Dani@Coastal](mailto:Ziff.Dani@Coastal); [Sanchez, Jordan@Coastal](mailto:Sanchez.Jordan@Coastal); [Willis, Andrew@Coastal](mailto:Willis.Andrew@Coastal)
Subject: Fwd: Marina Dr. Palms
Date: Friday, February 22, 2019 12:38:15 PM
Attachments: [CCC Letter 2.19.19.pdf](#)
[CCC letter 11.21.18.pdf](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: anngadfly <anngadfly@aol.com>
To: editor <editor@gazettes.com>
Sent: Fri, Feb 22, 2019 12:32 pm
Subject: Marina Dr. Palms

Dear Mr. Salzgaver,

Thank you for your article on the Marina Dr. Palms and the news that the netting is to be removed. What appeared to be plastic bagging has now been identified as netting, but is just as efficient at keeping out nesting birds. (Although your articles stated the trees being netted were on the west side of Marina Dr., all the trees being netted and moved are on the east side and in the medians.)

I am attaching the letter from Jordan Sanchez, enforcement officer for the CA Coastal Commission, sent to the City on Tuesday, Feb. 19. You will note that the City was told to remove the netting until after the Coastal Commission appeal was heard on March 6. Instead of complying with this request, your photo shows additional bagging being done on Wednesday, Feb. 20.

I am also attaching the letter sent by CCC staff on Nov. 21, 2018, describing the importance of these trees and charging the developer with a Violation of the Coastal Act for illegally cutting down 22 of the Palms on the east side of Marina Dr.

I have attempted contacting Long Beach CCC staff, but they are in the process of moving and not answering their phones or e-mail. I did talk to Public Works Director Craig Beck on Tuesday and he assured me that city resources were not being used to net the trees. I find this questionable as these are city trees and Beck acknowledges the netting was to prevent nesting birds which would slow down a city street project.

You also quote Beck as saying someone on CCC staff told him they routinely approve the use of nets to discourage nesting. I am unaware of this, but would question this use during nesting season as breeding birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Act.

You wrote that "Christensen and others changed their approach at the Planning Commission appeal hearing, saying they were opposed to the changes planned for Marina Dr. while continuing to say moving the palms jeopardized their survival." There has been no change; we have always opposed the street changes because they first required removal, now relocation of the remaining palms.

Even with narrowing Marina Dr. from 4 lanes to 2, adding diagonal parking, bus stops, bike lanes, left turn lanes into the mall, and sidewalks on both sides, there would no need to move the trees except for a 15 foot public sidewalk by the mall. Since this was referred to as an ADA sidewalk, I assumed that was the reason for the extreme width. However, I have now discovered that ADA requires only a 3 foot sidewalk to accommodate wheelchairs. The sidewalk on the west side of Marina Dr. is to be 5 feet wide. If the City would put a five foot or even a 10 foot sidewalk on the east side, there would be no

reason to move the Palms.

I urge Grunion readers will make their comments on the CA Coastal Commission website: coastal.ca.gov. Go to the agenda on Wed. March 6 and scroll to Item 20. There you will find the staff report and exhibits. Click on Comment and say "Do not move the Palm trees".

We shall not be moved.

Ann Cantrell

From: anngadfly@aol.com
To: Ainsworth_John@Coastal; Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Ziff_Dani@Coastal; Sanchez_Jordan@Coastal; Willis_Andrew@Coastal; district2@longbeach.gov; district3@longbeach.gov; district4@longbeach.gov; district5@longbeach.gov; district6@longbeach.gov; district7@longbeach.gov; district8@longbeach.gov; district9@longbeach.gov; mayor@longbeach.gov; district1@longbeach.gov; Craig_Beck@longbeach.gov
Subject: Fwd: email 2 - pics of nets on palms, Fri 2/22/19
Date: Friday, February 22, 2019 8:51:47 PM

Photos taken between 3 and 4 on Friday, Feb. 22. Trees are still covered with netting, which was supposed to be removed.

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie <leslierash.lb@gmail.com>
To: Ann <anngadfly@aol.com>; Anna <achris259@yahoo.com>
Sent: Fri, Feb 22, 2019 8:18 pm
Subject: email 2 - pics of nets on palms, Fri 2/22/19





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From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Illegal Netting of Palm Trees on Marina Dr. in Long Beach, CA. 2/22/2019
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:44:48 AM

From: jill brennan [mailto:jillbrennan2014@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2019 2:59 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal; craig.beck@longbeach.gov
Cc: District1@longbeach.gov; district3@longbeach.gov; district2@longbeach.gov; Council District 4; Council District 5; district6@longbeach.gov; district7@longbeach.gov; district8@longbeach.gov; Councilmember Rex Richardson; Mayor Robert Garcia; West, Patrick@City of Long Beach; ElDoradoAudubon@yahoo.com
Subject: Illegal Netting of Palm Trees on Marina Dr. in Long Beach, CA. 2/22/2019

What is going on here? This is a blatant violation of the Federal Migratory Bird Act.





Concerned Citizen,
Jill Brennan

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:44:13 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Chardy Lang [<mailto:chardylang@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2019 10:02 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not remove the palm trees on Marina Drive.

I thought this had already been taken care of in favor of leaving the remaining trees when I see that the trees were wrapped so the herons can't nest in them. This is in direct conflict with what was to be done.

We want to protect the trees for the herons, for the health of the trees, and for the history they have in the area. By putting up the netting, you are endangering the trees and making it impossible for the herons to nest and if there are no nests in the trees then they can move the trees.

The developer did not purchase public land and public palm trees so should leave them alone. The trees are critical to our environment, to our nesting herons, and to the nostalgia of the area.

Please leave the palm trees alone and don't remove or move them to other areas.

Sincerely,
Chardy Lang
Concerned 30+ year Belmont Shore Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:44:04 AM

From: Carol Adams [mailto:secretaryoffun@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 12:44 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please don't cut down the beautiful palm trees along Marina Drive. The Great Blue Harons nest there. Listen to the citizens. This is illegal. STOP CUTTING OUR PALM TREES DOWN.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Illegal anti-nesting nets in Long Beach- action requested
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:43:55 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

From: Jeff Salisbury [mailto:Jeff@labelimpressions.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 8:44 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Illegal anti-nesting nets in Long Beach- action requested

RE: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

The contractor has secured 'Anti-nesting' nets over palm trees it wishes to remove. The trees are protected nesting grounds for Blue Heron and part of the Marine Rookery. We have enjoyed observing and co-existing with the Blue Herons for decades. Please do not allow the developer to illegally prevent nesting in order to create its vision of a more 'pleasing shopping environment' for the area.

A response is (respectfully) requested.

Thank you,

Jeff Salisbury
Chief Executive Officer
 **LABEL IMPRESSIONS, INC.**

Ask me about our labeling equipment division!
714-634-3466, Ext. 11 • Direct: 714-509-0351



From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff, Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:43:47 AM

From: Eduardo A. Limon [mailto:eduardo.limon@lbmboa.org]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 10:17 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Dear Costal Commission Members and Officials,

My name is Eduardo A Limon. I represent the Long Beach Marina Boat Owners Association (LBMBOA) as well as the Marina Pacifica HOA where I am a resident, just across 2nd street from the 2nd & PCH development. I am also a boat owner and keep my sailboat on dock 20 right across Marina Dr from the 2nd & PCH development. Needless to say, I keep a close eye on this development and what happens on a daily basis if only by going about my daily business.

There are a lot of issues that impact the Alamitos Marina tenants, as well as Marina Pacifica owners regarding this project. The removal of the trees along Marina Drive is just one of many symptoms of bad development that are starting to come up around the area, all which ignore requirements, special conditions and laws that are set in place to protect the public best interest, as well as the environment and quality of life of all of us who live close to 2nd & PCH.

A few days ago I snapped this photo:



It clearly shows netting on the trees in an attempt by the developer to prevent nesting by the blue herons and other birds during nesting season. This, as you know, is illegal, and is just another violation in a long list of total of complete disregard by the developer, abided in great measure by the city of Long Beach, who seems to be more interested in revenue at all costs, and has abandoned its fiduciary responsibilities to the citizens it is

supposed to protect.

The removal of the trees is part of a strategy that has to do with the single highest cost of any development... parking. Did I mention I am a St. Project Manager at one of the most prestigious architectural firms world wide?

2nd & PCH is being allowed to be grossly under-parked. By grossly under parked, I'm talking about a magnitude of about 30% or 479 stalls. The developer has convinced the city to provide additional on-street parking and give them free rain on the adjacent basin 3 parking lot for Alamitos Bay Marina.

The city of Long Beach will have to reduce the number of lanes on Marina Drive in order to accommodate additional convenience parking for the development on both sides, to try to reduce the impact to the boat owners who I represent and are now beginning a long and hard battle to keep our parking and access to the marina.

Removing the trees is a casualty of ignoring the EIR which clearly states that the new SEASP plan and the proposed 2nd & PCH development will create traffic impacts that will need to be mitigated by increasing the number of lanes on Marina Dr, not reducing them, like the city plans to do. On the surface, it doesn't make any sense why the city wants to reduce lanes. The City and Developer claim that this is necessary to provide access to cycling lanes and pedestrian access to the waterways, which reads to me like wording aimed at receiving your support. The reality is that the reduction is required due to the parking problem they've created by allowing this development to forgo one full level of parking. We already have bike lanes that work, as well as pedestrian access. After all, there's a farmers market that happens every Sunday and we walk to it and to the marina on a regular basis. The EIR for 2nd & PCH is based on a previous design that included three levels of parking instead of two. This means that the impact shown on the reports will be far greater now that the parking has been reduced. Why? Because the developer wants to use the Alamitos Bay Marina Basin 3 lot which they call a public parking lot with conveniently 479 stalls. This will essentially rob the boat owners one marina guests of their parking to let the developer save money. The City has submitted an application with the Coastal Commission in the last few weeks requesting permission to charge for parking at the Marina parking lots. They view this as an additional source of revenue since patrons of the retail center will have to use. What they fail to see is that the parking lot is already a source of revenue as it is included in our slip fees. There are also other businesses serving the marina who need the parking lot, and will be adversely impacted by this decision.

We beg you to pay close attention to this development. There have been several violations in the past regarding tree relocation. This is just another symptom of the city refusing to enforce the conditions of the Coastal Permit. The city is also required to provide Marina Access, parking and dry storage as a condition of the Marina Renovation's Coastal Permit. The Dry storage was to be located in the same parking lot they are now turning over to developers, and reducing lanes which will further challenge access by boaters that use the dry storage and have to transport their boats to Davies Lunch Tamp across the street.

We beg you to embrace your responsibility to the coastal resources and challenge this series of unfortunate decisions, as you are our only line of defense left.

At your service should you have any questions or comments,

Eduardo A. Limon
Public Relations Officer
LBMBOA

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:43:35 AM

From: Karen Bruce [mailto:karenbruce1.kb@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 10:40 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not move these trees to accommodate private property!

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Long Beach, netting around Palms, keeping birds from nesting?
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:43:15 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ed Kimball [<mailto:edkii90803@gmail.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 11:31 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Long Beach, netting around Palms, keeping birds from nesting?

Please be aware that someone has wrapped, with netting, the top of the palm trees on Marina Drive in Long Beach. I think this may be illegal because it keeps birds from nesting in them.

What can be done to enforce the availability of trees for nesting on this street?

Thank you for your response to this question.

Ed Kimball
Long Beach, CA

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:42:30 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: L Pavlovich [<mailto:Lisa@WestcliffCompounding.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 2:26 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

It is concerning to me that they are trying to move the palms. Please do not allow them to move the palms at this time.

I also find it offensive that they netted the palms in an effort to keep the birds from nesting in them. This seems like a very under-handed thing to do to skirt the rules that are in place regarding the birds and the palms. They should be fined for such activity.

Thank you,

Lisa Pavlovich

Long Beach, 90803

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:42:20 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Louisa Bir [<mailto:louisa.bir@icloud.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 3:50 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not move the palms!!!!

While the Marina Drive palms are protected as Great Blue Heron nesting sites under the Coastal Act and considered to be part of the Long Beach Marina rookery, they remain under threat from those who find them expendable. Having chopped down 22 of these public palms, the City and the developer of the 2nd & PCH Project have now netted 40+ more to prevent the herons from nesting in them. Both acts have been ruled illegal and are a violation of the City's promise to the Coastal Commission that these palms would not be disturbed during nesting season. When residents made it clear that they did not want the palms destroyed, the City decided to dig up and move 44 of the remaining palms, placing some in pots. The palms do not need to be moved - instead the developer and the city can simply tweak their plans. A parkway for the palms does not need to be sacrificed to accommodate an extra-wide 15' sidewalk on public property in front of the mall (the sidewalk can be 12' wide like it is further down the street, or the developer can use some of his 20+ setback for it). From the netting, we see that the City and the Developer are rushing to move the palms now when they are more likely to die due to cold weather. The survival of the palms depends on you

Louisa Bir
Sent from my iPhone
Please excuse any typos or brevity.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:42:04 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Cindy Koch [<mailto:ck55@verizon.net>]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 5:00 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Hi,

My understanding is that the palms have legal status as heron nesting sites. Can they even be moved or messed w/then?!

Palms before profits!

Cindy Koch
Long Beach

"When injustice becomes law, resistance becomes duty" ~ Thomas Jefferson

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:11:32 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Cecilia Hunt [<mailto:huntc513@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 5:36 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Apparently breaking the law means nothing in California and is encouraged. The law clearly states they are protected. Right? So it's time for me to get involved in the state I just moved to and run for your job. I don't break laws, you do. You currently have the trees bound up and are considering taking them down. And the Great Blue Heron nesting sites protected under the coastal act? Guess anything you put in place can be changed when you lose your position. Including prized policies. Leave this alone, you will regret this in the long run as people who voted for you won't next time and might ask to have you removed.

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:41:53 AM

From: Kn F F Th Y IV U [mailto:nopolanol@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 6:33 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not take away the trees. There must be some clever enough engineer to figure out a way for development and nature to co-exist.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Potential Palm Tree Removal, Marina Development Long Beach
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:41:45 AM

From: Kira Perov [mailto:kperov@billviola.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 8:44 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: district3@longbeach.gov
Subject: Potential Palm Tree Removal, Marina Development Long Beach

Dear Members of the California Coastal Commission,

I wrote the email below in July of last year and did not receive a response, neither from Arthur Cox at the City of Long Beach, nor Suzie Price.

I am not interested in the politics of all of this. I wish to register my deep dismay with the elected "officials" who are supposed to be making serious and beneficial decisions about our welfare (yes, the welfare of the people who live here and pay our taxes here), and the welfare of this land that is already overdeveloped. To cut down 40 beautiful palm trees for some parking spaces is insane in today's climate environment. And to net the trees in order to discourage nesting at this crucial time for the birds is simply underhanded and dishonest, and as I understand, illegal. Bad, sad behavior.

I don't need to tell you, as the chief stewards of our coast, the benefits of trees and blue herons, nor do I need to tell you that we don't need another commercial development that pollutes our environment. In this development that seems to only benefit the developers, you have one chance now to save something of value for the people who live here. The rest has already gone.

Save the trees, don't move them (they will die), and let's be grateful that the blue herons still visit this overdeveloped coast.

Sincerely,
Kira Perov
282 Granada Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90803

From: Kira Perov <kperov@billviola.com>
Subject: Tree removal
Date: July 15, 2018 at 3:22:06 PM PDT
To: arthur.cox@longbeach.gov

Cc: district3@longbeach.gov

Dear Arthur Cox,

I have been a resident of Long Beach for 37 years and have seen many changes taking place here, not all of them good.

The issue of trees in this city has been a painful one. In this age of Global Warming we must do all we can to keep our trees. I have seen mature, healthy Long Beach city trees cut down at the whim of a new neighbor with the city's blessings (outrageous) and with no regard of what that might do to the environment or the aesthetic needs of the people who have called the neighborhood our home for so long. Trees that we walked past every day that provided some shade and color on the street are now gone and new trees will take another 30 years to mature. I have seen other trees in our neighborhoods cut down for no apparent reason. It is a crime to do that in a climate that is heating up.

Now, again with no regard of the city's history or the needs of the residents, palm trees are scheduled to be removed for a development that many of us dislike. We have been appreciating these palms for so many years, which also provide crucial nesting places for Great Blue Herons. It is bad enough that we will have to endure yet another ugly and badly designed commercial food mall that will add to the congestion at PCH and 2nd street. But to know that the city and developers are deliberately contributing to the demise of what little is left of our natural heritage and wildlife is a disgrace.

Please stop cutting down our trees!

Kira Perov
282 Granada Avenue

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:41:18 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: camille thompson [<mailto:thompdog3@gmail.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 8:52 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please deny the request to move 44 Palm trees on the Marina Drive for the 2nd and PCH project. The developers can use their setback for any widening of sidewalk and leave the Palms alone. This is a rookery area for Herons. This last year Orange County Water Authority also removed trees in the ditch area between the SCE power plants and Leisure World, thereby removing Heron habitat. There was no EIR for their widening the ditch channel between SCE and Leisure World Seal Beach CA. The Haynes Power Plant of LA DWP also received a negative declaration on their construction projects which further will removed Heron and Egret habitat. SCE in their EIR did not mention destruction of Heron habitat on their projects which also has destroyed habitat from Studebaker to the Orange County Line, the ditch. All these pieces are destroying habitat for the Herons in a piecemeal manner.

Your attention to this destruction of Flyway Habitat at the Western End of the Flyway is critical from many jurisdictions: City of Long Beach, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and City of Long Beach in the Marina area and the SCE portion of their property along Studebaker Blvd. to the east at the County Line to Orange County. More complicated than rows of trees on Marina Drive in Long Beach, CA.

Please deny this appeal No A-5-LOB-19- 0005 Tree Removal and Replacement.
Thompson
13301 EL Dorado Dr 204E
Seal Beach CA 90740

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:41:07 AM

From: ck55@verizon.net [mailto:ck55@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, February 23, 2019 9:55 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Hi,

My understanding is that palms have legal status as heron nesting sites. Palms before profits!

Thx for your time!

Cindy Koch
Long Beach

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:40:58 AM

From: Maite Mauri [mailto:mauri.maite@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 7:59 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not move the palm trees on Marina Drive, behind the 2nd and PCH development.

- 1) the palms are nesting grounds for blue heron right now.
- 2) the palms could die if transplanted
- 3) the palms add to the visual appeal of Marina Dr. Why would the developer want them removed? If anything, they should want to keep them. More green and less concrete has a more luxurious feel.
- 4) the developer should tweak their construction plans and work AROUND and WITH the palms, not through them.

The developers knew the palms were there before they drew up plans and broke ground. These palms are protected. Why are the commissioners now allowing big Corp to manipulate them and kill our few pieces of nature that we have left, just to build a mall?
!

Sincerely,
Mrs. M, Concerned Resident in Seal Beach

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:40:43 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: marissa dueitt [<mailto:marissadueitt@icloud.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 10:19 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I would like to kindly support the appeal of the relocating of the dress.
Please do not harm the birds by moving the trees

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:40:20 AM

From: Gail Sandford [mailto:hgsandford@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 10:33 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Support the appeal and leave these palm trees in place. Remove the netting currently in place to prevent the protected Blue Heron from nesting in those trees. I have worked for developers and builders. Plans can be changed to leave those trees and the birds they host in place.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:40:10 AM

From: Beatrice Castillo [mailto:beatricecastillo77@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 10:35 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please protect the blue heron's nesting habitat. Remove the netting and keep these beautiful palms. The developers can change their plans and not remove the palms.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:39:42 AM

From: susan radloff [mailto:sradloff2004@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 12:27 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not remove the palms on Marina drive where the Herons mate and have their young...there is so little nature here in Long Beach..lets preserve what is left.

Thank you

Susan Radloff

7333 marina Pacifica Drive North, Long Beach, California 90803

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:38:36 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Joseph Pelzman [<mailto:josephepelzman@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 11:15 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

As a resident of Belmont shore I request the commission votes NO on the removal of the palm trees on marina drive. They are a necessary nesting habitat for wildlife and we need to take the nets off. Shame on business like schooner or later and other interest trying to limit the nesting of wildlife or removal of the trees.

Joseph Pelzman

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal; Hudson_Steve@Coastal
Subject: FW: Plastic on palms
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:37:53 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Cathy Black [<mailto:cbwetpaint@outlook.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2019 11:50 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Plastic on palms

What is going on with the plastic covered palms?
Located: Long Beach/marina drive/ PCH and 2nd project/north side of street.

You have the power. Please get the developer to take the plastic down.
Please ask them to leave the palm trees alone.

Do realize that Marina drive is going to have one lane each with diagonal parking?
Talk about a cluster.
Obviously the planners don't care. Out of site out of mind.

Thank you,
Cathy

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:36:53 AM

From: Lona Tucker [mailto:Gorilladiver51@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 25, 2019 1:17 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Dear Coastal Commissioners:

The developers of PCH & 2nd need to respect nature and abide current laws in place to protect our environment. Please advise them to amend their plans to sacrifice these important trees. Our Marina Drive palms are supposed to be protected as Great Blue Heron nesting sites under the Coastal Act and considered to be part of the Long Beach Marina rookery, yet they remain under threat from those who find them expendable.

Having chopped down 22 of these public palms, the City and the developer of the 2nd & PCH Project recently netted 40+ more to prevent the herons from nesting in them. Both acts have been ruled illegal and are a violation of the City's promise to the Coastal Commission that these palms would not be disturbed during nesting season.

When residents made it clear that they did not want the palms destroyed, the City decided to transplant 44 of the remaining palms, replanting most a few feet from their current location, placing some in pots. The palms do not need to be moved - instead, the developer and the city can simply tweak their plans. A parkway for the palms is being sacrificed to accommodate an extra-wide 15' sidewalk in front of the mall. Palms in the medians are being removed to lengthen existing left turn lanes for shoppers entering the mall. To open the mall on schedule, the city/developer plan to move the trees during winter/during nesting season.

Sincerely, Lona Tucker, 36 year resident of Naples Island
197 Rivo Alto Canal, Long Beach, CA 90803
Phone: 562-434-8665

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal; Hudson_Steve@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:35:01 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Lucie Demarchelier [<mailto:ldemarchelier@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 10:40 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I'd like this appeal to be upheld and the palms not to be moved or trimmed.

These trees should not be disturbed as they provide shelter for the Great Blue Heron when they nest. I believe humans should work with nature and not against it. If the 2nd and PCH project is truly as ambitious as it seems, they should be able to find a solution to work around the palm trees. Preserving the wetlands' ecosystem is crucial. Across the state of California, more than 90% of coastal wetlands are already gone forever. We don't need more habitat destruction, we need a strong environmental leadership from the city of Long Beach to preserve and protect species such as the Great Blue Heron.

Thank you for your consideration,
Lucie Demarchelier Nikolakopulos
UCLA Sustainability Alumni 17'

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:34:11 AM

From: Carol Adams [mailto:secretaryoffun@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 10:57 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

As a person who is Born and Raised in Long Beach and very proud of my city I am so sad to see what is going on with this new development. I drive on Marina Drive frequently and admire the beauty of our mature tall palm trees. I have seen the Great Blue Herons fly into them to nest from our Wetlands. 22 tree have already been cut. SAVE THE 44 PALMS! The citizens are depending on YOU to make the right decision. Thank YOU.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Willis, Andrew@Coastal](mailto:Willis.Andrew@Coastal)
To: [Ziff, Dani@Coastal](mailto:Ziff.Dani@Coastal); [Tobin, Erin@Coastal](mailto:Tobin.Erin@Coastal)
Cc: [Haage, Lisa@Coastal](mailto:Haage.Lisa@Coastal)
Subject: Fw: CPCE 18-10: Lack of Public Notice; Coastal Access impaired; Misinformation Provided CCC; Failure of Long Beach Planning Staff to inform
Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 3:51:21 PM
Attachments: [CPCE 18-10 Marina Drive Complete Streets No Trees.pdf](#)
[MarinaDriveRevitalization 11-19-2018 FullSize.pdf](#)

From: Melinda Cotton <mbcotton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Willis, Andrew@Coastal
Cc: Haage, Lisa@Coastal
Subject: CPCE 18-10: Lack of Public Notice; Coastal Access impaired; Misinformation Provided CCC; Failure of Long Beach Planning Staff to inform

Dear Mr. Willis,

I am a huge fan of the California Coastal Commission, however in connection with the exemption seemingly granted in the "CPCE- 18-10 Marina Drive Complete Streets Application" there were major flaws in process and submitted information. I respectfully request that you investigate the granting of this exemption and require full public noticing and hearings on this important issue.

As highlighted above, issues include: **"Lack of Public Notice; Coastal Access impaired; Misinformation Provided to the Coastal Commission; Failure of Long Beach Staff to provide information, etc."**

In the e-mail exchanges below, you will find clear evidence of the efforts I made to learn about the CPCE 18-10, and rectify the issues noted above in relation to the Lack of Public Notice. There was no Public Noticing of CPCE 18-10 and the Long Beach Planner who signed this document failed (though repeatedly asked) to tell me about this Permit Application or provide a copy of the document or inform me of appeal opportunities. This seems inexcusable.

And the Exemption Requested ("...under penalty of perjury") clearly misstates the true nature of the proposed project. The Box checked is for "Traffic improvements which do not: *Alter roadway or intersection capacity by more than ten (10%) (except stop signs and stop lights); or ... *Impair access to the coast."

Obviously narrowing a two lane roadway to one lane is closer to a 50% reduction in traffic capacity, not 10%. And it's clear that access to the Coast will be impaired. I and many others brought up these issues to Coastal staff, but to no avail. We were told the Appeal period was closed, on a Permit we had no timely notice about.

The Permit Project Description fails to state that the 'Marina Drive Complete Streets Project' reduces Marina Drive from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction for the frontage of the Marina Parking Lot from 2nd Street to Studebaker. The Application fails to inform the CCC that it is done in coordination with the 2nd & PCH Project (a 200,000 sq. ft. brand new restaurant and retail project with 1,000 parking spaces, several entrances, and a new traffic signaled street between PCH & Marina Drive). The document fails to address the coming extremely popular San Pedro Fish Company with seating for hundreds (replacing Joe's Crab Shack), etc. Marina Drive is one of only two routes from Long Beach to the City of Seal Beach, Marina Drive provides access to Alamitos Bay Landing, where the Long Beach Marine Bureau has its offices, as well as popular retail and restaurants such as Ballast Point. Marina Drive accesses the Marina Parking lot used by boat owners, coastal visitors, Aqualink riders, and those parking for other existing Marine oriented businesses.

Please read my e-mail exchanges below, please critically re-read the CPCE 18-10 Permit Application, please look at the Marina Drive Design Plan which Long Beach Public Works belatedly provided of proposed changes to Marina Drive. Please withdraw this Exemption and provide a public process.

Sincerely, Melinda Cotton

From: Melinda Cotton <mbcotton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 3, 2019 11:58 AM
To: Chuck.Posner@coastal.ca.gov
Cc: Ziff,; Maryanne Cronin; anngadfly@aol.com; leslierash.lb@gmail.com; Anna Christensen
Subject: CPCE- 18-10 Marina Drive Complete Streets

Hello Chuck,

I looked back through my e-mail exchanges with Scott Kinsey concerning the Marina Drive street improvement project. Scott Kinsey signed the above attached CPCE 18-10 permit exemption to Coastal Commission on October 29, 2018 (Christopher Koontz signed the Permit document on October 30th).

On November 7th, 2018 – 7 working days after Kinsey signed the Permit, I had the e-mail exchange below with Scott Kinsey. In my e-mail below, I specifically and explicitly asked Scott Kinsey for complete details on the 'separately permitted street improvement project'. Scott's reply **failed to**

include the above CPCE 18-10 permit. (In fact the permit document was not provided to us (by Maryanne Cronin) until several days **after** the Nov. 19th Zoning Administrator's hearing).

From my Nov. 7th e-mail to Scott Kinsey (below) I excerpted the notice wording and then requested: **"...in conjunction with a separately-permitted street improvement project that will include installation and replacement of street trees, located on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road. (District 3) "**

Has the 'separately-permitted street improvement project' already come to Zoning or Planning? Where could we find details and the design of this 'separately-permitted' street improvement? They seem to all go together."

And in a follow up e-mail to Scott on November 8th, I again asked for project details. Kinsey again **failed** to send to me the CPCE 18-10 permit document!!! Scott referred me to Joshua Hickman in Public Works for information.

Chuck, in your e-mail to me yesterday, you stated that Coastal "does not require a public hearing or notice" on coastal permit exemptions.. but that a challenge may occur if somehow the public discovers the Permit exists. Is there no way the City of Long Beach is expected/required to notify the public of the existence of such permit filings? – even when specific requests are submitted in writing within the Appeal period??? If I had received the CPCE 18-10 document, I could have appealed it to you and the Commission in a timely fashion (within the ten day appeal period). But it does appear that Scott Kinsey had a dereliction in duty and common sense expectation by failing to send to me the information I clearly requested. Does Coastal Commission offer no recourse to those of us who have so clearly been kept in the dark???

I've always believed that the intent of the California Coastal Act is to provide transparency about issues brought to the Commission, and to allow the public to be aware of and participate in decisions made by the Coastal Staff and Commission.

Please let me know if you need any additional information from me.
Sincerely, Melinda Cotton

PS: (Statement from your e-mail of January 2nd: "A coastal permit exemption is not a coastal development permit and does not require a public hearing or public notice. A coastal permit exemption can be challenged, however, any challenge must occur within the 10 working day appeal period. The appeal period for CPCE 18-10 has expired."

From: Scott Kinsey <Scott.Kinsey@longbeach.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 5:13 PM
To: Melinda Cotton <mbcotton@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: 1810-12 (LCDP18-033) Application Date: 10/17/18

Melinda,

Both the tree work and the street improvements are part of a Public Works Department "complete streets" project for Marina Drive. The street improvements don't require a Local Coastal Development Permit—street improvements are specifically excluded from LCDPs by code. The tree trimming/removal/relocation does require an LCDP, which is why it's coming before the Zoning Administrator.

Scott Kinsey, AICP
Planner V

Department of Development Services | Planning Bureau
333 West Ocean Blvd., 5th Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802
Office: (562) 570-6461 Fax: (562) 570-6068
scott.kinsey@longbeach.gov

From: Melinda Cotton [<mailto:mbcotton@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2018 12:17 PM
To: Scott Kinsey <Scott.Kinsey@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Re: 1810-12 (LCDP18-033) Application Date: 10/17/18

Thanks for the map, Scott, that helps...it was hard to find on Google.

The hearing item "Proposed Project" mentions:

"...in conjunction with a separately-permitted street improvement project that will include installation and replacement of street trees, located on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road. (District 3) "

Has the 'separately-permitted street improvement project' already come to Zoning or Planning? Where could we find details and the design of this 'separately-permitted' street improvement? They seem to all go together.

"Proposed Project: A Local Coastal Development Permit request for the trimming and removal of existing street trees in the public right-of-way, in conjunction with a separately-permitted street improvement project that will include installation and replacement of street trees, located on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road. (District 3)"

From: Scott Kinsey <Scott.Kinsey@longbeach.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 9:16 AM
To: Melinda Cotton
Subject: RE: 1810-12 (LCDP18-033) Application Date: 10/17/18

Melinda,

Please see the attached GIS map. There is a short segment of Studebaker Rd. between Marina Dr. and Pacific Coast Hwy.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you,

Scott Kinsey, AICP
Planner V

Department of Development Services | Planning Bureau
333 West Ocean Blvd., 5th Fl. | Long Beach, CA 90802
Office: (562) 570-6461 Fax: (562) 570-6068
scott.kinsey@longbeach.gov

From: Melinda Cotton [<mailto:mbcotton@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2018 9:06 AM
To: Scott Kinsey <Scott.Kinsey@longbeach.gov>
Subject: 1810-12 (LCDP18-033) Application Date: 10/17/18

"Project Location: Marina Drive (a public right-of-way) between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road"

Hi Scott,

I'd appreciate it if you would send me the official map that shows Marina Drive connecting 2nd Street and Studebaker Road...

Thanks.

Melinda

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:33:36 AM

From: Molina, Nora [mailto:NoraMolina@TTWNetwork.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 3:14 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

We ask that this appeal be upheld and that the palms not be moved.

Nora Molina

Assistant Operations Manager, Los Angeles
[Total Traffic & Weather Network](#)

1500 Hughes Way, B100
Long Beach, CA 90810
o: 310.816.5298
m: 501.680.6672

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From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal; Hudson_Steve@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:32:35 AM

From: steve [mailto:stevenwaston@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 6:19 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not remove, move, or harm these trees in anyway (including putting nets over them). I thought this matter had been resolved and am dismayed and extremely displeased to hear that it is not. These trees are what makes Marina Drive the beautiful place that it is for the many people who use the Marina area and have done so for decades and will continue to do so for the many more people who will now use this area with the opening of the new shopping center. The city can and should make their plans around these trees in their current location which is what should have happened in the first place and this would never have been an issue to begin with.

Steven W. Aston
Belmont Heights, Long Beach

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Hudson_Steve@Coastal; Vaughn_Shannon@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:32:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 \(City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement\).pdf](#)

From: Donald Hodel [mailto:drhodel@ucanr.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 10:41 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please except the attached letter as Public Comment for the March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement).

Thank you and best wishes,
Don

Donald R. Hodel

Environmental Horticulture Advisor

Specializing in Palms, Trees, and Landscape Management

University of California

Cooperative Extension

700 W. Main Street

Alhambra, CA 91801

tel. 626-586-1973

Don's *PalmArbor* E-Journal: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/HodelPalmsTrees/PalmArbor/>

Don's Palms and Trees Website: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/HodelPalmsTrees/>

Don's Website: http://celosangeles.ucanr.edu/Environmental_Horticulture/Donald_R_Hodel/

UC Coop. Ext. L. A. Office: <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/>

UC Cooperative Extension: <http://danr.ucop.edu>

UC Integrated Pest Management Program: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>

UC Publications: <http://danrcs.ucdavis.edu/>

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>.

UC Gardening: <http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu>



University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

26 February 2019

California Coastal Commission
South Coast Area Office
200 Oceangate, 10th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the environmental horticulture advisor for the University of California Cooperative extension in Los Angeles County, a position I have held for nearly 36 years. I perform applied research projects, give educational programs, and write articles to extend helpful, up-to-date, and timely information to the landscape and related industries in Southern California, including those who design, install, and/or maintain landscapes, private and public entities, and municipalities like the City of Long Beach.

My specialty is woody plants, especially trees and palms. For palms I am an internationally recognized authority on their selection and management in the landscape. I have authored or co-authored over 500 articles, 60 of them peer-reviewed, and seven books on various aspects of the selection and management of palms.

Thus, I feel that I am qualified to weigh in on the disposition and future of the palms at the 2nd St. and PCH construction site (PCH Property LLC). Also, I know these palms well because I frequent the area at least weekly to attend the Sunday morning Farmers' Market in the parking lot on the west side of Marina Dr. I was dismayed when I saw that 22 of the tall Mexican fan palms (*Washingtonia robusta*) had been illegally destroyed. This unfortunate act and the marking and netting of additional palms on the east side and median of Marina Dr. piqued my interest in this project. I met with one of the appellants, Ann Cantrell, and she and I made a site visit and examined the landscape/construction plans.

Here are my thoughts about the palms at this project:

1. These palms are a critical element of the motif and esthetic setting for this part of Long Beach. Perhaps more importantly, they are an integral and, in most cases, the only nesting habitat for the great blue heron in and around the site. Thus, retaining these palms and maintaining them in optimal condition should be of paramount importance.
2. That the palms along the east side and in the median of Marina Dr. must be moved at all baffles me. From the plans it is rather obvious that more than sufficient space exists between Marina Dr. and the new building to accommodate an ADA-legal sidewalk and the palms, without moving the latter. It is similarly unnecessary to remove or move palms in the median because the project was approved with only right-turn access into and out of the new building; thus, having left-turn lanes carved into the median and necessitating palm relocations is in violation of the agreement.
3. I have performed much research and published many papers on transplanting palms. Here are some guidelines if the palms absolutely must be moved:
 - a. The palms should not be moved during the great blue heron nesting season, which runs from January through September.
 - b. However, in our climate, palms should be transplanted at the beginning of the warm season, which in coastal Long Beach is in May or June, but is at odds with point "a." This period is the most optimal for transplant success because of a long period of warm temperatures that

follows and will produce the optimal root and shoot growth necessary for re-establishment. Transplanting at other times of the year can be done but is not recommended and can result in problems, such as poor or slow establishment and diseases.

- c. Prior to transplanting, all dead leaves and green leaves below the horizontal should be removed, and the remaining green leaves tied up temporarily until the palm is reset in its new location.
- d. For maximum stability in this situation, a larger root ball should be taken, one extending out from the trunk for two to three feet and down to four feet. The palm should be replanted at the same grade or level from where it was dug and backfilled with firmly compacted 100% builders' or concrete sand.
- e. Other than time of year and planting depth, irrigation is the most critical factor affecting transplant success. The transplanted palms should be irrigated as needed, not by a calendar or clock, until established. The root ball, backfill, and surrounding site soil should be kept evenly moist. Irrigate when the root ball become dry 2 inches below the surface; then apply sufficient water to moisten the root ball to a depth of 12 inches. Ensure good drainage and that water does not collect at the bottom of the root ball.

Finally, the smaller palms in the Marina Dr. medians are Guadalupe palms (*Brahea edulis*), from Guadalupe Island off the northern coast of Baja California. While this species is not native within the political boundaries of California, it is in the California floristic zone and is ecologically and floristically a California native species. Extremely valuable and rather uncommon palms, they are well adapted and likely the best palms for southern California coastal conditions. **These palms must not be moved or disturbed.**

Please let me know if I can assist in any capacity.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Hodel

Donald R. Hodel

Environmental Horticulture Advisor

Specializing in Palms, Trees, and Landscape Management

drhodel@ucanr.edu

Don's *PalmArbor* E-Journal: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/HodelPalmsTrees/PalmArbor/>

Don's Palms and Trees Website: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/HodelPalmsTrees/>

Don's Website: http://celosangeles.ucanr.edu/Environmental_Horticulture/Donald_R_Hodel/

UC Coop. Ext. L. A. Office: <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/>

UC Cooperative Extension: <http://danr.ucop.edu>

UC Integrated Pest Management Program: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>

UC Publications: <http://danres.ucdavis.edu/>

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>.

UC Gardening: <http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu>

From: [Hudson, Steve@Coastal](mailto:Hudson.Steve@Coastal)
To: [Ziff, Dani@Coastal](mailto:Ziff.Dani@Coastal)
Subject: FW: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 5:01:34 PM
Attachments: [CCC letter 11.21.18.pdf](#)
[Palms CCC 2nd and PCH 26 Feb 2019.pdf](#)
[Summary-Public-Requests_TreeCommMtg_071818.pdf](#)

From: Schwing, Karl@Coastal
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 12:46 PM
To: Hudson, Steve@Coastal
Subject: FW: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

fyi

-Karl

From: Staben, Jeff@Coastal **On Behalf Of** ExParte, Commissioner@Coastal
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 12:26 PM
To: Dobson, Amber@Coastal; Vaughn, Shannon@Coastal
Cc: Schwing, Karl@Coastal
Subject: FW: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

From: Anna Christensen [<mailto:achris259@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 11:26 AM
To: ExParte, Commissioner@Coastal
Subject: Fw: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Dear CCC, All Commissioners and Alternates who accept Ex Partes were sent the following request.
Show original message

Dear Commissioner, Please accept this Ex Parte request, by phone, before March 6th. (Commissioner Uranga was asked for an in person meeting as well).
By: Anna Christensen, Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands, Anna Cantrell, Citizens for Responsible Planning Email: achris259@yahoo.com, anngadfly@aol.com
Phone: (562) 434 0229, 5957288

Comments:

Description of Project:

(From original Notice of ZA Public Hearing)

A Local Coastal Development Permit request for the trimming and removal of existing trees in public right-of-way, in conjunction with a separately- permitted street improvement project that will include installation and replacement of street trees, located on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road. since changed to:

City of Long Beach approval of Permit No. LCDP 18-033 authorizing trimming, relocation, and replacement, if necessary, of 44 trees and the addition of 41 new trees in the public right-of-way in conformance with the Commission's adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy.

REQUEST: The Appellants ask the Commissioners to review the following statements which support a substantial issue, uphold our appeal and to allow testimony at a de novo public hearing. Additionally, the Appellants request ex-parte communication with Commissioners in order to substantiate reasons for the appeal.

Statement of Substantial Issue, based on:

1. We disagree that the conditions of LCDP 18-033 conform to the Commission's adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (CDP 5-08-187) and, in fact, the project work violates the Policy. The Tree Trimming Policy ("Tree Policy") was established to minimize disturbance of bird habitat and comply with environmental regulations, including the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Coastal Act. The Tree Policy **prohibits** trimming or **removal of any tree** that has been used for breeding and nesting within the past five years, **during the breeding and nesting season** (January through September). Furthermore, trees or branches with a nest that has been active anytime within the last five years **shall not be removed or disturbed** unless a health and safety danger exists. The City of Long Beach ("the City") has violated and allowed violation of these well-known policy principles – protect the trees, protect the nests. As recently as Feb. 21, 2019, the City placed netting (or allowed to be placed) around the entirety of palm tree tops to PREVENT NESTING. Proof of this action was published in a local Long Beach newspaper along with quotes of Long Beach Director of Public Works, Craig Beck. Mr. Beck stated "You can still do work on trees during nesting season unless you find a nest. We don't want to wait (until the end of nesting season) to do the work. CenterCal plans to open the center in October or November, and we don't want to be starting construction then."

We ask the Commissioners to consider that prevention of nesting is a violation of the Tree Policy which serves to protect bird habitat. Netting is part of the City's tree removal/relocation process. The City is clearly starting the tree removal process during nesting season, thus disturbing bird habitat. Upholding our appeal can prevent further violations.

2. As stated in the CCC 2/21/19 staff report ("staff report"), the subject project is associated with a Complete Streets project assumed to improve pedestrian access in agreement with Coastal Act policies. We disagree that the City's planned modifications to Marina Drive will not alter roadway or intersection capacity by more than 10%. Marina Drive, as it exists, is a fairly calm access road to coastal activities. Bicyclists and motorists constantly use the street to attend a weekly farmers' market and to access boating facilities, shops, and restaurants. However, the adjacent intersection of 2nd Street and Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) (the main access point to Marina Drive) is often gridlocked as it is the southeast entrance to Long Beach, a convergence of two central roads of travel in Long Beach. Because the Complete Streets project will decrease two lanes of traffic to one lane in both directions, the

waiting/turning time onto Marina Drive from 2nd Street and PCH will increase, causing further gridlock. Add in the associated commercial development on Marina Drive and it seems entirely impossible that traffic will not be increased by more than 10%.

The City's Zoning Administrator approved a Coastal Permit Categorical Exclusion (CPCE 18-10) for the Complete Streets project on Marina Drive on Oct. 30, 2018. We strongly disagree with the ZA's determination and (again) ask that traffic studies be done to accurately assess the impact of the planned modifications to Marina Drive. Poor planning associated with the Complete Streets project has jeopardized the protection of the subject palm trees and bird habitat. The palm trees on Marina Drive were overlooked from the beginning and became physically caught in between the City's street project and the adjacent commercial development on 2nd Street and PCH. The City allowed the developer to sequester the palm trees within its project fencing, ceding control of public trees in the right-of-way, ultimately allowing the destruction of twenty-two palms trees and continued disturbance of nesting.

3. We object to the relocation of the public palm trees – especially – prior to review and re-design of the City's Complete Streets project and the associated commercial development on 2nd Street and PCH. The City filed for exemption from CEQA on Nov. 8, 2018, stating "project consists of maintenance/alteration to existing non-native landscaping street trees in accordance with the City's adopted Tree Trimming Policy for the Coastal Zone." The exemption request described the project as "tree relocation in advance of complete streets project."

The City's description of the street project downplayed the work by calling it maintenance and alteration instead of removal and relocation, providing further evidence that the palm trees are being viewed more as an obstacle to construction as opposed to a local resource that should be protected. We believe protecting the palm trees and bird habitat is a substantial issue in itself and request that the Commissioners uphold our appeal and allow for more comprehensive planning that prioritizes the surrounding habitat.

4. CCC staff acknowledges violations of the Coastal Act and Local Coastal Program, including unpermitted removal of twenty-two palm trees, at least seven of which contained ACTIVE nests. The Coastal Commission issued a notice of violation to the developer for the unpermitted removal of the trees. As CCC staff reported, the palm trees have been documented to support Great Blue Heron nesting sites and the project site is a significant habitat for the Alamitos Marina heron colony. Nonetheless, instead of facing penalties, the developer and City have been rewarded by being allowed to continue with construction.

The City's answer to the unpermitted development that destroyed twenty-two possible nesting sites is to have the developer "replace" the trees on a 1:1 ratio and add twenty-one more to address the violation at issue. We disagree with that this requirement comprehensively addresses the violation.

Mitigation is not a penalty. No matter how many new trees you plant, you cannot un-kill a living tree or un-destroy an active nest. We take offense that no penalties have been accounted for and ask the Commissioners to uphold our appeal so we can continue to address the outcome of the palm trees and truly prevent continued

adverse impacts to coastal resources.

5. The City has yet to provide evidence that LCDP 18-033 meets its conditions of approval. We ask the Commissioners to uphold our appeal and request proof of the following conditions prior to considering approval of the requested permit:

1. 5-year Monitoring Program – The City states that a monitoring program shall be submitted to the Department of Development Services PRIOR to commencing with tree relocation. Yet the City has clearly shown that it is moving ahead with relocation. We would like to see the monitoring program plan and evidence if it has been submitted. There is no monitoring plan included in the subject Exhibits.
2. Tree Planting Specifications – The City has provided an exhibit called Tree Planting Specifications. However, these specs merely cover general landscaping guidelines. Nowhere in Exhibit 7 is there a written plan for the scheduling, uprooting, handling, storing, transporting or replanting of 40-foot palm trees. Approving a development permit without first evaluating a written plan is reckless. We request that a relocation plan be reviewed before even considering approval of this permit.

SUMMARY:

The City of Long Beach has failed to act responsibly in regards to protecting the natural resources at issue. Members of the public have taken responsibility for the survival of decades-old healthy palm trees that line an iconic drive and support the fragile nests of Great Blue Herons struggling to thrive. Without these public stewards of natural habitat stepping up and informing the City of numerous violations, we may well be debating the destruction of all the Marina Drive palm trees now associated with the City's Complete Streets plan and the developer's vision of a mall.

We disagree with the CCC staff's claim that there is no substantial issue with the requested permit.

Based on the purpose and standards set forth in the Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (CDP 5-08-187), we find absolutely substantial issue with the permit requested.

The City has clearly violated and/or allowed violation without penalty of the stated Tree Policy by allowing trimming, netting, and damage to the trees and disturbance of the natural nesting behaviors of Great Blue Herons in the Alamitos Marina heron colony. Although the City claims compliance with the conditions of the permit, in actuality the City has been party to non-compliance.

We respectfully ask the Commissioners to determine substantial issue regarding the requested permit and associated projects and uphold our appeal to allow for further comprehensive planning.







CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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

**NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT
REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL**

November 21, 2018.

PCH Property LLC
1600 E Franklin Ave,
El Segundo, CA 90245

Violation File Number: V-5-18-0012

Property Location: E. Marina Drive, Long Beach

Unpermitted Development¹: Removal of major vegetation supporting heron nests

Dear PCH Property LLC:

The California Coastal Act² was enacted by the State Legislature in 1976 to provide long-term protection of California's 1,100-mile coastline through implementation of a comprehensive planning and regulatory program designed to manage conservation and development of coastal resources. The California Coastal Commission ("Commission") is the state agency created by, and charged with administering, the Coastal Act. In making its permit and land use planning decisions, the Commission carries out Coastal Act policies, which, amongst other goals, seek to provide maximum public access to the sea; protect natural landforms; protect scenic landscapes and views of the sea; protect against loss of life and property from coastal hazards; and seek to protect and restore sensitive habitats, including the palm trees that support heron nesting on Marina Dr. in Long Beach. Commission staff has confirmed that twenty two palms were removed from the City of Long Beach owned right-of-way at Marina Drive in January 2018.

This letter is to provide you with some background information regarding the importance of these particular palm trees for heron nesting and to request that you submit a complete coastal development permit application for a tree replacement planting plan to restore the removed trees at a 1:1 ratio for each removed palm tree and to address the Commission's claims for any penalties for the unpermitted removal of the palm trees.

Unpermitted Development

¹ Please note that the description herein of the violation at issue is not necessarily a complete list of all development on the subject properties that is in violation of the Coastal Act and/or that may be of concern to the Commission. Accordingly, you should not treat the Commission's silence regarding (or failure to address) other development on the subject properties as indicative of Commission acceptance of, or acquiescence in, any such development. Please further note that the term "violation" as used throughout this letter refers to alleged violations of the Coastal Act.

² The Coastal Act is codified in sections 30000 to 30900 of the California Public Resources Code. All further section references are to that code, and thus, to the Coastal Act, unless otherwise indicated.

Our staff has confirmed that development, including the removal of major vegetation consisting of twenty two palm trees that support heron nesting has occurred on the public right-of-way immediately adjacent to property that you own, which is located within the Coastal Zone³. Commission staff has researched our permit files, discussed this matter on multiple occasions with City of Long Beach staff, and concluded that no coastal development permits have been issued for the removal of major vegetation. Pursuant to Section 30600 (a) of the Coastal Act, any person wishing to perform or undertake development in the Coastal Zone must obtain a coastal development permit, in addition to any other permit required by law. "Development" is defined by Section 30106 of the Coastal Act and Section 21.15.790 of the City's certified Local Coastal Plan, in relevant part, as:

"Development" means, on land, in or under water, the placement or erection of any solid material or structure... the removal or harvest of major vegetation other than for agricultural purposes, kelp harvesting, and timber operations....(emphasis added)

Due to the scarcity of suitable great blue heron nesting sites in southern California and the important role that nesting trees play in the breeding of great blue herons, the Commission has found heron nesting trees to be major vegetation. In southern California, many natural wetlands have been replaced by marinas, with concurrent loss of native trees suitable for heron roosting and nesting. Herons have adapted by relocating their nesting colonies to stands of tall non-native trees, often within highly developed areas. This relocation to non-native trees near marinas is due to the virtual absence of suitable nesting areas in remaining local wetlands. The colony in Alamitos Marina is one of the few established heron nesting colonies in southern California and thus provides necessary ecological support for local southern California heron populations, which in turn, are critical to the healthy functioning of nearby wetlands.

Based on the biological significance of the Alamitos Marina heron colony, the trees that make up the colony are "major vegetation." In 2016 and 2017, two biologists working on an adjacent project identified a total of seven active heron nests in the trees that you later removed. The removal of these trees constitutes development under the Coastal Act and, therefore, requires a coastal development permit. Any development conducted in the Coastal Zone without a valid coastal development permit constitutes a violation of the Coastal Act. The subject property is located within the Commission's appeal jurisdiction within the City of Long Beach's certified Local Coastal Plan area.

On January 9, 2018 Commission staff confirmed that approximately 52 trees were posted for removal with signage that read:

"This tree was inspected by a certified arborist and a determination was made that the proposed street or sidewalk work cannot be accomplished as planned without permanent damage to the tree resulting in making the tree unstable or causing its demise. City staff has made a determination that the proposed improvement plans cannot be altered to avoid tree removal. This work is being done by a private contractor under a City-issued construction permit."

³ We are sending this Notice of Violation letter to you since you undertook the unpermitted development at issue; however, addressing this letter to you does not alleviate any liability that the underlying property owner may have.

Shortly thereafter, the unpermitted removal of twenty two of the fifty two total palm trees located within the City owned right-of-way on Marina Dr. was undertaken, that, according to City staff, was undertaken by you for the purpose of relocation of the construction fencing for the 2nd and PCH project. Upon receiving reports from numerous members of the public, Commission staff called both City planning and public works staff to request that the removal be stopped until a valid coastal development permit is obtained due to the previously documented heron nesting activity supported by the palm trees at issue. Please note that removal of these trees was not authorized by the local CDP for the 2nd and PCH project because the trees are located off site and in the public right of way, and thus the plans did not include their removal. Moreover, had the tree removal project been included in the 2nd and PCH project, the local CDP would have been appealable to the Commission, as the Commission's appeals jurisdiction extends to the inland portion of the public right of way on Marina Dr. In addition, although the City issued an exemption to authorize the initial unpermitted removal, as well as the removal of the remaining palm trees on Marina Dr., along with street improvements, Commission staff has notified the City that the palm tree removal project is not exempt and requires a local CDP issued by the City because the palm trees qualify as major vegetation, as stated above. It is our understanding that City planning staff also contacted you and public works staff to explain the position of Commission staff that the tree removal was unpermitted.

Resolution

We would like to thank you for stopping the removal of the remaining trees, and would like to work with you to restore the removed trees and mitigate for their removal through the coastal development permit process. In many cases, violations involving unpermitted development may be resolved administratively by the restoration of any damaged resources. In order to resolve this matter in a timely manner and avoid a monetary penalty or fine, please submit a complete coastal development permit application for a tree replacement planting plan to restore each tree at a 1:1 ratio for each removed palm tree. The plan must include the following: 1) replacement tree location; 2) tree type (the trees you propose must be suitable for great blue heron nesting and approved by a qualified biologist ; 3) tree size; 4) planting specifications; and 5) a five year monitoring program with specific performance standards. As the trees are located within the City's LCP area, the application to implement the tree planting plan must be submitted to the City of Long Beach⁴. It is our understanding that the City is currently processing a local CDP for the relocation, removal, and replanting of palm trees along Marina Dr.; an option for resolution of this violation may be to include the tree planting described above into that project. In order to resolve this violation in a timely manner, please submit the application to the City by no later than **December 21, 2018**.

Enforcement Remedies

Although we would prefer to resolve this matter administratively, please be aware that if such a resolution is not reached in a timely manner, Coastal Act Section 30809 states that if the Executive Director of the Commission determines that any person has undertaken, or is threatening to undertake, any activity that requires a permit from the Coastal Commission without first securing a permit, they may issue an order directing that person to cease and desist.

⁴ On October 24, 2018 Commission staff met with City staff and they expressed an interest in assisting you in accomplishing the restoration and mitigation that is required to resolve this violation.

Summary of Public Concerns & Requests Regarding Palm Trees at Marina Drive
From City of Long Beach Tree Advisory Committee Meeting, July 18, 2018

Within this summary, REQUESTS are listed. These Requests are issued to the City staff, officials, and responsible parties ("City"), for follow-up to issues discussed at the July 18 Tree Advisory Committee Meeting ("Tree Meeting"). Please respond to the members of the public group ("attending public") that attended the July 18 Tree meeting by way of names and addresses provided on the meeting sign-in sheet. Also direct responses to:

- Leslie Rash at: leslierash.lb@gmail.com
- Anna Christensen, Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands, at: achris259@yahoo.com

Members of the "Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands" group, joined by other Long Beach residents and members of the general public, attended the Tree Meeting on July 18 to voice concerns about the public Palm Trees lining Marina Drive which the City of Long Beach plans to cut down. Discussion centered on protecting twenty-eight (28) Palms that remain within the fencing of the 2nd & PCH development site. The Palms are healthy, mature, public trees which are nesting habitat for migratory Great Blue Herons. Also discussed were the twenty-two (22) Palms that were already cut down by the developer and whether the removal was permitted by the City, and if so, by what process.

The meeting started with introductions by Alan Tolkoff and Committee Members. The audience was also invited to introduce themselves individually; the meeting recording/minutes can be referred to for the names of who attended. While the minutes will provide official public record of comments, this summary is being presented to the City as documentation of the attending public's requests, namely: do not cut down the remaining Palms and investigate how and why twenty-two Palm Trees were cut down. Also included are requests for answers to the many questions that were not answered at the meeting.

In attendance:

Arthur Cox, Pubic Service Bureau Manager
11 Tree Advisory Committee Members
Members of the public

Not in attendance at the meeting:

Craig Beck, Director of Public Works
City representative for 2nd & PCH project
City representative for Marina Drive street project
Suzie Price, 3rd District Councilwoman (or representative)

ISSUES RELATED TO PALM TREE REMOVAL:1. City's Plan (street project) to change Marina Drive

According to Art Cox's overview:

- Street plans/changes include bike lane, possibly parking
- Sidewalk not yet designed
- Plan "pulled back" for review by executive management
- Project Team is being redefined

- REQUESTS:
- a) inform attending public of the name of the "street project" planned for Marina Drive
 - b) provide name of City contact/project manager for "street project"

2. California Coastal Commission Investigation / Permits / Nesting Survey

Ann Cantrell (Member of Protect Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands; Founding Member of Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust), provided background information to the Committee and summarized her involvement. In efforts to discover why Palm trees are being removed along Marina Drive, Ms. Cantrell had spoken with Jordan Sanchez of the California Coastal Commission ("CCC") and (along with Anna Christensen) attended meetings with Jack Cunningham from Councilwoman Suzie Price's office and Sean Crumby from CLB Public Works. Still, it is unclear why the City of Long Beach allowed the removal of twenty-two Palms and plans to remove twenty-eight remaining trees. Ms. Cantrell addressed the Tree Committee and Art Cox, Public Service Bureau Manager, for clarification on the following:

- Palm trees had been posted for removal, but posts have since been removed. What is the status of City's planned removal of remaining trees?
- Ann was told by Jordan Sanchez the reason tree removal had stopped was that CCC had not issued a permit. The matter is under investigation by the CCC.
- According to Sean Crumby, the first group of 22 Palm trees would be removed because they didn't fit the developer's design vision. Later Ms. Cantrell learned the planned removal of the remaining palms is due to the "Complete Street" program on Marina Drive, which will include ADA sidewalk, diagonal parking lanes, and street narrowing to one (1) lane on the east
- Originally, developer at 2nd & PCH committed to doing a nesting survey before removing any trees.

***Unfortunately, Mr. Cox did not provide much clarification and it was discovered that the Tree Committee hadn't even know about the Palm tree removals. There are unanswered questions and confusion around which project – the private 2nd

& PCH development or the public street plan – determines the removal of the Palm trees.

- REQUESTS:
- a) investigate removal of Palm trees by developer to determine if permits were granted for tree removal, and if proper protocol was followed
 - b) determine if nesting survey was done; if so, provide survey results
 - c) follow up with California Coastal Commission on status of investigation and next steps

3. City Guidelines / Original Development Plans / Public Outreach

Anna Christensen (Co-founder, Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands) explained her initial understanding related to the Palm Trees on Marina Drive and her efforts to request action and stop the removal. Anna recalled that the developer originally stated the Palm trees at the 2nd & PCH property would be safe and that anything done with the trees would be within City guidelines. Considering the Palm trees are Blue Heron habitat which requires protection and the trees are public trees controlled under the City of Long Beach Tree Maintenance Policy (Tree Policy), the removal of fifty trees could not have been anticipated. Anna was therefore surprised to learn that the trees had been posted for removal which prompted her to call Art Cox, Bureau Manager of Public Services. Because Mr. Cox deals with public trees and not trees included in private projects, Anna reached out to the 3rd District Council person.

Anna spoke with 3rd District Councilwoman Suzie Price and requested a public meeting. Ms. Price refused a public meeting about Palm trees but did agree to a private meeting. A meeting was scheduled and, although Ms. Price did not show up, Anna and Ann Cantrell were met by Jack Cunningham of Ms. Price's staff and Sean Crumby of Public Works. Mr. Crumby called the Palm trees "weeds" because they're not considered native trees and said the trees did not match the developer's design "vision." During that meeting Anna raised the point about the promised nesting survey and added that nesting surveys should be done by a third party, not the developer or City.

During a subsequent phone call from Josh Hickman (Tidelands Program Manager), Anna was told there was nothing left to do - the trees would be removed.

During her comments, Anna provided a list of "Nine Asks" to the Tree Committee. She read them aloud and finished by asking to be invited to participate in further decisions about the Palm trees and Blue Heron habitat.

- REQUESTS:
- a) review original statement of developer regarding Palm trees. Hold developer to appropriate conditions and pursue penalties for

- trees removed without permit
- b) set up public meeting(s) regarding Palm trees/ Blue Heron habitat, and City's plan for street changes to Marina Drive and allow ample time and outreach for improved public awareness
- c) arrange for nesting survey(s) by unbiased third party following appropriate protocol
- d) if final plans have been identified for the removal of remaining Palms, provide program information for review and develop alternatives that incorporate the existing public Palm trees
- e) review "Nine Asks" provided by Anna Christensen for alternatives to removing Palm trees/Blue Heron habitat
- f) Include Anna in further decision making and actions on these issues

4. Tree Maintenance Policy / Guidelines / Transparency

Long Beach resident Leslie Rash asked for clarification on guidelines related to public (aka "street" or "City") trees in Long Beach. The following was confirmed:

- Yes, the CLB Tree Maintenance Policy DOES apply to commercial construction if street trees are present. The Policies governing street trees are not reserved for residents or private construction.
- The intent of the Tree Policy is to preserve and protect City trees and the urban forest.
- The City has an Urban Forest Management Plan that provides guidance regarding City trees. It defines the benefits of trees including wildlife habitat. Blue Heron and Coastal Birds are specifically mentioned.
- The California Coastal Act also provides guidelines regarding City trees (where habitat, land resources, and coastal proximity are concerned.)

It was discovered at the Tree meeting that the Committee members had not been notified about the removal of Palm Trees on Marina Drive / the 2nd & PCH development site. Therefore questions about the removal were directed to Art Cox. Mr. Cox confirmed that all Palm trees – the 22 cut down and the 28 slated to be cut down – were all posted for removal. But since the original posting, at some point the posts were removed. As of the date of the Tree meeting, there were no removal postings on the 28 Palms that are still standing. Unfortunately Mr. Cox did not have answers to the following questions:

- When are the remaining Palm trees scheduled to be removed?
- What was the date of posting? When were the postings removed?
- Did the City issue permits to remove the Palm trees?
- What is the penalty for cutting down street trees without permit?
- Was a penalty imposed on the developer for the removal of 22 Palms?

- Why weren't the Palm trees protected from the beginning, as directed by Ch 14.28.100 of the Municipal Code/Tree Policy – "Protection during construction?"
- Why were the Palm trees allowed to be fenced in by construction barriers of the 2nd & PCH project?

It is understood that Mr. Cox is Bureau Manager for Public Services and therefore his purview is "street" trees. Trees included in commercial development are outside of that scope. There is confusion around this delineation because it is also understood that the Palm trees in question ARE "street trees." Mr. Cox advised that Josh Hickman (Project Coordinator for ?) may be able to answer the questions asked by Ms. Rash.

Another issued raised by Ms. Rash was the lack of transparency of the Tree Committee. "Tree Advisory Committee" does not show results when typed into the search field of the City of Long Beach website. The meeting schedule isn't listed on the CLB online calendar. The Committee isn't even listed on the "Commissions, Boards and Committees" page. The agenda, the members, the recommendations – none of it can be found online. There's no way to tell by looking at the CLB website that the Tree Committee exists.

Mr. Tolhoff explained that the Tree Committee was created by and exists at the invitation of the Director of Public Works. It is an informal advisory committee and does not set policy; it does not qualify under the Brown Act.

***Although Mr. Tolhoff's explanation is clear technically, it doesn't explain why the Tree Committee has no presence on the City website. Other advisory committee meetings are listed on the calendar (e.g. Homeless Services Advisory Committee, Senior Citizen Advisory Commission, etc.). The Tree Committee is part of a public agency and advises on public action; its information should be accessible to the public.

- REQUESTS:
- a) review the project(s) that impact the subject Palm trees and apply the intent of the Tree Policy to come up with alternatives to tree removal
 - b) investigate and provide answers to the questions above regarding permits, removal postings, penalties and the City's plan to remove the remaining Palm trees on Marina Drive
 - c) investigate and explain why protection of the public Palm trees was not considered a priority in the planning of the 2nd & PCH project and why the City allowed public trees to be fenced into a commercial development site

5. Environmental and Social Benefits

A Long Beach resident named Karey (apologies – not sure of last name) expressed that as a transplant from Colorado where strict rules about trees are upheld, she was surprised about the removal of the Palm trees. She described the Palms as “iconic” and pointed out that Palm trees are viewed as the quintessential California tree, seen on nearly every postcard. Karey also spoke to the “humanity” of admiring a majestic Blue Heron and asked the Committee to keep the Palms and save the Blue Heron habitat.

Karey’s comments are supported by the intent of the City’s Urban Forest Management Plan which emphasizes the environmental and social benefits of urban trees, including the enhanced well-being of Long Beach residents, the view of trees as an important part of the City’s character, and the contribution of aesthetics, significance and symbolism.

REQUEST: a) uphold the intent of the CLB Urban Forest Master Plan and do not let developers wipe out the unique, historical qualities of Long Beach

6. Mature healthy trees / Questionable tree replacement and street plans

Corrlis Lee asked the City Arborist about the age of the Palm trees. Arborist Jerry Rowland confirmed the Palms are 50 – 60 years old with a life span from 90 to 100 years. Ms. Lee added that the Palms are beautiful and replacing them with new palm trees doesn’t make any sense. She questioned the common sense of narrowing Marina Drive and hopes the City’s decisions about the Palm trees and potential street changes are based on the voice of sanity.

Ms. Lee’s comments are supported by the City Tree Policy which recognizes the importance of protecting trees through maturity and preserving them for future generations. Furthermore, the Policy prevents removal of street trees unless dead, dying, diseased, damaged, etc. Common understanding of tree growth tells us that mature trees need less water than newly planted trees. It really makes no sense to cut down trees that have survived over 50 years and provide healthy habitat for migratory birds.

7. Follow-up meeting / Removal Postings

Melinda Cotton asked if the Committee would be able/willing to meet again, before the next regular quarterly meeting, to follow up on the comments and questions. She asked who posted the removal of the Palm trees. Art Cox answered that he didn’t know. Ms. Cotton pointed out that there should be plans somewhere. She also mentioned there may be an existing mitigation plan regarding marina trees resulting from a Port project.

REQUESTS: a) schedule another Tree Committee meeting

within the next month to provide adequate answers to questions raised at the July 18 meeting

- b) do not proceed with removal of trees before issues are investigated and clarification is provided to public, including those at July 18 meeting
- c) check to see if there is an existing mitigation plan for marina trees

8. Approval of Tree Removal

Once again the question was asked “who approved cutting down the trees?” This time the question was asked by Rich (apologies – last name?) and directed to Art Cox. Mr. Cox did not have the answer. Rich suggested the importance of finding out who gave approval to make sure it doesn’t happen again.

- REQUESTS:
- a) determine if the removal of Palm trees was included in the original plans for the 2nd & PCH development and, if so, who approved
 - b) provide answers to the meeting attendees

9. Tree Policy Regarding Infrastructure

Both Ann Cantrell and Tahesha Knapp Christensen (Co-founder, Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands) asked for clarification about Tree Policy removal conditions for infrastructure projects. Art Cox answered that the definition of infrastructure does not apply to the 2nd & PCH project which is a private development, but does apply to the City plan for Marina Drive.

***It is not clear if the Palm trees remaining on Marina Drive are to be removed as part of the private development on 2nd & PCH or if the City is removing them to accommodate changes to the street.

- REQUESTS:
- a) identify which project determined the planned removal of the 28 remaining Palm trees on Marina Drive
 - b) provide answers to meeting attendees

10. Public Outreach / Retain Unique Character of Long Beach

A member of the public (apologies – not sure of name) simply stated “the public outreach isn’t good enough!” She added that it doesn’t make any sense to remove Palm trees just to have new palm trees put in by the developer. She pointed out the importance of retaining the character that defines Long Beach, including the existing Palm trees. People do not visit Long Beach to see the same trees you can see in any mall. Why not preserve the uniqueness of Long Beach?

This sentiment was shared by the public in attendance: public outreach was not sufficient prior to chopping down beautiful, healthy, iconic palm trees. Although the trees were posted, it was not done in a way to ensure public viewing; the signs were high and attached to trees behind a construction fence. Those attending felt that the trees were toppled without the general knowledge of residents.

- REQUESTS:
- a) consider changing the policy for public notice of tree removal to greater than 10 days
 - b) improve on public outreach in areas where residents are not likely to see signs/posts
 - c) introduce guidelines for development that preserve the unique character of Long Beach instead of accepting commonplace design trends

11. Public Petition to Save the Palms/Blue Heron Nesting Habitat

Part of Anna Christensen's action to bring public awareness to the Palm tree removal was to collect signatures on both an online and hard copy petition. Through Anna's efforts and those of fellow residents and members of Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands, close to 500 people had signed in agreement to save the Palm trees/Blue Heron nesting habitat. For the last few weeks, many of the people who attended the meeting have gathered near 2nd Street and Marina Drive speaking face to face with Long Beach citizens and visitors. Most people are shocked to learn that the City allowed perfectly healthy towering trees to be chopped down and still plans to destroy the rest. Each signature represents an outraged person; someone who took time to stop, investigate and sign on to ask the City of Long Beach to stop the removal of historic trees.

Ms. Christensen provided copies of the petition signatures to the Committee. Art Cox agreed to forward the signatures to Public Works Director, Craig Beck. Ms. Christensen also explained that many sincere comments had been made online and the Tree Committee may be interested in viewing them. More signatures have been collected since the July 18 meeting. An updated number of signatures can be provided at a later date. Meanwhile, the effort to inform the public and collect signatures will continue.

- REQUESTS:
- a) forward the petitions (evidence of public requests for action) to Craig Beck, Suzie Price, Mayor Garcia, Josh Hickman, and other appropriate parties
 - b) listen to true public feedback and save the remaining Palm trees

COMMENTS FROM THE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

- Alan Tolkoff: Mr. Tolkoff said he was troubled for two reasons.
- 1) If the trees were posted, why didn't the Tree Committee hear about it? The removal of the subject Palm trees did not come before the Committee. He pointed out the importance of maintaining integrity in order to keep the Tree Committee intact.
 - 2) If the trees are to be posted again – in the same manner as before – people may not see the signs. It is important to get optimum public input. Mr. Tolkoff warned against a situation like the one created by the limited posting of (coral) trees on the Bluff. He would like to prevent public anger and said “let's do the right thing.”
- Mauna Eichner: Ms. Eichner asked if a recommendation could be put forth to have a dialogue with the Director of Public Works, and ask that the trees not be removed without posting. Art Cox said, “I don't know the plan.”
- John Royce: Mr. Royce stated that what is concerning to him is if the removal was part of a planned development, the Tree Committee should know about it. He added, “no one (here) can answer that question.” He explained that when a tree is posted for removal, residents in the designated area are usually notified. He added that there are a lot of puzzle pieces that need to be put together.
- Katie Picket: Ms. Picket said that the Committee isn't usually notified about new development.
- John Royce said the Committee is notified if a tree is posted. Furthermore, Mr. Royce emphasized the confusion: if tree removal was approved as part of a development, then why were they posted?
- Art Cox answered that it can go either way: if part of a project, trees could just be removed; if they're street trees, they can be posted with or without appeal. He added that the “plan” has been brought back to Executive Management (for evaluation).
- Katie Picket, cont.: Ms. Picket said to the public that she hadn't heard anyone mention their council person.
- Anna Christensen clarified that she had spoken with Suzie Price, 3rd District Councilwoman and asked for a public meeting to bring awareness to the matter. Councilwoman Price denied the request to have “a meeting about Palm trees.” Price later told Ms. Christensen that the Palm tree removal was part of the “street project.”

Following up to the question of Council involvement, Mr. Tolkoff asked if any representative from the 3rd district was present. The answer was no.

Melinda Cotton added that Suzie Price is usually very active in the 3rd district and asked the Committee and/or Art Cox to please contact her.

Alan Tolkoff: Mr. Tolkoff explained that the Committee is “marching into new ground here.” He said the people here (attending public) are making legitimate, excellent points. He added that he’d like to see the Grunion have another shot at an article so the public will have an explanation, no matter the outcome.

(A Grunion article titled “Activist Fights Tree Removal” had been released on July 12, 2018.)

Lee Peterson: Mr. Peterson expressed his appreciation for people coming out. He said he’d been following the 2nd & PCH project for a couple of years and has noticed a lot of overlap of City efforts. He echoed the general opinion in the room: “We don’t know what happened here.” He guessed that maybe the developer was given the green light. Either way, the developer didn’t notify everybody; that’s a problem. He added, “We need to figure out where the gap is and fix it.”

Mr. Peterson agreed that it is important for the attending public to contact their council member(s). He said, “Have that meeting; bring it to light; I think this should be stopped.”

John Royce: Mr. Royce clarified the Tree Committee’s function: it is to help form policy, but exists at the pleasure of the Director of Public Works. He emphasized that the discussion around the Palm trees was not an actual appeal.

Lee Peterson: Lee Peterson addressed the Committee saying he believed they do need to revisit the issue of trees that a part of large developments, at a later date.

Alan Tolkoff: Mr. Tolkoff proposed to “agendize” the issue to modify the Tree Policy.

Regarding the issue at hand – the removal of Palm trees on Marina Drive – Mr. Tolkoff ask Art Cox if he thought it best to make a motion and vote or if it was good enough to communicate the issue(s) to the Director.

Art Cox: Mr. Cox stated he had a good sense of what he was hearing and recommended that he would summarize and forward the comments to Director Craig Beck. He agreed to bring the summary back to the Committee before he sends it on to Beck. He also committed to bringing Beck's answer back to the Committee.

Alan Tolkoff: Mr. Tolkoff expressed to the group that he was satisfied with Mr. Cox's assurance that a summary of the meeting and public concerns would be handled. Tolkoff told the public group in attendance that historically the Tree Committee's recommendations had been taken into account, but he could make no promises.

John Royce: Mr. Royce urged the Committee to figure out if the Policy was followed related to the subject Palm tree removal.

Alan Tolkoff: Mr. Tolkoff summarized the future agenda as follows:

- 1) what happened?
- 2) better outreach needed
- 3) bring back summary to Tree Committee before any removal
- 4) possible change in Tree Policy

Mr. Tolkoff allowed a few more questions from the public. Ann Cantrell asked the City Arborist Jerry Rowland if he was involved in the decision to remove the Palm trees. Mr. Rowland answered, "No, I wasn't a part of it."

Leslie Rash asked Art Cox what the actual project name is of "the plan that was pulled back?" Mr. Cox only said that he doesn't know the name of "street project" but that they usually go by the name of the street.

Tahesha Knapp Christensen asked the Committee if they consider the Migratory Bird Act when making decisions about City trees. The answer was that the Committee has considered the Act in the past, basically limiting tree trimming during nesting season. Regarding follow-up to the meeting, Anna Christensen respectfully asked for some kind of resolution to the issues raised. Ann Cantrell asked who is on the team responsible for the "street project." Art Cox said he didn't know because the project had been "pulled back." Leslie Rash asked who she/the group should follow up with. Art Cox said he would be the point of contact.

Before the agenda discussion ended, Mr. Tolkoff asked the Committee members if they would be willing to meet again on the subject before the next 3-month meeting. Most members nodded; the answer was yes.

STATEMENT SUMMARY:

Considering all comments made by the public at the July 18 Tree Meeting, plus the fact that the Tree Committee had not even been informed about the Palm tree removal, it is clear that:

- the matter requires further investigation
- not nearly enough public outreach or City oversight was attempted
- the intent of the City's Tree Policy and Urban Forest Management Plan was not followed for the 2nd & PCH development
- the rules for tree removal were not followed, e.g., the City Arborist was not included
- holes in the City processes (across Departments and Divisions) that protect City trees need to be fixed to prevent future loss of public trees

Please follow-up on the REQUESTS listed in this summary and understand that the members of the public ("we") who attended the meeting are exercising their rights to be engaged in decisions that impact the community and environment at large. One of the goals of the City's Urban Forest Management Plan includes a partnership with residents to address the stewardship of the City's urban forest. We are stewards of our public trees and we are volunteering many hours of our personal time. We are rightfully frustrated with the City of Long Beach for not putting the same care into preserving precious trees.

It was known in advance of the July 18 Tree meeting that Long Beach residents were upset about the unnecessary destruction of Palm trees on Marina Drive. The City has long touted the importance of being green and having a record number of trees and parks. Yet no one from the 3rd district showed up to the meeting; no one attended who could speak on the "street project." The one person who may have provided answers, the Director of Public Works, was not in attendance. If he was, it may have saved us all some time. It shouldn't take hours of digging into public records to find out names of projects, who's in charge, what can be done, or who to talk to. This issue has landed in the Tree Committee's lap and we are grateful you heard us.

We are asking the City, et. al., to SAVE the Palm trees; work around them! Do not sacrifice 50 year old trees for the sake of developers' visions and trendy street designs. And keep us informed!

:lr

cc: Arthur Cox, Public Service Bureau Manager
Craig Beck, Director of Public Works
Josh Hickman, Tidelands Program Manager
Suzie Price, 3rd District Councilwoman
Andrew Willis, California Coastal Commission

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:10:58 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Janet L Jones [<mailto:furnacegirl01@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 9:34 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Do not remove the trees. They are clearly too large to survive planting in a pot and will most probably die.

Sent from my iPad

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:11:18 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Ryan P [mailto:rparkt@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:24 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where it should be upheld.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:12:29 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Glennis Dolce [mailto:glennisd@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 9:42 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Dear Commission,

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

I am also appalled that the city of Long Beach allowed and condoned by allowing the netting of the palms before this appeal hearing. Who gave them that permission?

Only because of alert residents was this stopped.
Please enforce and supervise properly.

Thank you!

Glennis Dolce
Long Beach Ca

Glennis Dolce
Shiborigirl Studios
www.shiborigirlstudios.com
<https://shiborigirl.wordpress.com/>

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:12:46 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Gabrielle Weeks [mailto:gabrielleweeks@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:25 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

Thank you,
Gabrielle Weeks

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public comment on March 2019 (Wednesday agenda) Item 20a, New Appeals, Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 City of Long Beach Removal and Replacement
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:13:00 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: RAE GABELICH [mailto:hoorae1@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:30 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: hoorae1@aol.com
Subject: Public comment on March 2019 (Wednesday agenda) Item 20a, New Appeals, Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 City of Long Beach Removal and Replacement

The CCC Mission Statement is:

The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations.

It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, **strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.**

In this case strong public participation and education in Long Beach was avoided to prevent pushback from the local businesses and residents of the nearby area. The fact that CLB approved the destruction of the trees, after the fact, should show their intention in this project.

Of course there is the concern for the Blue Heron who nest in this area of mature palms, but there are other negative situations that have led to this Coastal Commission appeal. An appeal that was reduced to address only the impact of removing the trees.

To claim that a 50% reduction in car lanes will not cause a bottleneck and cause negative impact to the area businesses **and the**

environment through stop and go traffic is most misleading. To suggest that adding bicycle lanes, as has been done across the city through Complete Streets, mitigates the loss is inaccurate. **In 2008, the City of Long Beach received a grant from the Los Angeles County Public Health Department (the PLACE Grant) to update the City's General Plan (Long Beach 2030) with "active living" and "complete streets" policies, and to expand the network of bike facilities in Long Beach.** That is what this is about, accepting large grants for bike paths that must be completed for monies received. Bike paths that have not shown substantial increases in use by bicyclists, but instead have created negative impacts on traffic flow and neighborhoods. It is also about satisfying the goals of the new developer to create a more welcoming facade on this new project without considering the concerns of others. To not do specific, time sensitive community outreach to this areas businesses for their partnership and approval was wrong. For the City of Long Beach to piecemeal this project, to avoid public contention, shows the lack of transparency that is often obvious in Long Beach government.

As a former Long Beach city council member and an appellant (CARP), I ask that you move this issue forward to a de novo phase hearing and accept testimony from the public that will be most impacted by these actions.

Respectfully,

Rae Gabelich
8th District, Long Beach

June 21, 2011 HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL City of Long Beach California RECOMMENDATION: Adopt The Principles for Active Living and Complete Streets for inclusion in the update to the Long Beach General Plan. (Citywide) DISCUSSION In 2008, the City of Long Beach received a grant from the Los Angeles County Public Health Department (the PLACE Grant) to update the City's General Plan (Long Beach 2030) with "active living" and "complete streets" policies, and to expand the network of bike facilities in Long Beach. The grant also funded the City's mobility coordinator, annual bike counts, numerous walk audits throughout the City and partial funding of the Vista Street Bike Boulevard. On September 16, 2010 and on October 7, 2010, the Planning Commission held a study session on the Urban Design and Mobility Elements of Long

Beach 2030, respectively. These study sessions presented the culmination of extensive community dialogue and outreach on how the City should enhance the public realm and improve circulation. Throughout the winter, the Public Works Department conducted public workshops to identify and prioritize new bike facilities for the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) in anticipation of the update of Long Beach 2030. Through these planning activities, staff has coalesced ten principles for complete streets and active living for review and approval. The Principles for Active Living and Complete Streets (Exhibit A) will also serve to satisfy the requirements of the PLACE Grant and allow the City to seek funding for additional bike facilities and other green infrastructure initiatives. These principles are a significant shift in emphasis for the City's General Plan from the 1990s, and they provide the context for many of the City's current implementation projects. On June 2, 2011, the Planning Commission reviewed and recommended that the City Council adopt these principles to inform and guide the direction, policies and programs in Long Beach 2030. For a city of the size and complexity of Long Beach, a General Plan update requires an approach that is iterative and deliberate. The Principles for Active Living and Complete Streets is the first in a series of principles staff will bring forward for policy makers' advisement and consent, leading up to the adoption of the Long Beach 2030 General Plan. The forthcoming Principles will provide further clarification of the overarching HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL June 21, 2011 Page 2 of 2 policy direction for updating Long Beach 2030, and is based upon three key Elements of the General Plan: Urban Design, Land Use and Mobility. These Elements form the core of the Long Beach 2030 and are vital to shaping the physical, social and economic development of Long Beach in the coming years. This letter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Michael Mais on May 26, 2011 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on June 3, 2011. SUSTAINABILITY The Principles for Active Living and Complete Streets is consistent with and supports many of the sustainability policies and programs identified in the Sustainable City Action Plan. TIMING CONSIDERATIONS City Council action is requested on June 21, 2011, to ensure the City fulfills the PLACE grant deliverable of updating the City's General Plan with active living policies and programs by the grant's conclusion on June 30, 2011.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:13:12 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Louise Guest [<mailto:louiseguestdance@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:38 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please, do not move the palm trees.

From: anngadfly@aol.com
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: tami_bennett@hotmail.com; mbcotton@hotmail.com; Hoorae1@aol.com; renee_matt@live.com; corlisslee@aol.com; mpshogri@msn.com; jweins123@hotmail.com; achris259@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Unable to contact LB Staff
Date: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:58:25 AM

Dear Dani,

Since you did not call before 10 today, I hope to hear from you after 5. I need to discuss the 3 minute total testimony time on the Substantial Issues and how that is to be accomplished with 3 appellants.

I also wonder if you are aware that the sidewalk on the east side of Marina Dr. has already been removed by the 2nd & PCH developer during construction?

From the 2nd & PCH EIR: pg. IV.k-6

(4) Pedestrian Facilities

Surrounding the Project Site is a mature network of pedestrian facilities including sidewalks, crosswalks, and pedestrian safety features along PCH, Marina Drive, and 2nd Street, although sidewalks are only provided along the east side of Marina Drive adjacent to the Project Site. The existing sidewalk system within the Project vicinity provides direct connectivity to the existing commercial development to the immediate south and public transit stops along PCH and 2nd Street.

Monday, I saw a walker inside the construction zone as this is the only safe way to walk along Marina Dr. This is certainly affecting pedestrian access to the coast and I would think required a LCDP.

Public Works said they were required to put in an ADA sidewalk, which I assumed was the reason for the 15 foot one. However, a 5 foot sidewalk is being planned for the west side of Marina Dr. I discover ADA requirements are only 3 feet in width to accommodate a wheelchair. A five foot sidewalk would allow the Palms to remain in place.

Also, you state in your report that the City will adhere to the Commission-approved tree trimming and Tree Removal Policy for tidelands in Long Beach. I assume you know this means there can be no work on the trees from January to October? The City has already violated this policy by allowing 22 Palms with nests to be cut down during nesting season last year. After being told no work could occur during nesting season, they put nets around all the trees on the east side of Marina Dr. sometime after Feb. 1. When told by Jordan Sanchez to remove the netting on Feb. 19, more netting was placed on the median trees on Feb. 20. All of the netting was not removed until Feb. 25. On Feb. 26, I witnessed a Great Blue Heron with nesting material (sticks) in its beak, flying from the wetlands and landing in a Palm tree on Marina Dr. If these trees must be moved, it has to be after Oct. 1 to allow for successful breeding to occur. Craig Beck told me that 'a biologist would check for nests' before moving--this is not following the Tree Policy and is not protecting the birds.

I urge you to change your recommendation to Substantial Issues in order to discuss these and other issues.

Sincerely,
Ann
596-7288

Hoping to hear from you,
Ann Cantrell

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:15:40 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Patricia Martz [mailto:p.martz@cox.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:01 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please protect the Marina Drive palms. They are nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms that are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring.

From: [Sean Costello](#)
To: [Melinda Cotton](#)
Subject: FWP: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:16:22 AM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[CPE-18-1810 Marina Drive Complete Streets No. Trees 0001-1-11-19.pdf](#)

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Melinda Cotton [mailto:mbcotton@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:07 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Chair Dayna Bocho, Vice Chair Steven Padilla and fellow Coastal Commissioners:

Vital concerns of **Impaired Coastal Access; Lack of Public Notice; Misinformation Provided to the Coastal Commission; and Failure of Long Beach Staff to provide information** are missing from the Agenda item before you.

The Long Beach Planning Commission issue being appealed to you included the phrase "... in conjunction with a separately permitted street improvement project located on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road." <http://longbeach.legistar.com/View.aspx?M&F&ID=6818463&GUID=D63D019E-876D-48F8-A61F-8C8FCC62A12> Those vital words are missing from the item before you.

This separately permitted CPE-1810 Marina Drive Complete Streets Exclusion (attached) is a Coastal Commission Staff Approved Exemption which allows the City of Long Beach to eliminate one traffic lane in each direction along Marina Drive. Marina Drive is the frontage road and access to the Coastal Commission controlled Marina Parking Lot, and is one of only two roadways from coastal Long Beach to Seal Beach and south along the Coast. Marina Drive is also the only road accessing the Alamitos Bay Marina (with 1600+ boat slips), the City Marine Bureau and fuel dock, the City's Aqualink, the Alamitos Bay coastal visitor facilities (restaurants, marine oriented retail, boats, and more.)

The CPE-1810 Exemption application claims the "Traffic Improvements... do not: *Alter roadway or intersection capacity by more than ten percent (10%) or *Impair access to the coast." But eliminating one of two traffic lanes, and half of a roadway's capacity seems more like a 50% loss of capacity, and will in the average citizen's view seriously impair coastal access.



Traffic improvements which do not:

- Alter roadway or intersection capacity by more than ten percent (10%) (except stop signs and stop lights); or
- Decrease parking (except by establishing a red curb next to a corner); or
- Impair access to the coast.

CPE-1810 was submitted to Coastal Staff without Public Notice by either the City or Commission staff. Despite my repeated e-mails to Long Beach Planner Scott Kinsey (who signed the Application) asking about this "separately permitted street improvement project" I received no answers. At the Nov. 19, 2018 Zoning Administrative Hearing on the Marina Drive palm tree issues, no one provided us a copy of CPE-1810. It was several days later before appellants received a copy of the application (which we were told had already been approved by Coastal staff). By then, we were told it was too late to appeal! **The 10-day appeal period for a permit we were told nothing about had expired.**

And the loss of one traffic lane in each direction on Marina Drive comes at a time when the huge 2nd & PCH Project is about to open.

It's a 200,000 sq. ft. shopping center full of restaurants, retail and a new Whole Foods Market. It features a 1,000 space parking lot with access mainly from Marina Drive. Across the street in the Marina Parking lot, the very popular San Pedro Fish Company is about to open in a former restaurant location.

And the intersections of Marina Drive and the parallel Pacific Coast Highway are infamous already for having the worst traffic tie-ups in the City. Allowing all of this to happen without proper Public Noticing and Public Planning meetings seems totally wrong. We ask the Coastal Commission to vote down the issue before you and require that the public be allowed a say in these ill-advised Marina Drive projects.

Sincerely,
Melinda Cotton (35 year resident of Long Beach and Belmont Shore)

PS: Below are several of the articles that have appeared in local papers regarding the palm tree issue before you.

One article notes: "The saga has been ongoing since last summer, when the 2nd and PCH developer, CenterCal, removed 22 palm trees to make way for construction. Christensen and Cantrell protested to the Coastal Commission. The staff agreed that was a violation, and sent a notice to both the developer and the city that the trees had to be replaced." (The nets placed on the trees some ten days ago to prevent heron nesting was another violation.)

http://www.gazettes.com/news/environment/nets-on-marina-drive-palms-will-come-down/article_4260db92-3623-11e9-8f00-7bc4437d6c71.html

[Nets On Marina Drive Palms Will Come Down - gazettes.com](#)

Last week, a line of palm trees along Marina Drive on the 2nd and PCH retail site sprouted white nets. The already controversial palms, along with palm trees on city property in the median and on ...

www.gazettes.com

http://www.gazettes.com/news/environment/trees-to-stay-traffic-to-slow-on-marina-drive/article_1db77c36-e778-11e8-ba11-278d88d7187c.html

[Trees To Stay, Traffic To Slow On Marina Drive | Environment | gazettes.com](#)

People concerned over the fate of palm trees along Marina Drive in east Long Beach can relax — they're all going to stay. Not only are trees there now staying, replacements for the 20 trees ...

www.gazettes.com

http://www.gazettes.com/news/environment/activist-tries-to-block-tree-removal-on-marina-drive/article_88bd8f68-83bd-11e8-87d1-8781deba4a31.html

[Activist Tries To Block Tree Removal On Marina Drive | Environment | gazettes.com](#)

The partnership of CenterCal Properties Inc. and Takison Inc. is building 2nd & PCH. Takison is the property owner, and tried multiple times to redevelop the property that had been home to the ...

www.gazettes.com

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:16:35 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Anne Proffit [<mailto:anne.proffit@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:11 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Thank you for this opportunity to address the arrogance and characteristic bombastic behavior of the city of Long Beach with regard to its living property, the palms currently netted on Marina Drive, an aberration performed by the developer rehabbing space next to the street.

I have been a Long Beach resident and subsequent homeowner since 1975. I find the actions of netting and removing these palm trees abhorrent.

Please protect the Marina Drive palms, which are nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Please do not transplant these trees, which are part of the Marina Scenic Drive and area history. If this procedure is allowed, it will risk the palms' health and prevent the herons from returning to their traditional nesting sites this spring and summer.

This appeal addresses substantial issues and should be allowed to proceed.

I realize you're getting lip service from Craig Beck and the city's 9-0 council members that vote as a bloc. Please pay attention to those of us that believe climate change is real and know we must protect other species that surround us, including these Great Blue Herons.

This appeal must be upheld; otherwise your actions will be deemed as political, rather than protective of the coastal area.

Thank you -
Anne Proffit
140 Linden Avenue 661
Long Beach CA 90802

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:16:42 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Anne Proffit [mailto:anne.proffit@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:17 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I echo the comments of former council member Rae Gabelich with regard to this entire project!

The CCC Mission Statement is:

The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, **strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.**

In this case strong public participation and education in Long Beach was avoided to prevent pushback from the local businesses and residents of the nearby area. The fact that CLB approved the destruction of the trees, after the fact, should show their intention in this project.

Of course there is the concern for the Blue Heron who nest in this area of

mature palms, but there are other negative situations that have led to this Coastal Commission appeal. An appeal that was reduced to address only the impact of removing the trees.

To claim that a 50% reduction in car lanes will not cause a bottleneck and cause negative impact to the area businesses **and the environment** through stop and go traffic is most misleading. To suggest that adding bicycle lanes, as has been done across the city through Complete Streets, mitigates the loss is inaccurate. **In 2008, the City of Long Beach received a grant from the Los Angeles County Public Health Department (the PLACE Grant) to update the City's General Plan (Long Beach 2030) with "active living" and "complete streets" policies, and to expand the network of bike facilities in Long Beach.** That is what this is about, accepting large grants for bike paths that must be completed for monies received. Bike paths that have not shown substantial increases in use by bicyclists, but instead have created negative impacts on traffic flow and neighborhoods. It is also about satisfying the goals of the new developer to create a more welcoming facade on this new project without considering the concerns of others. To not do specific, time sensitive community outreach to this areas businesses for their partnership and approval was wrong. For the City of Long Beach to piecemeal this project, to avoid public contention, shows the lack of transparency that is often obvious in Long Beach government.

As a former Long Beach city council member and an appellant (CARP), I ask that you move this issue forward to a de novo phase hearing and accept testimony from the public that will be most impacted by these actions.

Respectfully,

Rae Gabelich
8th District, Long Beach

Anne Proffit
2nd District, Long Beach

From: [Leslie](#)
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: tami_bennett@hotmail.com; mbcotton@hotmail.com; Hoorae1@aol.com; renee_matt@live.com; corlisslee@aol.com; mpshogrl@msn.com; jweins123@hotmail.com; achris259@yahoo.com; [Ann](#)
Subject: RE: Unable to contact LB Staff
Date: Thursday, February 28, 2019 12:32:16 PM

Ms. Ziff,

I agree with Ann Cantrell and urge you to support the Substantial Issues we, as a group, have raised since the original violation of destroying 22 trees, including active nests, occurred last year.

Leslie Rash

(Appellant to the Planning Commission)

From: anngadfly@aol.com [mailto:anngadfly@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:58 AM
To: dani.ziff@coastal.ca.gov
Cc: tami_bennett@hotmail.com; mbcotton@hotmail.com; Hoorae1@aol.com; renee_matt@live.com; corlisslee@aol.com; mpshogrl@msn.com; jweins123@hotmail.com; achris259@yahoo.com
Subject: Re: Unable to contact LB Staff

Dear Dani,

Since you did not call before 10 today, I hope to hear from you after 5. I need to discuss the 3 minute total testimony time on the Substantial Issues and how that is to be accomplished with 3 appellants.

I also wonder if you are aware that the sidewalk on the east side of Marina Dr. has already been removed by the 2nd & PCH developer during construction?

From the 2nd & PCH EIR: pg. IV.k-6

(4) Pedestrian Facilities

Surrounding the Project Site is a mature network of pedestrian facilities including sidewalks, crosswalks, and pedestrian safety features along PCH, Marina Drive, and 2nd Street, although sidewalks are only provided along the east side of Marina Drive adjacent to the Project Site. The existing sidewalk system within the Project vicinity provides direct connectivity to the existing commercial development to the immediate south and public transit stops along PCH and 2nd Street.

Monday, I saw a walker inside the construction zone as this is the only safe way to walk along Marina Dr. This is certainly affecting pedestrian access to the coast and I would think required a LCDP.

Public Works said they were required to put in an ADA sidewalk, which I assumed was the reason for the 15 foot one. However, a 5 foot sidewalk is being planned for the west side of Marina Dr. I discover ADA requirements are only 3 feet in width to accommodate a wheelchair. A five foot sidewalk would allow the Palms to remain in place.

Also, you state in your report that the City will adhere to the Commission-approved tree trimming and Tree Removal Policy for tidelands in Long Beach. I assume you know this means there can be no work on the trees from January to October? The City has already violated this policy by allowing 22 Palms with nests to be cut down during nesting season last year. After being told no work could occur during nesting season, they put nets around all the trees on the east side of Marina Dr. sometime after Feb. 1. When told by Jordan Sanchez to remove the netting on Feb. 19, more netting was placed on the median trees on Feb. 20. All of the netting was not removed until Feb. 25. On Feb. 26, I witnessed a Great Blue Heron with nesting material (sticks) in its beak, flying from the wetlands and landing in a Palm tree on Marina Dr. If these trees must be moved, it has to be after Oct. 1 to allow for successful breeding to occur. Craig Beck told me that 'a biologist would check for nests' before

moving--this is not following the Tree Policy and is not protecting the birds.

I urge you to change your recommendation to Substantial Issues in order to discuss these and other issues.

Sincerely,
Ann
596-7288

Hoping to hear from you,
Ann Cantrell

-----Original Message-----

From: Ziff, Dani@Coastal <dani.ziff@coastal.ca.gov>
To: anngadfly@aol.com <anngadfly@aol.com>; Anna Christensen <achris259@yahoo.com>; Melinda Cotton <mbcotton@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wed, Feb 27, 2019 4:43 pm
Subject: RE: Unable to contact LB Staff

Hello,

I will try to call each of you tomorrow. I may have a little bit of time before 10am and after 5pm. Would you mind replying to this email with the best number to reach you at, as well as, your availability tomorrow?

Thank you.

dani

From: anngadfly@aol.com [<mailto:anngadfly@aol.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2019 11:24 AM
To: Ainsworth, John@Coastal; steve.hudson@coastal.gov; Sanchez, Jordan@Coastal; Ziff, Dani@Coastal; Willis, Andrew@Coastal
Cc: achris259@yahoo.com; leslierash.lb@gmail.com; tami_bennett@hotmail.com; mbcotton@hotmail.com; Hoorae1@aol.com; renee_matt@live.com; corlisslee@aol.com; mpshogrl@msn.com; jweins123@hotmail.com
Subject: Unable to contact LB Staff

Dear Decision Makers:

Yesterday I received the e-mail below from Andrew Willis stating that LB staff is unavailable by phone or e-mail until Wed. Feb. 27.

Those of us who have an appeal before the CCC on Wed. Mar. 6, are very concerned about not being able to contact Long Beach staff. We have concerns about the netting covering the Palms to keep out nesting birds and we need to talk to Dani Ziff about her staff report. Not being able to contact staff is detrimental to our appeals.

We would like to ask that item 20 on the March 6 agenda be postponed to allow for more dialog on possible design changes, especially in regards to the 15 foot sidewalk on the east side of Marina Dr.

The sidewalk on the west side of Marina Dr. is to be 5 feet in width. ADA requires a 3 foot sidewalk. We believe the 15 foot sidewalk could be narrowed to allow the Great Blue Heron nesting trees to stay in place and still provide plenty of room for pedestrians.

If a postponement is not possible, we would like to ask that Dani Ziff contact us as soon as possible as our comments to the Commission are due on Friday, March 1.

Gratefully,
Anna Christensen
Protect the Los Cerritos Wetlands
Ann Cantrell
CARP

-----Original Message-----

From: Willis, Andrew@Coastal <Andrew.Willis@coastal.ca.gov>

To: anngadfly@aol.com <anngadfly@aol.com>

Sent: Thu, Feb 21, 2019 1:51 pm

Subject: Automatic reply: Photo taken at 11:15 am Thursday, Feb. 21 - More Palms Bagged on Marina Drive

**The Coastal Commission's Long Beach Office is moving.
New location: 301 E. Ocean Blvd, Suite 300, Long Beach, CA,
90802**

Phone: (562) 590-5071 Fax: (562) 590-5084

The Commission's Long Beach office will be closed while we are relocating to our new offices beginning on Friday, February 22, 2019 and will fully reopen on Wednesday, February 27, 2019.

**Staff will be unavailable for phone calls or emails during the move.
Please excuse the inconvenience.**

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:16:49 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: gfata1991@gmail.com [mailto:gfata1991@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 1:08 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Don't move the palm trees! They can go into shock when moved and die.

Re-design the street plans! Allow public input!

Protect the Marina Drive palm trees, nesting sites for the great blue heron of the Los Cerritos Wetlands and Alamitos Bay colony. Do not dig up and transplant these palms which are part of the scenic drive, culture and local history. To do so will risk the survival of the trees and prevent the heron from returning to their nesting sites this spring, summer and possibly in future seasons. Appeal A-5-LOB-19-0005 addresses Substantial Issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the public and interested parties may be heard and the appeal may be upheld.

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:17:08 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: michaelwauschek [mailto:michaelwauschek@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 1:13 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Hello my name is Michael wauschek I am apart of Los Cerritos wetland protectors. What we stand for is to keep the Los Cerritos wetland as promised as keeping the oil company out of the ground of that wetland as to not do any future drill for oil. To get the general public to now what is really going to right by them. Alote of then don't even now that their is wetland right by them. But also we don't only deal what happening at wetland it self as well the surrounding area. Those palm tree have been their for my hole like. We have Shrunken the wetland so much that the wildlife have fellow nature area as well all fellow trees like this palm as nesting site. The company that is trying to put a newer model mini mall which we already have plenty of. We need to confuse on bring the nature back or atleast doing more of our part by help those heroines as just as a wildlife as a hole. Please concerned to protect those trees. If those palm are cut down even just remove to other local even if those palm survived the shock of replant them as hopefully they dnt get any damage while inrout. Because if the get any damage towards they are more not survive let them be.

Sent from my MetroPCS 4G LTE Android device

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public comment on March 2019 Agenda Item 20a-Appeal No. 5-LOB-19-005 (City of Long Beach)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:17:23 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Karen Harper [mailto:ksharper01@cs.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 1:45 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public comment on March 2019 Agenda Item 20a-Appeal No. 5-LOB-19-005 (City of Long Beach)

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

Please protect the Marina Drive PALM TREES. The palm trees are the nesting site for the precious, gorgeous blue herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Marina Drive is a scenic place of cultural and historical significance along the marina and water way. To move and replant the trees will risk their survival and the the return of the blue herons to their nesting place.

Appeal 5-19-005 addresses the many substantial issues. Therefore, the appeal should be allowed. A simple less expensive solution is simply changing the design for the sidewalk of the mall. A road diet in this impacted traffic location which will get worse with completion of another unneeded mall is also not a good design concept .

Sincerely,

Karen Harper
4045 E 3rd St. #308
Long Beach, CA 90814
562-439-9856

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:17:42 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Marty Cox [mailto:marty@ced-us.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 1:45 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Commissioners:

I am emailing you to support the denial of the appeal (Item 20a) brought by Citizens About Responsible Planning.

The proposed Marina Drive improvement project, sponsored by the City of Long Beach, is an important project that will bring much needed pedestrian access and other benefits to a street adjacent to Alamitos Bay which has been underutilized for decades. I have followed this City project from its inception and have found the efforts to protect and preserve the trees around the Marina Drive project to be above and beyond what would be normally and reasonably required. The City and developers have gone out of their way to be transparent with the local community and have proposed a laudable tree relocation program at great expense. As a long time Naples resident, I urge you to please deny the current appeal and allow the Marina Drive project to proceed.

Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Marty Cox
5585 E Vesuvian Walk
Long Beach, CA 90803

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:18:00 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Raymond Lin [mailto:raymondlin@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 1:50 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Commissioners:

I am emailing you to support the denial of the appeal (Item 20a) brought by Citizens About Responsible Planning.

The proposed Marina Drive improvement project, sponsored by the City of Long Beach, is an important project that will bring much needed pedestrian access and other benefits to a street adjacent to Alamitos Bay which has been underutilized for decades. I have followed this City project from its inception and have found the efforts to protect and preserve the trees around the Marina Drive project to be above and beyond what would be normally and reasonably required. The City and developers have gone out of their way to be transparent with the local community and have proposed a laudable tree relocation program at great expense. As a long time Naples resident, I urge you to please deny the current appeal and allow the Marina Drive project to proceed.

Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Ray Lin
5668 Naples Canal
Long Beach, CA 90803

--

Ray

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:18:18 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Teresa Demarie [mailto:tmdemarie@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 2:22 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Hi Coastal Commission,

Please don't remove the palm trees as they are nesting sites for the herons. You can get creative and find a way to work around the trees.

Sincerely,

Teresa M. Demarie

P.O. Box 14435

Long Beach, CA 90853
(562) 439-1124 (office)

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:18:37 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Barbara Switzer [mailto:bswitzer33@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 3:59 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I am writing to protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

Gratefully,
Barbara Switzer
Long Beach resident

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:18:51 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: JoAnne [mailto:Bauchet@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:00 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not remove our trees.

JoAnne Keenan

Sent from my iPad

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:19:09 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Lynda Martinez [mailto:lyndadennis@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:10 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

To Whom it may concern:

Please protect the palm trees on Marina Drive, which are nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. These trees support an established heron colony which adds to the natural environment of the Wetlands, one of the few remaining wild spots in this area, all of which are themselves in danger of disappearing. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

Thank you,
Lynda Martinez

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:19:24 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Thurston [<mailto:hmthurston@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:14 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Submitting my comment that these palms remain in place as they are protected as Great Blue Heron nesting sites under the Coastal Act. I do not want any new retail that destroys the environment and our native animals.

Thank you,
Heather Thurston
Belmont Heights

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:19:45 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Puvungna1 [mailto:puvungna1@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:22 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Hello,

My name is Jan Sampson and I live in Long Beach and have gone to the Farmers Market on Marina Drive almost every Sunday for many years. During the spring and summer we often chat about the big birds nesting up in the palms. Those trees are beautiful and when I heard they were going to be cut down and or moved I was very sad. Those trees are a treasure to the area and should not be disturbed. They add to the scenery and the herons seem to love to nest in them. What a shame that some people want them removed. They should be saved and a better plan could be drawn up allowing the trees to remain where they are.

Thank You,
Jan Sampson
1877 Britton Drive
Long Beach, CA. 90815
(562)493-7077

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:21:20 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: falorah@aol.com [mailto:falorah@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:48 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: falorah@aol.com
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Dear South Coast Commissioners,

I am requesting that you consider the Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 to be a Substantial issue and that it be heard before your commission and that the palm trees on Marina not be removed. We have so few of these beautiful and historic palms along the coast and we need to preserve them. And, the Blue Herons need a place to nest to ensure this species remains and continues to thrive in the area wetlands. Any new trees to be planted will take years for them to grow and be home to our wetland birds.

Thank you for your consideration of this Substantial issue and that it be heard.

Francis A. Lorah
1100 Euclid Avenue, Unit #305
Long Beach, CA 90804-4060
Home/FAX: (562)-597-5562
Cellphone: (562)-708-1753
E-mail: FALorah@aol.com

Sent from [AOL Desktop](#)

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:21:33 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: meredith medanich [<mailto:mmedanich@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 4:54 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I am a resident in Naples and use Marina Drive often, please leave our palm trees as they are!
We are all upset at the one lane on either side of Marina Drive, diagonal parking will be a nightmare and really, the bike lane, PCH has them. Please listen to the residents who live here and leave the palm trees as is. Thank you so much.

Really what we all wanted was a small hotel on the corner of PCH/2, the traffic will soon be a bigger mess than before.

Sent from my iPad

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Cc: Alvarado_Marlene@Coastal
Subject: FW: Protect the blue heron nesting place
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:22:29 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Marlene Alvarado [mailto:marlenealvarado1@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 5:42 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Protect the blue heron nesting place

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

Please protect the Marina Drive Palm Trees which are the blue heron's nesting place. Now more than ever that we humans are destroying the ecology of the world and we are having massive extinctions why stress our fellow beings, these beautiful elegant bird nesting place to pave their paradise to put up a parking lot???

They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot
With a pink hotel, a boutique
And a swinging hot spot

Don't it always seem to go
That you don't know what you've got til its gone
They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot

They took all the trees
And put 'em in a tree museum
And they charged the people
A dollar and a half to seem 'em.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xWwUJH70ubM>

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:22:42 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Felicia Bander [mailto:feliciabander@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 5:50 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not remove or move the palm trees. They are beautiful and majestic and a bonus for our community.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:22:58 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: SUSAN MILLER [mailto:mpshogrl@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 6:19 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:30:51 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Carry Kim [mailto:tsomoyog@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 6:29 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I'm requesting that the appeal be upheld and that the Marina Drive palms not be moved.

Given that these are important nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands.

These palms should also not be transplanted, as they are an essential part of the Scenic Drive and regional history. Removal or transplanting them elsewhere, runs the risk of the palms' health and may prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites come spring and summer.

This appeal addresses substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where it should be upheld.

Thank you!
Carry Kim

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:59:13 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Katie Rowe [mailto:gokatierowe@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 6:49 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Do not move the palm trees!! We can have development and nature coexist!
Thank you,
Katie Rowe
Long Beach resident

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: comment on March 2019 (Wednesday agenda) Item 20a, New Appeals, Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 City of Long Beach Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:57:29 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: sara hayes [mailto:bluwndzdancing@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 7:22 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: comment on March 2019 (Wednesday agenda) Item 20a, New Appeals, Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 City of Long Beach Removal and Replacement)

The CCC Mission Statement is:

The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, rigorous use of science, **strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.**

28 February 2019

This will be a very brief comment. I don't see why going into detail would make the outcome any different than what happened at the CA Coastal Commission at the last meeting when you went ahead and approved of new permits for oil drilling that will destroy the ecosystem in Los Cerritos Wetlands, allowing that bogus restoration project to go on.

It has been obvious that the powers that be in that development on the corner of 2nd Street and Pacific Coast Highway do whatever they feel like doing as was evident when they removed some of the trees on Marina Drive then went ahead later and covered the palms left on Marina Drive to keep the herons from nesting in those trees that are known to be their nesting areas without acquiring the necessary permits to do any of that. It has been seen that

this company disrespects these trees in their treatment before this yet nothing has been done.

Still I'm sure the Commission will continue to support the companies by sticking with their recommendation that nothing has happened to warrant any action. This Commission continues to show a total disregard for nature, for the environment. We write these letters yet they are still ignored. This isn't much different than the Army Corps of Engineers approving the Dakota Access Pipeline in spite of the thousands of comments that opposed it. The Commission did the same thing when it approved the property switch and new drilling permits, none of which really respond to the needs of the people of Long Beach.

So I do want to go on record opposing your recommendation, and any other further actions you refuse to act responsibly when it comes to our wetlands in the interests of money from fossil fuel companies and development companies. It's sad that you refuse to listen to those who actually realize what is going on as opposed to those who have no clear understanding of what is really happening. You're taking advantage of their ignorance. So sad. But you don't have to live here or deal with the consequences of your egregious decisions. Obviously it can be seen that you don't live up to your mission statement. It's nothing but a ruse.

Sincerely,
Sara Hayes
Resident of Long Beach for 40 years
Retired HS English teacher

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:57:12 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Riley Cantrell [mailto:rileyc8@icloud.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 9:03 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld. Many people are working hard on this issue and palm trees should be planted, don't let their hard work for such a good cause go to waste. These birds will not survive without the trees and if we do not have the Great Blue Herons our ecosystems will suffer greatly along with the beauty they bring to our great city.

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:56:56 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Chris [mailto:chris@trcsales.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 9:35 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Let the City of Long Beach *remove* the trees. This is a great project and the city needs to be able to re-engineer the streets. Please do not let a very small minority sway you; the vast majority of Long Beach residents want this development and support the city on it's street development.

Chris Richgels
Long Beach

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:56:43 AM
Importance: High

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Jim Corbett [mailto:jim.corbett01@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 10:01 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Importance: High

Dear Coastal Commission members,

PLEASE Protect the Marina Drive palms. They are the nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands.

Please Do not transplant these palms either. They are part of the Scenic Drive and area history.

To transplant these palm trees will risk the health of the Great Blue Heron and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer.

This appeal addresses SUBSTANTIAL issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

Thank you for consideration.

James A. Corbett
Belmont Shore Property Owner

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:56:10 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Regina Taylor [mailto:rnewman1212@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2019 11:12 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. **This appeal addresses Substantial Issues** and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the appeal should be upheld.

With consideration and respect for the palms, the great blue herons, Long Beach scenic drive and area history!

Regina Taylor
3206 Oregon Avenue
Long Beach, Ca 90806

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:55:22 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[letter of support Marina Drive 2020.pdf](#)

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: allancrawford@mindspring.com [mailto:allancrawford@mindspring.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 7:31 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: 'Tony Cruz'; allancrawford@mindspring.com
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Attached is the letter of support for the Marina Drive project from BIKEable Communities.

Some background on why I am a strong supporter of this project

As we all are aware with the construction of the new 2nd and PCH complex, the new housing being added along the river in Seal Beach and the eventual additional development along PCH, Marina Drive will become more and more crowded. With additional crowding it is imperative that we have a street that is safe for all users. The proposed complete streets design will add buffered lanes on both sides of the street as well as sidewalks on the south side. And of course there is no reason this can't (or shouldn't) be done in a way that preserves and even enhances the environment for the local wildlife.

Recently two friends were hit while cycling mid-morning by a drunk driver on PCH just north of the 55 interchange. As I understand it the driver was making a left into a driveway when he struck our two friends. He then proceeded to flee the scene, but was fortunately apprehended by the police.

With this so fresh in our minds, it is vital that we make our streets safe for everyone. Marina Drive is used by bicyclists of all abilities and all ages. With the increased traffic it is vital that we have this street improved. And not only will there be increased traffic, there will be increased turning traffic. And this is where many bike and ped crashes occur. The plan that the city has put forward will do this, it will make it safer for everyone. Once again, that isn't to say that the design shouldn't or can't be ecologically sound. I have no doubt that it can be. But what I do know is that the street should be made safer for all users. And as someone who rides this street several times a week, I'm confident that the city's design will accomplish this goal.

I encourage all of us to support this project.

Don't hesitate to give me a call or send me an e-mail if you have any questions.

Regards,

AC
BIKEable Communities
310-994-1619

Walking

EXISTING

Sidewalks limited to non-existent. Difficult for pedestrians to navigate.



PROPOSED

New 15 foot sidewalk on north side of street and 5 foot sidewalk on south.





www.bikeablecommunities.org

February 28, 2019

To: Coastal Commission Staff

Re: Support for the new Complete Streets at the Marina Drive project

Honorable Coastal Commission Staff,

Bikeable Communities, a Long Beach based bicycle advocacy organization, strongly supports the new Complete Streets design for the Marina Drive project. This project will enhance the safety and accessibility for all users on Marina Drive.

As the Coastal Commission is well aware safe access to coastal areas for all users is important in communities such as Long Beach; and Marina Drive is one of Long Beach's most important connections to our coastal area. The location is a popular meeting location for local cycling clubs, running groups, and a weekly farmers market. It is the key connector from the beach bike paths, Belmont Shore, downtown and the new 2nd & PCH Center to the San Gabriel River trail, PCH, the new bike lanes being installed on Westminster and all of the Orange County cities to the south.

With addition of the new PCH and 2nd Complex and the new housing in the adjacent Seal Beach area, the new complete streets design is more important than ever. The design will slow traffic, add bike lanes and enhance the walking experience. In short, the Marina Drive Complete streets project makes access to our coastal areas safer for all users.

Bikeable Communities would like to have the clubs support letter included to the Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement).

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions at allancrawford@mindspring.com or 310-994-1619. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

G. Allan Crawford

Allan Crawford
BIKEable Communities

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:54:03 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: John Takacs [mailto:johnroy100@verizon.net]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 8:34 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

REMOVE the Palm trees, they are fire hazard under certain conditions and you do not want to park under them!!

John Takacs

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:53:35 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Anita Fesler [<mailto:anitafesler@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:03 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please do not remove the palm trees.

I am a 14 year Long Beach resident. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:52:32 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Gail Werner [mailto:gail4werner@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:23 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Protect the Marina Drive palms, nesting sites for the Great Blue Herons of the Los Cerritos Wetlands. Do not transplant these palms which are part of the Scenic Drive and area history. To do so will risk their health and prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring and summer. This appeal addresses Substantial issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where it should be upheld.

Thank you,
Gail Werner

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:51:46 AM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn
District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

-----Original Message-----

From: Julie Dean [<mailto:julz.travels@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 10:30 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

This is wrong!

Placing nets over the palm trees so that the birds, who always nest there, cannot nest, is an immoral game to allow for the tearing down of the trees.

This is wrong!

Please do not acquiesce. Do not grant the request to eliminate this natural habitat and breeding grounds for migratory birds along the Pacific Flyaway.

This is wrong!

Thank you, Julie Dean
215 Pomona Ave, 90803

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:32:22 AM

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Joshua Hickman [mailto:tribesocal@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:25 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a

Good morning,

I am writing regarding the Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement).

Tribe is a local triathlon club with approximately 150 members across southern CA. We are based out of Long Beach and the majority of our members are as well.

Every Saturday, as a club, we ride our bikes down Marina drive. In addition, we run on Wednesday evenings with a local running club AREC. The route travels along Marina drive up and over the 2nd street bridge (portions of which do not currently have sidewalks). We also have various workouts throughout the week that utilize Marina Drive for either cycling, running or both.

The club, and representative members, are excited about the upcoming complete streets project that will provide for safer running and biking along Marina drive.

It is important to balance infrastructure improvements with environmental concerns but the safety of our local cyclists and pedestrians should be paramount. We respectfully request that the referenced appeal be denied to allow the project to move forward.

Thanks

Tribe - Board of Directors

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 12:10:00 PM
Attachments: [Coastal Commission for Bikeable Comm.pdf](#)

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Prez LightningVelo [mailto:lightningvelo.prez@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 11:47 AM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Date: 2/28/2019

To: Coastal Commission Staff

Re: Support for the new Complete Streets at the Marina Drive project.

Honorable Coastal Commission Staff,

The Lightning Velo Cycling Club is writing in strong support of the new Complete Streets design for the Marina Dr. project because it will enhance the safety and accessibility on Marina Dr. The location is a popular meeting location for local cycling clubs, running groups, and a weekly farmers market. It is also a key connector in Long Beach to the San Gabriel River trail, Westminster bike lanes, Belmont Shores shopping district, and the beach bicycle and pedestrian path. Lightning Velo would like to have the clubs support letter included to the Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement).

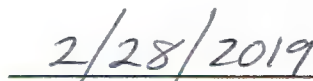
Thank you,

Nia Hartman

Lightning Velo Club President



Signature



Date

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 12:10:16 PM
Attachments: [2019-02-28 22-03.pdf](#)

For the addendum. Thanks.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Frank Said [mailto:saidfrank@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 12:04 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: Tony Cruz
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you,

Frank Said

Date: 2/28/2019

To: Coastal Commission Staff

Re: Support for the new Complete Streets at the Marina Drive project.


Honorable Coastal Commission Staff,

The Velo Allegro Cycling Club is writing in strong support of the new Complete Streets design for the Marina Dr. project because it will enhance the safety and accessibility on Marina Dr. The location is a popular meeting location for local cycling clubs, running groups, and a weekly farmers market. It is also a key connector in Long Beach to the San Gabriel River trail, Westminster bike lanes, Belmont Shores shopping district, and the beach bicycle and pedestrian path. Velo Allegro would like to have the clubs support letter included to the Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement).

Thank you,

Frank Said

Velo Allegro Club President



Signature



Date

To: Coastal Commission Commissioners & Staff

March 1, 2019

SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov

From: Corliss Lee, Appellant and member of CARP

3072 Knoxville Ave. Long Beach Ca. 90808 (714) 401 7063 corlisslee@aol.com

Re: Agenda item W20A Appeal number A-5-LOB-19-005

Marina Dr. palm tree plan CPCE 18-10 and Marina Dr. right of way LCDP 18-033 and CPCE 18-10 Marina Drive Complete streets

Location: Marina Dr. between 2nd St and Studebaker Rd in Long Beach

Commentary:

I am opposed to movement of the Arecaceae Washingtonia robusta (referred to in this letter as palms) that are nesting habitat to the great blue herons. The original submission of Coastal Permit Categorical Exclusion 18-9 by the City combined the palm tree request and the Marina Drive proposed changes to reduce the traffic lanes from 4 to 2. Subsequent submissions for coastal plan approvals separated the tree request from the road narrowing request. These two approvals are intimately tied and need to be reviewed together. The only reason for moving the palms is to further the "complete streets" design on Marina drive. There is no imperative that requires 5' to 15' width sidewalks or bike lanes. The design can be re-done to accommodate the trees in their current location.

Issues with this project;

- 1) The original removal of 22 mature palm trees, (7 of which had great blue heron nests) was illegal and done without a coastal permit. This action appears to have been done to allow the developer ease of movement with their heavy equipment. **While it was done without a coastal permit, it does appear to have had City approval.** I say this because there were city posted signs indicating the impending removal of the 26 remaining palms along Marina Drive (**see exhibit A photo**) without approval under the Coastal Act. There has not been any investigation to date of who gave the developer permission to cut down the trees. There doesn't appear to have been any penalty levied for this violation, either to the City or the developer other than requiring replacement trees.
- 2) Subsequent to the removal of the 22 palms, a concerned citizen reported the illegal removal and got the carnage stopped. The remaining 26 palms are in their original location but were buried in debris and trash for the last year. Just last week, **without a coastal permit, the developer had the remaining trees covered in netting (by City admission, to discourage nesting (see photo exhibit b)).** It seems that without having to bear a penalty for the first violation, the City and/or the developer felt comfortable assuming the Coastal Commission will side with them when the appeals are heard and they moved forward with their plans to move the palm trees. They apparently want to avoid the inconvenience of dealing with nesting birds. Great Blue Herons are susceptible to habitat reduction. **"Because Great Blue Herons depend on wetlands for feeding and on relatively undisturbed sites for breeding, they are vulnerable to habitat loss and to impacts such as traffic, logging, motorboats, and other human intrusions that can disrupt nesting colonies."**
https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Great_Blue_Heron/lifehistory
- 3) Moving the trees is not necessary. It is a design choice. Having adopted the "complete streets" design model, and evidently not wishing to deal with public comment, **the request for coastal approval of narrowing the roadway was covertly and hastily slipped through Coastal Commission approval with all efforts by the public to appeal, participate and comment rebuked, sidestepped or ignored.**
- 4) Allowing the City to slide through **inaccurate documentation with respect to the outcome of narrowing traffic lanes at this location (stating incorrectly that there will be less than a 10% loss/impact)** and which further allows the City to practice avoidance with respect to public comment needs to be rectified.

- 5) If you allowed residents to speak with the Coastal Commission about this project, they would share the following:
- a. At present, there is only residential development on one side of 2nd street and that location is not affected by the change. With no other residents nearby, the possibility that residents from miles away will choose to walk to the beach is highly unlikely. Adding expansive sidewalks will not result in greater access to the beach.
 - b. There are 1600+ boat slips in that Marina, and no one believes that boat owners are going to walk, bicycle or scooter to their boats.
 - c. Currently the only access by bicycle from the west (Naples) is a narrow bridge with tiny, narrow dangerous bike lanes. If you attempt to bike to Trader Joe's or the Farmer's market off Marina Drive or bike to Seal Beach from Naples it necessitates using the sidewalk as *it is terrifying* to use the existing so-called bike lane over that bridge. That bridge is not going to be widened or changed ever, so the existing bike lanes will remain and discourage biking in that area to or from Naples

In summary, bike lanes and expansive sidewalks are a great idea where we have room for them, but the safety risk and need to travel distances in a reasonable timeframe will cause residents to choose their cars.

- 6) As the population multiplies and the City embarks on approving multi-family multi-story developments, more vehicles will naturally be an outcome. For that reason, narrowing the streets seems an odd choice.
- 7) **Narrowing the roadways will result in**
- a. **Additional pollution** as cars get backed up, sit and idle waiting to turn a corner or go through the light at 2nd and PCH (which I'm told was once judged to be the busiest corner in southern California, failing a traffic study that was done).
 - b. **Restricted access to the beach.** People will not elect to ride bikes and walk from this location in numbers significant to make up for the loss of automobile access. Removing 2 lanes from use by cars and replacing it with a bike lane and sidewalks will before long result in more than a 10% reduction in access to the beach.
 - c. **Negative impacts to other businesses on Marina Drive** as residents and visitors choose not to travel down a congested roadway to those restaurants and businesses on the other side of Studebaker.
- 8) The developer and city planner's design includes removal of two lanes, replacing them with diagonal parking, 5 - 15ft sidewalks and a bike lane. This is consistent with the "complete streets" design currently favored by City. However it is this design that requires moving mature palm trees that are habitat to the Great Blue Heron. The current ADA requirement for sidewalks is just 3ft for wheelchair access. There is no compelling argument for moving the trees. Sidewalks can be designed to go around the trees.
- 9) **MORE PROBLEMS WITH THE COMPLETE STREETS MODEL**
- We live in a free country. Whether a city is old or new, Government agencies cannot mandate that people give up their cars or that they live close to where they work or marry someone in close proximity to work. Complete streets is a social experiment that will be costly to un-do. There are plans to bring in a fish market restaurant that seats large numbers and this along with the already crowded parking lot at the mall promises to create traffic congestion that may reach an intolerable level in the near future. A likely outcome will be the diagonal parking and bike lanes will have to be converted back to traffic lanes to accommodate the increase in vehicles.
- 10) In summary, aiding and abetting risky decisions made by the City is not the place of the Coastal Commission, especially when there is a strong potential to negatively impact public access to the beaches, exacerbate traffic problems, cause customer access problems for businesses on Marina drive and cause habitat and reproduction problems for the Great Blue Heron.

Regards,
Corliss Lee
CARP Board Member



Exhibit A: ILLEGAL CITY NOTICE TO CUT DOWN PALM TREES ON MARINA DRIVE - Jan 2018



Exhibit B: Unapproved netting to stop bird nesting – Feb 18, 2019

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 3:09:16 PM

For the addendum.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Donna Holtz [mailto:chilidonna@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 2:27 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I believe that these ladies are taking their "save the birds and trees" agenda to ridiculous extremes. Their overblown rhetoric has resulted in monetary harm to the city and to businesses. They have delayed or prevented many projects that would have been beneficial to everyday citizens health, walkability, swimability, safer streets, etc. Some of them or their brethren messed up the project to reinforce the bluff area resulting in stagnant politics and more cliff erosion. In general I am a left wing environmentalist myself. But these gals are over the top and, I believe, out for their own power trips to the detriment of all others. PLEASE stop letting them get away with these repeated ploys. Take care of the majority of us. THANKS.

Donna & Bill Holtz, 175 Quincy Ave, Long Beach, CA 90803

P.S. Melinda Cotton was against the Shoreline Bicycle Path (I was on the citizens committee which helped to plan it.) It was the same old malarkey back then and I'm tired of listening.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

| | Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Comments on Marina Dr. Palms
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 3:10:26 PM
Attachments: [CCC letter 11.21.18.pdf](#)
[CCC Letter 2.19.19.pdf](#)
[Grunion Story 22119.pdf](#)
[Palms CCC 2nd and PCH 26 Feb 2019-3.pdf](#)
[Lorax.pages](#)

For the addendum.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: anngadfly@aol.com [mailto:anngadfly@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 2:30 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: tami_bennett@hotmail.com; mbcotton@hotmail.com; Hoorae1@aol.com; renee_matt@live.com; corlisslee@aol.com; mpshogrl@msn.com; jweins123@hotmail.com; achris259@yahoo.com; leslierash.lb@gmail.com
Subject: Comments on Marina Dr. Palms

March 6, 2019 CA Coastal Commission
Item W20a
Appeal Number A-LOB-19-0005
Appellants: Citizens About Responsible Planning/CARP

Dear Coastal Commissioners and Staff:

In addition to our original appeal, (Exhibit 1), CARP is responding to the Staff Report by asking you find Substantial Issues and allow a de novo hearing in order to hear all of the issues with this Palm Tree relocation LCDP.

Per the Staff report: FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN SUBSTANTIAL ISSUE ANALYSIS

1. *The degree factual and legal support for the local government's decision that the development is consistent or inconsistent with the relevant provisions of the Coastal Act.*

We believe the local government's decision is not consistent with the Coastal Act in the following instances:

Zoning Administrator, Christopher Koontz, stated that the Complete Streets Development Plan, which is requiring the relocation of the Palm trees, was approved in South East Area Specific Plan/SEASP. Although approved by the Planning Commission and City Council, SEASP has not received Coastal Commission approval. As the Staff Report shows, SEADIP is the plan that must be followed. There is no provision in SEADIP which allows Complete Street Development, thus the Coastal Director's approval of Coastal Permit Categorical Exclusion 18-9, allowing the Traffic Improvements, is not in compliance with SEADIP.

Zoning Administrator, Christopher Koontz approved Permit No. LCDP 18-003 on Nov. 19, 2018. Anna Christensen and Leslie Rash appealed to the Planning Commission, who approved the revised permit on Dec. 20, 2018. The illegal removal of 22 Washingtonia robusta Palm Trees on Marina Dr. between 2nd St. and Studebaker Rd. was not mentioned by staff during the Planning Commission appeal. The Commissioners were not made aware that the developer was required to replace 41 trees, as the Coastal Commission Nov. 21, 2018 letter to the City was not available in the Planning Commission staff report. (see attached CCC letter 11.21.18)

The City has violated the Coastal Act by permitting the removal of 22 Marina Dr. Palms in 2018 and the netting of the remaining Palms in Feb. 2019 with no Coastal Permits. Public Works Director, Craig Beck has stated the nets were placed on the trees to keep the birds from nesting. (see attached CCC letter 2.19.19)

Staff states that one of the Conditions of Approval is for the City to follow the Commission's Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy. However, the City has not only ignored Coastal permit requirements, it has ignored the Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy, which specifically states there will be no tree trimming or removal during breeding and nesting season (January through September). According to a story in the Grunion Gazette, the City is only waiting until this permit is approved by the Commission and then plans to put the nets back on the trees and move them before October. Public Works Director, Craig Beck is quoted as saying, "You can still do work on trees during nesting season unless you find a nest". (see attached Grunion Gazette 2/21/19)

I urge the Commissioners to read the Tree Trimming Policy (Exhibit 4). It clearly states that tree trimming or tree removal shall be prohibited during the breeding and nesting season January through September unless the tree causes danger to public health and safety. (pg. 3).

The City claims to have performed 4 bird surveys during 2018, yet did not observe the seven Great Blue Heron nests in the 22 Marina Dr. Palms before they were illegally cut down during the 2018 nesting season. We have little confidence that their arborist will be able to spot nesting birds this season, especially if nets are allowed back on the trees.

SUBSTANTIAL ISSUES

2. The significance of the coastal resources affected by the decision.

Southeast Area Development and Improvement Plan (SEADIP) #6

"Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas . . . shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade those areas and shall be compatible with the continuance of those habitat and recreation areas."

Although this area is not ESHA, the Great Blue Herons using the Palms trees, forage in the Los Cerritos Wetlands, which is ESHA. Coastal staff has identified Development as including the removal of major vegetation (see attached CCC Violation Letter 11.21.18).

The Coastal Commission has found Palm trees to be major vegetation, vital to the nesting success of Great Blue Herons. These birds need tall trees with enough support for their large, heavy nests, within close proximity to wetlands and water in which to find food. The Washingtonia robusta Palms on Marina Dr. are ideally situated between the Los Cerritos Wetlands and Alamitos Bay to provide breeding success for this dwindling species. There are many trees in Long Beach, but only a few palms are suitable for Great Blue Herons.

Craig Beck indicated that the Palm trees on the east side of Marina Dr. had to be removed to allow for a 15 foot ADA sidewalk. ADA requires only a 3 foot sidewalk to allow for wheel chair access. The sidewalk on the west side is shown as 5 feet. We are asking that the sidewalk be redesigned to allow the Washingtonia robusta Palms next to the Mall to remain in place. (see attached letter from Don Hodel)

In conclusion, we respectfully ask the Commissioners to find substantial issues and allow a de novo hearing.

We also ask that the Commissioners require the City to redesign the sidewalk by the mall so there is no need to move the trees, and to follow the Tree Trimming Policy with no trimming, netting or moving the Palms until October.

Following the staff's recommendation of No Substantial Issue will allow the disruption of another breeding season for the Great Blue Herons and subject their nesting trees to possible disease and death. Please follow the Coastal Act and protect the birds and trees enjoyed by so many residents and visitors to our coast. I urge you to heed the wise words of the Lorax: "We speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues". (see attached court decision)

Sincerely,

Ann Cantrell
Citizens About Responsible Planning
3106 Claremore
Long Beach, CA 90808

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SOUTH COAST AREA OFFICE
200 OCEANGATE, 10TH FLOOR
LONG BEACH, CA 90802
(562) 590-5071



Sent via Email and Regular U.S. Mail

February 19, 2019

Eric Lopez
City of Long Beach
333 W Ocean Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Placement of Plastic Wrapping on Palm Trees located on Marina Dr.

Dear Mr. Lopez:

It has come to the attention of Commission staff that palm trees located on Marina Dr. have been wrapped with plastic. As you know, Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 of a City of Long Beach local coastal development for the for trimming, relocation, and replacement, if necessary, of 44 trees and addition of 41 new trees in public right-of-way in conformance with Commission's adopted Tree Trimming Policy at Marina Dr., between 2nd St. and Studebaker Rd., has been filed with the Commission. This item is scheduled to be heard at the next Commission meeting in March. Therefore, until a final decision has been made by the Commission, there is no valid Coastal Act authorization for project described above, or apparent preparation for the project, which Commission staff understands the wrapping of the palm trees to be. Moreover, staff is concerned about the ecological effect of the wrapping of the trees.

While we understand that the timing of any bird nesting activities in the palm trees before their potential relocation would be inopportune, the preclusion of any nesting activities by placing plastic bags on the palm trees is also problematic from a coastal resource perspective, and may not be undertaken until the proper Coastal Act authorization is obtained for the project. As a result, we are requesting that you immediately remove the plastic wrapping from the palm trees located on Marina Dr. until final action is taken by the Commission on Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me immediately to discuss how the City of Long Beach intends to resolve this matter. I can be reached at (562) 590-5071.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jordan Sanchez'.

Jordan Sanchez
Enforcement Officer

cc: Andrew Willis, Enforcement Supervisor, CCC
Shannon Vaughn, Planning Supervisor, CCC
Scott Kinsey, City of Long Beach Development Services
Craig Beck, City of Long Beach Public Works
Barret Bradley, Center Cal Properties

http://www.gazettes.com/news/environment/nets-on-marina-drive-palms-will-come-down/article_4260db92-3623-11e9-8f30-7be4437a6c21.html

Nets On Marina Drive Palms Will Come Down

By Harry Saltzgaver
Executive Editor 2 hrs ago



Crews install a net designed to keep birds away Wednesday on Marina Drive.

—Gazette photo by Simon Grieve

Last week, a line of palm trees along Marina Drive on the 2nd and PCH retail site sprouted white nets.

The already controversial palms, along with palm trees on city property in the median and on the west side of Marina Drive, are the subject of a hearing March 8 before the state Coastal Commission. Environmental activists have opposed plans to move the trees to accommodate a "Safe Street" project adding sidewalks, bike lanes, some parking and narrowing Marina Drive to one lane in each direction.

The nets are designed to keep birds, particularly Great Blue Herons, from establishing nests there. If a tree has a nest, it cannot be disturbed until nesting season is over later this fall.

"You can still do work on trees during nesting season unless you find a nest," Craig Beck, Long Beach Public Works director, said. "We don't want to wait (until the end of nesting season) to do the work. CenterCal plans to open the center in October or November, and we don't want to be starting construction then."

One set of Coastal Commission staff members said it was okay to install the nets before the appeals hearing, Beck said. Then, after complaints to the regional director's office, another section of the commission staff said the nets had to be removed, at least until after the appeals hearing.

"We had a conversation with the regional office, and we will be removing the nets tomorrow (Friday)," Beck said. "It was a matter of miscommunication all around."

It is just the latest round in a long controversy about the retail development and surrounding area.

Anna Christensen, representing a group called Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands, has fought the project since last fall. She and others successfully appealed a city decision that it had jurisdiction over the trees without a Local Coastal Permit (LCP).

When city staff began the LCP approval process, Christensen and Ann Cantrell, with another group called CARP (Citizens About Responsible Planning) appealed an administrative decision granting the LCP to the city's Planning Commission. When the Planning Commission denied their appeal, they appealed to the state Coastal Commission — a hearing before that panel is set for Wednesday, March 6, at the California African American Museum, 600 State Drive in Los Angeles.

Christensen and others changed their approach at the Planning Commission appeal hearing, saying they were opposed to the changes planned for Marina Drive while continuing to say moving the palms jeopardized their survival.

The 2nd and PCH developers, CenterCal, and the city both want to move many of the palms, primarily into planters. The city's plan would narrow the Marina Drive median, allowing for the street changes.

CenterCal already has been ordered to replace 22 palm trees it removed last year, and the new landscaping plans add more than 40 new trees of other species.

When nets began to appear on the trees, activists accused the city and CenterCal of trying to kill the trees. Cantrell and Christensen sent a mass email out saying the trees were being covered in plastic, and complained directly to the Coastal Commission.

From: [Anna Christensen](#)
To: [Ziff, Dani@Coastal](#); [Willis, Andrew@Coastal](#); [Sanchez, Jordan@Coastal](#)
Subject: Fw: Appellants response to CCc Staff Report re Appeal A-5-LOB-19-005 requesting that a de novo hearing be granted and that the appeal be upheld
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 3:58:24 PM

Sorry, forgot to include the header

To: The California Coastal Commission
From: Anna Christensen, representing Protect the Long Beach/Los Cerritos Wetlands Coalition
Re: California Coastal Commission Meeting, March 6, 2019.
Agenda Item 20a Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement).

1. PALMS BEFORE PROFITS! APPEAL A-5-LOB-19-0005 RAISES SUBSTANTIAL ISSUES, SHOULD PROCEED TO A DE NOVO HEARING, AND SHOULD BE UPHELD BY THE COMMISSIONERS

Section 30230 of the Coastal Act states: Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological ... significance. Uses of the marine environment shall be carried out in a manner that will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and that will maintain healthy populations of all species of marine organisms adequate for longterm commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes. **Section 30240 of the Coastal Act states: (a) Environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on such resources shall be allowed within such areas. (b) Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade such areas and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas.**

The LCDP 18-033 is in violation of the Coastal Act, Sections 30230 and 30240. Relocating the Marina Drive palms/Great Blue Heron nesting sites will not maintain or enhance marine resources or provide special protection to areas (the Los Cerritos Wetlands/the Long Beach Marina Great Blue Heron colony) or species (Great Blue Herons) of special biological significance. LCDP 18-033 is located in a recreation area (the Long Beach Marina and Alamitos Bay, therefore, the development/project must be compatible with the continuance of this habitat area as a nesting site for the Great Blue Heron. LCDP 18-033 is not designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade the area and is not compatible with the continuance of this habitat area for the Great Blue Heron. Nor is the removal/relocation of 44 Great Blue Heron nesting sites compatible with the ability of the Los Cerritos Wetlands to sustain the Great Blue Heron population that forages/inhabits this ESHA and is listed as one of the migratory bird species dependent on the Los Cerritos Wetlands (1 block, .7 miles from Marina Drive and the project area). Relocating the 44 palms, by the City's own admission, may result in the death, therefore the loss, of these nesting sites. Replacement in the form of 30' palms will not maintain or enhance the areas and/or species of special biological significance deserving protection (the Long Beach Marina Heron Colony/Alamitos Bay/the Los Cerritos Wetlands/the Great Blue Heron). Washingtonia Robusta palms grow from 2' to 3' per year. A 30' replacement palm would need a minimum of 10 years to reach the height of the existing palms and would not be suitable for many years to those Great Blue Herons attempting to return to their nesting sites in the 60'+ palms that no longer exist. The relocation of the palms is not compatible with the continuance of Great Blue Herons nesting in an area adjacent to the Los Cerritos Wetlands (ESHA). "Human disturbance, habitat destruction, and the resulting loss of nesting and foraging sites probably have been the most important factors contributing to declines in some great blue heron populations in recent years....The Great blue heron is so sensitive to human disturbance that even a casual disturbance may impact successful reproduction." (H. L. Short Habitat Evaluation Procedures Group, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

While we are not able to appeal the merits or the permitting of the 2nd & PCH Project and the Marina Drive Complete Streets Project (both have been approved by the CCC) it is relevant to our appeal of LCDP 18-033 that neither of these projects are legally conditioned to allow for the removal/relocation of 44 Marina Drive Palms/Blue Heron nesting sites. Both projects are developments in an area adjacent to ESHA and in a recreation area. As such both projects shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade such areas and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas. Additionally, neither project actually necessitates the removal/relocation of the 44 palms/Great Blue Heron nesting sites along Marina Drive.

Again, while we are not asking to revisit these projects, it is relevant to our appeal of LCDP 18-033 to include the fact that both allow for a **public parkway** between the proposed sidewalk and the street along Marina Drive. From the developer's conceptual drawing, this public parkway appears wide enough to accommodate all the existing palms. We can see that huge flower boxes will replace existing palms, making their relocation an arbitrary landscape design choice regarding the public parkway (and our public palm trees) on the part of the developer and the city. Also arbitrary is the width and location of the sidewalk which could be simply be reduced from 15' to 12' and/or moved partially onto the mall property, allowing both projects to be compliance with the Coastal Act, Sections 30230 and 30240 with regards to the existing palms in the proposed parkway. The current arbitrary landscape design choice permitted under the LCDP will negatively impact and is not compatible with maintaining the Los Cerritos Wetlands (ESHA) as a habitat for the Great Blue Heron, nor in maintaining the Great Blue Heron Colony of the Long Beach Marina, nor in maintaining the Long Beach Marina as a recreation area.

With respect to the relocation of the palms in the medians as a consequence of lengthening an existing left turn lane and adding two new left turn lanes into the new mall, we find this act to also be a violation of Sections 30230 and 30240 for the reasons cited above. Because these left turn lanes are the sole reason that the palms in the medians are being transplanted, it is also relevant to note that the CPCE approving them and the Complete Streets Project, did not address the congestion and reduced access to the coast that traffic entering the mall from a single lane street would create. These new left turn lanes into a shopping mall violate Section 30210 of the Coastal Act which guarantees "maximum access" to the public visiting coastal areas only accessible from Marina Drive. The development of three left turn lanes into the mall will interfere with public access.

We would also add that, as stated in our appeal to the Long Beach Planning Commission, we find that proposed changes to Marina Drive, including the left turn lanes which will result in the removal and relocation of many of the Marina Drive Palms/Great Blue Heron nesting sites, will not only reduce maximum access to the public to coastal areas, but could also result in a significant impact to public safety as well. Marina Drive is the only access route over the San Gabriel River south of the Newport Inglewood fault, in the event of an emergency that made PCH impassible.

Additionally, replacing the 22 palms illegally cut down by the developer with 30' palms permitted as permitted in LCDP 18-033 does not conform to Sections 30230 or 30240 of the Coastal Act. New 30' palms will not maintain, enhance or restore nesting sites within an area of special significance (Marina Drive colony) that were destroyed by the 2nd & PCH Project developer after having been illegally issued the improper permit to do so by Long Beach Department of Public Works. Taller palms must be replanted in these locations. Nor is the 1 to 1 replacement of the illegally removed palms (7 of which contained Great Blue Heron nests) in any way a penalty as the original intent of the developer was to replace all existing palms with newer, younger, more attractive palms. The addition of 30 shade trees, while possibly providing habitat for other shorebirds, will not address the negative impact to the Great Blue Heron population and the significant degradation of the Long Beach Marina, a public recreation area.

We respectfully disagree with the staff report which denies our appeal and concludes that the LCDP conforms to the Coastal Act.

2) NESTS NOT NETS! HANDS OFF MARINA DRIVE PALM DURING NESTING SEASON

With respect to the City and Coastal Commission staff's assurance that the removal and relocation of the 44 Marina Drive Palms will be in compliance with CDP 5-08-187, the City's illegal netting of the Marina Drive Palms, and statements by Craig Beck, Director of Public Works, make it clear that the City and the developer of the 2nd & PCH Project intend is remove and relocate 44 Marina Drive palms ASAP to have the extra wide sidewalk and left turn lanes into the mall completed during the current breeding and nesting season, in violation of CDP 5-08-187 and the special conditions of proposed LCDP 18-033. The priority of the developer and the City and is to have 2nd and PCH Project open as scheduled this fall, regardless of the negative impacts on nesting Great Blue Herons has been made consistently clear by both word and deed.

We have been assured by Coastal Commission staff that should our appeal be denied and LCDP 18-033 be approved, the Marina Drive palms will not be netted or disturbed in any way during the current nesting season. In other words, no work (trimming, removal, relocation of the Marina Drive palms) approved under LCDP 18-

033 will occur until October of 2019. Certainly, this is what CDP 5-08-187 requires, what the City has agreed to in its application for LCDP 18-033, and what the Staff report now before you states will be the case should our appeal be denied and the tree trimming, removal, relocation project move forward.

Given the history of violations of CDP 5-08-187 by the developer of the 2nd & PCH Project and the City of Long Beach with respect to the Marina Drive palms, we respectfully ask that the Commissioners impose a Special Condition to be included in LCDP 18-033, to ensure that all parties clearly understand that no work, including netting, trimming, and/or transplanting of the Marina Drive palms shall move forward during this, or any subsequent nesting seasons. We ask that the Commissioners consider language that would immediately revoke LCDP 18-033 and impose significant financial penalties on any and all parties who disturb the Marina Drive palms during nesting season.

We do not believe that the safety and well-being of the palms and the Great Blue Herons can be guaranteed by community members or local Coastal Commission Enforcement staff. Nor do we think that the Coastal Commissioners should rely on engaged citizens and overtaxed staff to monitor repeated offenders in order to catch them in the future illegal acts that, as publicly stated, they intend to commit. CDP 5-08-187 came about because a restaurant owner in the Long Beach Marina cut down public palms specifically to prevent Great Blue Herons from nesting near his business. Subsequently, City staff has engaged in illegally trimming protected nesting sites along Ocean Blvd. because they were apparently unaware of CDP 5-08-187. A single tree near the temporary Belmont Plaza Pool which once held more than 100 shorebird nests now holds none due to the refusal of the City to reduce noise pollution, including High School bands performing at team swim competitions during nesting season. Negative impacts to shorebird nesting sites within the Coastal Zone in Long Beach have resulted in a massive loss of nesting sites and in colony collapse (in the Port of Long Beach).

Please review the following documents and statements by the City and by Coastal Commission staff with respect to CDP 5-08-187.

CDP 5-08-187

Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy Coastal Development Permit 5-08-187 approves annual and emergency tree trimming activities consistent with the following policy: The purpose of this policy is to ensure the protection of bird nesting habitat protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the long-term protection of breeding, roosting, and nesting habitat of state and federally listed bird species, California bird species of special concern, and bird species that play an especially valuable role in the ecosystem. The City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine is obligated to trim trees within the marine environment for the safety of the public and the protection of property. The trimming or removal of any tree that has been used for breeding and nesting within the past five years, determined by a qualified biologist, shall be undertaken in compliance with all applicable codes or regulations of the California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and shall be conducted under the parameters described below. Tree trimming or tree removal shall be prohibited during the breeding and nesting season of the bird species referenced above (January through September) unless the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, in consultation with a qualified arborist, determines that a tree causes danger to public health and safety. A health and safety danger exists if a tree or branch is dead, diseased, dying, or injured and said tree or branch is in imminent danger of collapse or breaking away.

The policy for the City's annual and emergency tree trimming activities, as set forth in Special Condition One, is protective of nesting birds and their habitat and is in compliance with the following Coastal Act policies that protect marine resources and sensitive habitats.

"Human disturbance, habitat destruction, and the resulting loss of nesting and foraging sites probably have been the most important factors contributing to declines in some great blue heron populations...The great blue heron is so sensitive to human disturbance that even a casual disturbance may impact successful reproduction."

Application No. 1810-12 (LCDP18-033) Marina Dr., right-of-way between 2nd St. and Studebaker Rd. City of Long Beach (conditionally approved by the CCC on December 20, 2018).

The Local Coastal Development Permit that we are now appealing states that: **"All trimming and relocation of trees will be carried out in accordance with the tree trimming policy adopted for the Coastal Zone State Permit Jurisdiction Area within the City, which was approved by the Coastal Commission in 2009 under Coastal Permit No. 5-08-187....** The City's tree trimming policy for areas within the State Permit Jurisdiction was developed in consultation with the Audubon Society, Coastal Commission staff and the

California Department of Fish and Game. Application of the same policy for tree trimming within the City's Coastal Zone (Appealable Area) jurisdiction will satisfy the same high standards for the protection of any potentially-present birds or bird nests in the trees to be trimmed or relocated, which are the subject of this permit."

LCDP 18--033: CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, Special Conditions: 1. The permit approved for this project is a Local Coastal Development Permit for the trimming and relocation of the street trees in the public right-of-way on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road, in accordance with the requirements of the certified Local Coastal Program... 2. **All tree work (trimming and relocation, and replacement [if necessary]) shall be carried out in accordance with the City's Tree Trimming Policy adopted for the Tidelands Area in 2009, under Coastal Permit No. 5-08-187.** The Tree Trimming Policy is incorporated into these conditions by this reference. (This same statement was presented by the City to the LB Planning Commission requesting that appeals

W20a CCC Staff Report re A-5-LOB-19-0005 re our appeal):

...On December 20, 2018, the City approved Local Coastal Development Permit (LCDP) Case No. 1810-12/LCDP18-033 with conditions for the trimming, relocation, and replacement, if necessary, of 44 palm trees, and addition of 41 new trees in the public right-of-way on Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road **in conformance with the Commission's adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy.**

....The City approved the tree relocation project with special conditions **to....adhere to the Commission-adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy** to minimize potential adverse impacts to coastal resources.

In response, the City submitted LCDP Application No. 1810-12 for the proposed trimming and on-site relocation of existing trees, and the installation of new street trees in the public right-of-way, and approved LCDP No. 18-033 (Exhibit 5). LCDP 18-033 approves the relocation of 44 palm trees and the addition of 41 (22 palms and 19 broad-canopy) mature trees (Exhibit 3) with six **special conditions that require the City to ... adhere to the Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy adopted for the Tidelands area in 2009 under the Commission's CDP No. 5-08-187.** The Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (Exhibit 4) describes in detail the goals of the policy, **permitted timing of tree developments**, required surveys, and BMPs under different scenarios based on the timing and nature of the work and resources present.

..... **Special Conditions 2 and 3 of the City's CDP require the approved work to adhere to the Commission-approved Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy, CDP No. 5-08-187, which outlines if and when certain work on trees can be permitted.** As approved and conditioned by the City with the relocation, addition, and maintenance of appropriate mature trees **consistent with the City's tree replacement plan and monitoring plan and Commission's Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy**, suitable great blue heron nesting habitat will be restored.

....**As conditioned by the City, the relocation and installation of these mature trees must adhere to the Commission-approved Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy protections.**

.....Impacts of the proposed tree-related development on coastal resources, as identified by both the City and the appellants could involve adverse impacts to the disturbed trees and any species therein during tree trimming, removal, transport, planting, and management. These impacts are **mitigated through the City's imposition of special conditions including adherence to the Commission-approved Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy for tidelands in Long Beach.** Thus, the replacement of each tree removed, planting of new trees, and careful management of the trees is necessary to restore and maintain the biological significance A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach) Appeal – No Substantial Issue 17 of the trees in this area. These issues were addressed by the City through six special conditions of LCDP 18-033 that provide potential nesting sites for great blue herons and other shorebirds and require monitoring for the successful establishment of such habitat. **The City voluntarily conditioned its approval of the proposed tree work on the requirements to conduct the work in accordance with the description in the LCDP, comply with the Commission's Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy**, select appropriate tree species, and develop a monitoring program in order to protect nesting bird sites from potential impacts of the City-approved development.

LB Catex Marina Drive is the original CPCE application (rejected by Coastal Commission staff) for the Marina Drive Complete Streets Project, the one that includes work on the palm trees. In this CPCE the City promises not to do any work on the palms during nesting season. The City also states that the sidewalk in front of the 2nd and PCH project will be 12' to 14' wide. The City makes no mention of the addition of 2 new left turn lanes into the mall, although this modification will not only have a major impact on traffic flow, it will also necessitate the removal of many palms. A letter from Scott Kinsey, Planner IV, Development Services, to Nate King, Project Manager, Public Works, is part of this application, as is the letter from Johanna Page,

Senior Biologist for Dudek (hired by the City to do nesting surveys on the Marina Drive palms), to Josh Hickman, Program Manager, Public Works.

Mr. King states:

The project team has refined the design of the proposed project to minimize the impacts to the existing palm trees as much as possible. While the impacts have been minimized, some palm tree trimming, **relocation and removals will be necessary and shall be completed in compliance with coastal development permit No 5-08-187.**

Specifically, the project complies with the terms and conditions set forth in CDP 5-08-187 as follows:

...The project has engaged the services of a qualified biologist....**the biologist has recommended tree removals and relocations to occur during non-breeding, non-nesting season** (between October 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018). All removals and relocations will take place during this timeframe.

Ms. Page states:

The proposed palm tree removal area along East Marina Drive is located within the Alamitos Bay Marina Coastal Zone which is under the regulatory jurisdiction of the California Coastal Commission, and thus subject to the provisions of Coastal Development Permit (CDP) 5-08-187. As such, **the palm tree removal activities proposed along East Marina Drive are required to maintain compliance with the provisions within CDP 5-08-187.**

... **CDP 5-08-187 states that tree trimming and tree removal shall be prohibited during the breeding and nesting season** of birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, state and federally listed bird species, California bird species of special concern, and bird species that play an especially valuable role in the ecosystem (described in CDP 5-08-187 as January through September).

...**In order to maintain consistency with CDP 5-08-187, the palm tree removal activities proposed along Marina Drive, within the Alamitos Bay coastal zone, are required to occur between October and December (outside of the nesting season identified in the CDP).**

...Pursuant to CDP 5-08-187, tree removal activities along and within the Marina Drive ROW are anticipated to occur between October 2018 and December 2018 (outside of the nesting season identified in the CDP).

...**Dudek recommends that the palm tree removal activities proposed along Marina Drive (in the vicinity of Alamitos Bay), occur between October and December** (outside of the nesting season identified in the CDP) in accordance with CDP 5-08-187.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:06:18 PM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Frederick [mailto:tobyfred@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:04 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please let the city go ahead with the plan, which will improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. I believe the birds will continue to prosper.

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Public Comment from Alexander D. Cross, Long Beach resident

Re: Appeal Number: A-5-LOB-19-0005

Applicant: City of Long Beach

Appellants: Citizens About Responsible Planning (Ann Cantrell et al), Anna Christensen, Melinda Cotton

Project Location: Marina Drive between 2nd Street & Studebaker Road, City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County

Summary:

Appeal A-5-LOB-19-0005 addresses Substantial Issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the public and interested parties may be heard and the appeal may be upheld.

The Substantial Issues are as follows:

- 1. THE STATEMENT IN THE STAFF REPORT THAT “THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED BY THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, IS CONSISTENT WITH THE CITY’S CERTIFIED LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM (LCP)” IS EVIDENCE OF A SUBSTANTIAL ISSUE BECAUSE I BELIEVE SUCH ASSERTION IS NOT CORRECT; THE PROJECT WILL I BELIEVE RESULT IN A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF THE CITY’S TREE TRIMMING AND REMOVAL POLICY (PART OF THE LCP) BY ALLOWING TRIMMING AND TREE REMOVAL DURING THE NESTING SEASON OF THE GREAT BLUE HERON WITHOUT THE REQUISITE SHOWING OF A DANGER TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY.**

The Staff Report states:

“SUMMARY OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION The staff recommends that the Commission, after public hearing, determine that no substantial issue exists with respect to the grounds on which the appeals have been filed because the project, as approved by the City of Long Beach, is consistent with the City’s certified Local Coastal Program (LCP) and the public access policies of the Coastal Act. “

I believe the statement in the Staff Report that “the project, as approved by the City of Long Beach, is consistent with the City’s certified Local Coastal Program (LCP)” is not true. The planned trimming, relocation and tree replacement is planned to occur during the nesting season of the great blue heron, and under the terms of the City of Long Beach Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (Exhibit 4, 5-08-187) tree trimming or removal is specifically prohibited during that time, unless the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, in consultation with a qualified arborist,

determines that a tree causes danger to public health and safety, and I do not believe that any such showing has been made or presented.

Specifically, the Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (5-08-187, pg. 3, Special Conditions III, Section 1) provides:

“III. Special Conditions

1. Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy Coastal Development Permit 5-08-187 approves annual and emergency tree trimming activities consistent with the following policy:

Tree trimming or tree removal shall be prohibited during the breeding and nesting season of the bird species referenced above (January through September) unless the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, in consultation with a qualified arborist, determines that a tree causes danger to public health and safety.”

2. THE CITY OF LONG BEACH MAY NOT HAVE AGREED TO COMPLY WITH COASTAL PERMIT NO. 5-08-187, THE TERMS OF WHICH PERMIT ARE REPEATEDLY RELIED UPON IN THE STAFF REPORT TO DRAW THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIAL ISSUE.

In the Special Conditions section of LCDP 18-033 I believe the City of Long Beach has taken the position that such permit is not binding on the project the subject of the appeal. In Special Condition number 3, the City states:

“3. All special conditions of Coastal Permit No. 5-08-187 that can feasibly be applied [emphasis added] to the project that is the subject of this permit shall be adhered to, in order to conform the tree work activities of this project with the City's and the Coastal Commission's policy objectives for tree work in the Tidelands Area and State Permit Jurisdiction area of the Coastal Zone. However, the subject site is not located in the Tidelands Area or the State Permit Jurisdiction area of the Coastal Zone, and Coastal Permit No. 5-08-187 and its conditions are not legally binding upon the project that is the subject of this permit.” [Exhibit 4, pg. 3]

The conclusions that are reasonably drawn from the City's position set out in Special Condition 3. are: (a) that the City will only do what they believe is feasible and (b) most importantly, the terms of Coastal Permit No. 5-08-187 are not binding upon the project.

The terms of Coastal Permit 5-08-187 are fundamental in defining the terms of the tree relocation, trimming and replacement, and the Coastal Commission must be confident that City will abide by the terms of the Special Conditions which the City agreed to, and which they agreed to so that they could get the permit and respond to the Commission's Notice of Violation. The terms of Special Condition Number 3 should give the Commission no such confidence and clearly raise a Substantial Issue.

As an example of the reliance the Staff placed on Coastal Permit 5-08-187 and on LCDP18-033 and its Special Conditions, the following is quoted from the Staff Report:

"The palm trees located at the proposed project site provide habitat for the Alamitos Marina heron colony and are, thus, considered "major vegetation" under the Coastal Act. Given the trees' biological significance, in order to mitigate and address the unpermitted development (see the section titled Unpermitted Development, above), Commission staff recommended that the applicant submit a coastal development permit application with a tree replacement plan that includes "1) replacement tree location; 2) tree type (the trees you propose must be suitable for great blue heron nesting and approved by a qualified biologist); 3) tree size; 4) planting specifications; and 5) a five year monitoring program with specific performance standards" to restore each tree at a 1:1 ratio. In response, the City submitted LCDP Application No. 1810-12 for the proposed trimming and on-site relocation of existing trees, and the installation of new street trees in the public right-of way, and approved LCDP No. 18-033 (Exhibit 5). LCDP 18-033 approves the relocation of 44 palm trees and addition of 41 (22 palms and 19 broad-canopy) mature trees (Exhibit 3) with six special conditions [Emphasis added] that require the City to engage a qualified biologist to provide a list of appropriate tree species, require all new palm trees to be of the species *Washingtonia robusta* (existing species), submit a five-year monitoring program, and adhere to the Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy adopted for the Tidelands area in 2009 under the Commission's CDP No. 5-08-187 [Emphasis added]. The Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (Exhibit 4) describes in detail the goals of the policy, permitted timing of tree developments, required surveys, and BMPs under different scenarios based on the timing and nature of the work and resources present [Emphasis added]." (Pg 13, Staff Report)

3. **THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL ISSUE WITH RESPECT TO THE APPEAL BECAUSE THE PAST ACTIONS AND PLANNED ACTIONS OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH DO NOT ADEQUATELY MEET THE COMPLIANCE STANDARDS ENUNCIATED BY THE CITY IN ITS TREE TRIMMING AND TREE REMOVAL POLICY (CDP 5-08-187), AND COMPLIANCE WITH SUCH POLICY IS A FUNDAMENTAL REASON FOR ALLOWING THE PLANNED TRIMMING, RELOCATION AND TREE REPLACEMENT TO BE IMPLEMENTED.**

The City of Long Beach in adopting the Tree Trimming and Removal Policy stated: “The purpose of this policy is to ensure the protection of bird nesting habitat protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the long-term protection of breeding, roosting, and nesting habitat of state and federally listed bird species, California bird species of special concern, and bird species that play an especially valuable role in the ecosystem.....”

The Staff Report (pg. 16) echoes a similar sentiment....”With the development of the coast and loss of natural wetlands, suitable coastal habitat for wildlife use, including great blue heron nesting that has been observed in the project vicinity, is scarce in southern California. Impacts of the proposed tree-related development on coastal resources, as identified by both the City and the appellants could involve adverse impacts to the disturbed trees and any species therein during tree trimming, removal, transport, planting, and management.”

The City of Long Beach’s action in initially destroying the trees without the necessary permits, being inattentive to the proper care of the trees after the action of Coastal Commission prevented the further destruction of more of the trees, facilitating a planning and design process which put the developer first and did not protect the trees and the herons, and putting netting on the trees to prevent nesting during the nesting season, while the appeal to the Coastal Commission was pending, demonstrates that there is a Substantial Issue because the City does not seem truly committed either to its own policies for protection for the tree and the herons, or the terms of Permit No. LCDP 18-033. The appeal should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the public and interested parties may be heard and the appeal may be upheld, and then a plan for the trees and the herons can be forged that is more sure of success, more transparent and subject to more input from the public, and not based on the trees and the herons bearing the risk of survival due to the requirements of a development.

In summary, a plan for the project needs to be offered for review which will carry out the expressed policies of the City, meet the desires of much of the public, protect the Marina Drive palm trees, nesting sites for the great blue heron of the Los Cerritos Wetlands and Alamitos Bay

colony, and keep the trees and herons in their original locations. To dig up and transplant the palms which are part of the scenic drive, culture and local history will risk the survival of the trees and may prevent the herons from returning to their nesting sites this spring, summer and possibly in future seasons. Appeal A-5-LOB-19-0005 addresses Substantial Issues and therefore should be allowed to proceed to a de novo hearing where the public and interested parties may be heard and the appeal may be upheld.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Cross", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Alexander D. Cross

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:17:55 PM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Gary Indiana [mailto:gtwohorseschristensen@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:15 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Please leave those trees, and the herons that nest in them, alone. Thank you.

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:41:15 PM

For the addendum.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Matt [mailto:mattpgoldman@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:22 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Commissioners,

I am writing with two requests related to the subject item. 1) Please do not allow the removal (relocation) of the palm trees on Marina Drive, and 2) please ask the City of Long Beach to redesign their street reconfiguration plans. I'm a city resident and I strongly support the efforts of the dedicated and concerned citizens who have filed this appeal.

The palm trees are 40, perhaps 50 years old. They are iconic symbols on Marina Drive and attempting to relocate these trees to support both the development project and complete street project is unnecessary and hazardous to the tree's health. There is significant width of the road and adjacent property to Marina Drive to allow the trees to remain in place. Palm trees are a prized coastal resource and their viability should not be put in jeopardy, when they could easily be left in place.

Additionally the palm trees are the nesting sites for the Great Blue Heron. Nesting season is coming up and the tree relocation is planned for the peak of the nesting season. The Great Blue Herons have been given a special status by the State of California, and it would be a cruel irony if the Coastal Commission, a state agency, ruled against their own state.

With respect to the City's complete street efforts, I am similarly bothered that the trees will be removed as a component of this project. Narrowing Marina Drive to one lane in each direction will lead to significant traffic increases. I doubt the City's CEQA evaluation considered the high volumes of traffic to be generated by the development project. Furthermore, if you look at the diagonal parking on Shoreline Drive in Long Beach at Pike at Rainbow Harbor, you'll see a very dangerous situation. Cars have to back up blindly, risk hitting a cyclist or backing into the traffic lane potentially getting rear ended by another car. I suggest the City look at the large parking lots on the west side of

Marina Drive and consider reconfiguring them and perhaps asking the developer to partner in creating an elevated pedestrian walkway connecting the parking areas with retail project.

If we look at the proliferation of scooters in Long Beach and low usership numbers for bike share bikes, we see that the trends of alternative transportation are changing away from complete streets and more towards micro mobility. The City lost its bike friendly momentum several years ago and this street design is outdated before even being put in place. Fortunately, there is sufficient width on Marina Drive to accommodate a meandering walkway at the development, a sidewalk, class 1 protected bike path and two lanes of traffic in both directions. The Coastal Commission by accepting the appeal can have the City go back and look at reworking their plans. This is the right time to take this step.

Finally, what is equally disturbing is that the local paper, the Grunion Gazette, had an article on February 28 that claimed the Coastal Commission had already declined the appeal. It should go without saying, that it makes little sense that an appeal can be declined before the Commission has even met to discuss the issue and hear out the aggrieved and concerned parties and individuals. This makes it seem like the project is a fait accompli, with neither the City nor Coastal Commission having any intention of veering from their short sighted and ill conceived plans. Transparency simply sounds like lip service with no real world application. I certainly hope we are proven wrong on this.

Thank you in advance for the taking the time to consider this serious matter.

Respectfully Matt Goldman

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:41:27 PM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Michele Learner [mailto:mlearner@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:23 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Cc: achris259@yahoo.com
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

My name is Michele Learner, and I'm writing in support of Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005. I join in asking that the palm trees in question not be netted, trimmed, moved, cut down, or made otherwise uninhabitable to those birds that use them prior to the upcoming 2019 nesting season for the migratory Blue Heron.

This specific stand of trees provides the established homes for individual, migratory Blue Heron birds. Yearly, the same birds make the same trees their homes for the purpose of bringing into the world, and caring for their eggs, and then fledging their chicks.

While it may be an open question as to how well or poorly the trees themselves might fare in the proposed move, for the birds who return to particular trees stands yearly, following flight routes established and deeply-embedded through nature and the Science of migratory species behavior, the loss of their usual 'home' trees would be at least, confusing and harassing, and quite probably, devastating to them. The Blue Heron that nest in those trees depend upon foraging in the nearby wetlands during this fragile nesting and fledging period, and count on the height of those trees to protect them from human and other animal contact. The two things cannot be separated from each other – if the trees are appreciably shorter, then the Heron require a more expansive mileage distance between themselves and people. If these Blue Heron are not be able to disconnect themselves sufficiently from humans and suburban animal predators, and if they have no close reasonably protected, proximate food source, they

cannot successfully nest.

The Heron also cannot simply 'pick-up and move', either. Even if they could overcome their scientific, genetic and hereditary 'programming' to come to this place, how many other nearby spots are out there for them to search for, outside of their established pattern, find, and choose as alternatives, before they tire, or starve, in their pursuit of a new, appropriate, safe nesting home?

This is, after all, a life-or-death quest for them. If they lose their existing homes, they must find a place where they have: 1) nearby water, 2) reliable protection from humans, and urban/suburban predators, 3) a nearby food source, 4) nearby appropriate nesting materials, and 5) a place that fits well enough into their existing migratory pattern for them to be able to successfully continue on in their annual journey, and return each year. On the other hand...

All we have to do is continue to live within the negligible limitations caused by the placement of a couple dozen tall trees.

There is a difference between what we want, and what we need. That potential higher-level of self-knowledge and understanding is one of our gifts as human beings, and part of what distinguishes our species. If those Blue Heron arrive at their nesting spots and those trees are no longer there, or there are fewer of them, or they are half their previous height, those birds will be faced with choices that might kill them, or cause many of their offspring to not be born, or to die without fledging. They will have done their part, but we will be the ones who didn't hold up our end of the bargain of coexisting – by just leaving their few tall trees alone. Can we really not manage this one small thing? Are we really that bereft of creativity and ingenuity, let alone compassion?

The exercise of 'Dominion' that we humans have claimed for ourselves may allow us prerogative in the abstract, but it also requires, in return, protection and defense of that which falls within our sphere of influence, control or authority.

With power comes responsibility. And a decent helping of humility wouldn't hurt.

...words to live by...

Thank you for your consideration of my position.

Respectfully,

Michele Learner

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:42:11 PM

For the addendum.

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: chriss mitchell [mailto:chriss.mitchell@icloud.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:34 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

I support the developer on the removal of any/all palm trees necessary to improve traffic flow and parking.

Chriss Mitchell
Naples Island Resident

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:57:39 PM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Leslie [mailto:leslierash.lb@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 4:46 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

From: Leslie Rash, Long Beach 5th District,
Appellant to CLB Planning Commission, December 20, 2018

To: California Coastal Commissioners (Sara Aminzadeh, Dayna Bochco, Donne Brownsey, Carole Groom, Erik Howell, Mary Luévano, Steve Padilla, Aaron Peskin, Ryan Sundberg, Effie Turnbull-Sanders, Roberto Uranga, Mark Vargas)

Re: Appeal Number: A-5-LOB-19-0005

Applicant: City of Long Beach

Project: Location: Marina Drive between 2nd Street & Studebaker Road, City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County

Description:

(From original Notice of ZA Public Hearing)

A Local Coastal Development Permit request for the trimming and removal of existing trees in public right-of-way, in conjunction with a separately-permitted street improvement project that will include installation and replacement of street trees, located on the segment of Marina Drive between 2nd Street and Studebaker Road.

since changed to:

City of Long Beach approval of Permit No. LCDP 18-033 authorizing trimming, relocation, and replacement, if necessary, of 44 trees and addition of 41 new trees in the public right-of-way in conformance with the Commission's adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy.

REQUEST: Please review the following statements which support a substantial issues, uphold Appeal of LCDP 18-033, and allow public testimony at a de novo public hearing.

Commissioners: As a resident of Long Beach and as part of a larger group of appellants and concerned citizens, I implore you to allow further discussion at a de novo meeting in order to protect coastal resources and sensitive habitat in the project area. Many of us have spent countless hours working with the City to exhaust opportunities for a good outcome. We collected close to 500 petition signatures from people who attend the project area for recreation, all of whom declared they wanted the palm trees on Marina Drive to stay in place. A simple re-design of the associated projects would be so much easier than uprooting and moving up to 44 palm trees risking the survival of the trees and great blue heron which rely on them. It came to our attention within the last few days that the business owners on Marina Drive were not even aware of the changes coming on Marina Drive. The City of Long Beach has failed to inform its citizens and protect the subject natural resources. Please consider the voices of many people concerned about our local environment as you read my comments below.

Statement of Substantial Issue, based on:

1. The conditions of LCDP 18-033 DO NOT conform to the Commission's adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (CDP 5-08-187) and, in fact, the project work violates the Policy. The Tree Trimming Policy ("Tree Policy") was established to minimize disturbance of bird habitat and comply with environmental regulations, including the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the California Coastal Act. The Tree Policy prohibits trimming or removal of any tree that has been used for breeding and nesting within the past five years, during the breeding and nesting season (January through September). Furthermore, trees or branches with a nest that has been active anytime within the last five years **shall not be removed or disturbed** unless a health and safety danger exists. The City of Long Beach ("the City") has violated and allowed violation of these well-known policy principles – protect the trees, protect the nests. As recently as Feb. 21, 2019, the City placed netting (or allowed to be placed) around the entirety of palm tree tops to PREVENT NESTING. Proof of this action was published in a local Long Beach newspaper along with quotes of Long Beach Director of Public Works, Craig Beck. Mr. Beck stated "You can still do work on trees during nesting season unless you find a nest. We don't want to wait (until the end of nesting season) to do the work. CenterCal plans to open the center in October or November, and we don't want to be starting construction then."

Commissioners, please consider that prevention of nesting is a violation of the

Tree Policy which serves to protect bird habitat. Netting is part of the City's tree removal/relocation process. The City is clearly starting the tree removal process during nesting season, thus disturbing bird habitat. Upholding the appeal can prevent further violation.

2. As stated in the CCC 2/21/19 staff report ("staff report"), the subject project is associated with a Complete Streets project assumed to improve pedestrian access in agreement with Coastal Act policies. It has not been proven that the City's planned modifications to Marina Drive will not alter roadway or intersection capacity by more than 10%. Marina Drive, as it exists, is a fairly calm access road to coastal activities. Bicyclists and motorists constantly use the street to attend a weekly farmers' market and to access boating facilities, shops and restaurants. However, the adjacent intersection of 2nd Street and Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) (the main access point to Marina Drive) is often gridlocked as it is the southeast entrance to Long Beach, a convergence of two central roads of travel in Long Beach.

Because the Complete Streets project will decrease two lanes of traffic to one lane in both directions, the waiting/turning time onto Marina Drive from 2nd Street and PCH will increase, causing further gridlock. Add in the associated commercial development on Marina Drive and it seems entirely impossible that traffic will not be increased by more than 10%.

The City's Zoning Administrator approved a Coastal Permit Categorical Exclusion (CPCE 18-10) for the Complete Streets project on Marina Drive on Oct. 30, 2018. The ZA's determination is illogical; I implore the Commission to request traffic studies be done to accurately assess the impact of the planned modifications to Marina Drive.

Poor planning associated with the Complete Streets project has jeopardized the protection of the subject palm trees and bird habitat. The palm trees on Marina Drive were overlooked from the beginning and became physically caught in between the City's street project and the adjacent commercial development on 2nd Street and PCH. The City allowed the developer to sequester the palm trees within its project fencing, ceding control of public trees in the right-of-way, ultimately allowing the destruction of twenty-two palm trees and continued disturbance of nesting.

3. I strongly object to relocation of the public palm trees – especially – prior to review and re-design of the City's Complete Streets project and the associated commercial development on 2nd Street and PCH. The City filed for exemption from CEQA on Nov. 8, 2018, stating "project consists of maintenance/alteration to existing non-native landscaping street trees in accordance with the City's adopted Tree Trimming Policy for the Coastal Zone." The exemption request described the project as "tree relocation in advance of complete streets project."

The City's description of the street project downplayed the work by calling it maintenance and alteration instead of removal and relocation, providing further evidence that the palm trees are being viewed more as an obstacle to construction as opposed to a local resource that should be protected.

Protecting the palm trees and bird habitat is a substantial issue in itself and I request that the Commissioners uphold the appeal and allow for more comprehensive planning that prioritizes the surrounding habitat.

4. CCC staff acknowledges violations of the Coastal Act and Local Coastal Program, including unpermitted removal of twenty-two palm trees, at least seven of which contained ACTIVE nests. The Coastal Commission issued a notice of violation to the developer for the unpermitted removal of the trees. As CCC staff reported, the palm trees have been documented to support great blue heron nesting sites and the project site is a significant habitat for the Alamitos Marina heron colony. Nonetheless, instead of facing penalties, the developer and City have been rewarded by being allowed to continue with construction.

The City's answer to the unpermitted development that destroyed twenty-two possible nesting sites is to have the developer "replace" the trees on a 1:1 ratio and add twenty-one more to address the violation at issue. This requirement does NOT comprehensively address the violation.

Mitigation is not a penalty. No matter how many new trees you plant, you cannot un-kill a living tree or un-destroy an active nest. It is improper that no penalties have been accounted for. I ask the Commissioners to uphold the appeal so interested parties can continue to address the outcome of the palm trees and truly prevent continued adverse impacts to coastal resources.

5. The City has yet to provide evidence that LCDP 18-033 meets its conditions of approval. I ask the Commissioners to uphold the appeal and request proof of the following conditions prior to considering approval of the requested permit:
 - a. 5-year Monitoring Program – The City states that a monitoring program shall be submitted to the Department of Development Services PRIOR to commencing with tree relocation. Yet the City has clearly shown that it is moving ahead with relocation. Please require the monitoring program plan and evidence, if it has been submitted. There is no monitoring plan included in the subject Exhibits.
 - b. Tree Planting Specifications – The City has provided an exhibit called Tree Planting Specifications. However, these specs merely cover general landscaping guidelines. Nowhere in Exhibit 7 is there a written plan for the scheduling, uprooting, handling, storing, transporting or replanting of 40 foot palm trees. Approving a development permit without first evaluating a written plan is reckless. Please require a relocation plan to be reviewed before even considering approval of this permit.

SUMMARY:

The City of Long Beach has failed to act responsibly in regards to protecting the natural resources at issue. Members of the public have taken responsibility for the survival of decades-old healthy palm trees that line an iconic drive and support the fragile nests of great blue heron struggling to thrive. Without these public stewards of natural habitat stepping up and informing the City of numerous violations, we may well have been debating the destruction of all the Marina Drive palm trees now associated with the City's Complete Streets plan and the developer's vision of a mall.

Based on the purpose and standards set forth in the Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy (CDP 5-08-187), there absolutely is substantial issue with the appeal to LCDP 18-033. The City has clearly violated and/or allowed violation without penalty of the stated Tree Policy by allowing trimming, netting and damage to the trees and disturbance of the natural nesting behaviors of great blue heron in the Alamitos Marina heron colony. Although the City claims compliance with the conditions of the permit, in actuality the City has been party to non-compliance.

As a Long Beach resident, local appellant and member of the larger group of appellants, I respectfully ask the Commissioners to determine "substantial issue" and uphold the appeal to allow for further comprehensive planning.

Thank you for your attention.

Leslie Rash

Addendum - Requests/Comments to the CCC
From Leslie Rash
March 1, 2019

Regarding Appeal Number: A-5-LOB-19-0005 --

We respectfully ask the Commissioners to recognize substantial issues and allow a de novo hearing in order to hear and consider significant issues related to LCDP 18-033 that do NOT conform to the Coastal Act and City of Long Beach Local Coastal Program. Also, **we respectfully request specific Conditions of Approval** be considered to protect coastal resources and significant habitat. Without a de novo hearing, appellants will not have a fair opportunity to demonstrate the need for suitable Conditions of Approval.

CDP 5-08-187 Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy

The conditions of LCDP 18-033 DO NOT conform to the Commission's adopted Tree Trimming and Tree Removal Policy ("Tree Policy") where:

- The Tree Policy was established to minimize disturbance of bird habitat.
- The Tree Policy prohibits trimming or removal of any tree that has been used for breeding and nesting within the past five years, during the breeding and nesting season (January through September) unless a health and safety danger exists.

The City of Long Beach ("City") has not only ignored requirements, it has allowed violations of the Tree Policy by:

- allowing the unpermitted destruction of 22 palm trees which held at least 7 active nests.
- allowed developers to retain control of public trees
- allowed developers to pile construction materials around and against the trees
- allowed netting of the trees to prevent nesting DURING NESTING SEASON.

In a local publication on Feb. 28, 2018, Public Works Director, Craig Beck is quoted as saying, "You can still do work on trees during nesting season unless you find a nest. We don't want to wait (until the end of nesting season) to do the work. CenterCal plans to open the center in October or November, and we don't want to be starting construction then."

We have little confidence the City will uphold the requirements of the Tree Policy, protect the trees, monitor the project work, or efficiently enforce the policies throughout construction as it has failed to do so thus far. The City failed to observe 7 great blue heron nests before 22 palms were destroyed. It was only when aware citizens brought violations to the attention of officials that the City took any action.

Therefore, we request the following Conditions of Approval be added to LCDP 18-033 before it is finalized:

- Prohibit ANY trimming, removal, relocation, netting, or disturbance of the subject palm trees during the 2018 nesting season (January through September).
- Prohibit any disturbance of the subject palm trees that may disrupt or impact the nesting activity of great blue heron or other coastal bird habitat.

Coastal Act, Sections 30230 and 30240

LCDP 18-033 is NOT consistent with Coastal Act, Sections 30230 and 30240, wherein:

- Section 30230 of the Coastal Act states marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological significance.

The Marina Drive palm trees are adjacent to the Los Cerritos Wetlands (ESHA) and part of the Los Alamitos Great Blue Heron colony. Uprooting and relocating the trees will risk the continuance of Great Blue Herons nesting in the Wetlands and the established and nesting areas on Marina Drive.

- Section 30240 of the Coastal Act states: (a) environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption, and (b) development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade such areas and shall be compatible with the continuance of such habitat areas.

It has been recognized and documented by the CCC that violations occurred in relation to the work surrounding the palm trees. As noted above, the subject area is adjacent and central to ESHA which supports the great blue heron. Therefore it is evident that significant disruption may have occurred to sensitive habitat areas. The current landscape design permitted under the LCDP 18-033 is not compatible with maintaining the Los Cerritos Wetlands as a habitat for the Great Blue Heron, nor in maintaining the Great Blue Heron colony of the Los Alamitos Marina.

Therefore, we request instead of moving the healthy palm trees/nesting sites, the City oversees a revised design that accommodates and protects the existing palms and is compatible with maintaining the establish great blue heron habitat of the Los Alamitos Bay colony and Los Cerritos Wetlands (ESHA).

Neither the City's Complete Streets project nor the development on 2nd Street and PCH necessitate the removal/relocation of 44 palms/great blue heron nesting sites along Marina Drive. According to plans, the parkway between the sidewalk and the street appears to be wide enough to accommodate the existing palms. From the developer's

conceptual drawing, we see that huge flower boxes replace existing palms along Marina Drive, making their relocation an arbitrary design choice.

SEADIP (part of Long Beach LCP)

The Complete Streets project (referenced in the Appeal) is not in compliance with SEADIP.

Long Beach Zoning Administrator, Christopher Koontz, stated that the relocation of the Palm trees is required for the Complete Streets project, which was approved in accordance with South East Area Specific Plan/SEASP. Although approved by the Planning Commission and City Council, SEASP has not received Coastal Commission approval. As the Staff Report shows, SEADIP is the plan that must be followed. There is no provision in SEADIP which allows Complete Street development, thus the approval of Coastal Permit Categorical Exclusion 18-10 allowing the Complete Streets project is not in compliance with SEADIP.

SEADIP imposes a number of constraints on development; environmental preservation and traffic considerations are prime factors among these. The Plan calls for development that must be comprehensive and integrated, with the balance sought between the issues of land use, density, traffic, environmental issues, and physical impacts.

By approving LCDP 18-033, the Coastal Commission allows development that does NOT improve local circulation or prevent circulation patterns from disrupting existing neighborhoods, nor improve traffic flow on Pacific Coast Highway. Approval of tree relocation permit will ignore special environmental considerations of the area including wildlife protection and preserving natural habitats as required by SEADIP.

Summary

Please, Commissioners:

- Grant a de novo hearing to allow a fair appeal process and public comment
- Uphold the Appeal
- Require re-design that will leave the palm trees in place, thus protecting habitat while allowing for both projects to continue responsibly, in compliance with the Coastal Act and LCP
- If approved, apply Conditions of Approval that will protect vegetation which is established habitat

Three minutes total is not enough time to present an appeal without giving the applicant an advantage. Especially where more than one appellant filed objection. We ask for more time for a comprehensive plan to be put in place that will satisfy the City, developer, and protect the palm trees and great blue heron.

:LR

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 5:01:53 PM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
California Coastal Commission
301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-5071

From: Joe Weinstein [mailto:jweins123@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 5:00 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

Staff report concludes that ‘proposed tree trimming, relocation, and installation is consistent with these policies and, therefore, does not raise a substantial issue as to its conformity with the certified LCP or the public access policies of the Coastal Act.’

This conclusion is inadequate because in the broad view - including especially the Commission’s own mission statement - the Coastal Act’s ‘public access policies’ include not only physical access to the coast but public access to decisions made about coastal zone projects.

In this case, as explained in the comment submitted by Long Beach ex-Council member Gabelich, the City of Long Beach proceeded to piecemeal a broad range of decisions concerning the stretch of coast from the 2d and PCH intersection to the border of Seal Beach. These were pro-forma rubberstamped without due or prominent notice to the many affected people who frequent the area or own businesses there. As a result, the City of Long Beach has conspired to squeeze the available nominal topic for appeal to a question of the fate of the iconic palm trees along Marine Drive.

Even this limited topic has substantial import - please see the comments

of palm expert Don Hodel, CARP director Ann Cantrell, and others.

Thank you!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: SouthCoast@Coastal
To: Ziff_Dani@Coastal
Subject: FW: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)
Date: Friday, March 01, 2019 5:02:02 PM

For the addendum

Shannon Vaughn

District Supervisor, South Coast District
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From: Barret Bradley [mailto:bbradley@centercal.com]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2019 5:00 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Public Comment on March 2019 Agenda Item Wednesday 20a - Appeal No. A-5-LOB-19-0005 (City of Long Beach Tree Removal and Replacement)

California Coastal Commission;

This comment letter is being sent on behalf of CenterCal, the developers of the 2nd and PCH project immediately adjacent to the City's proposed Marina Drive improvement project. CenterCal agrees with your staff's recommendation to deny the appeal.

As the commercial entity closest to the proposed project, we are concerned that the careful and comprehensive efforts of the City to relocate the subject trees safely, have been all but overlooked by the appellants. In addition, we are concerned that the City's plans to add additional trees, at significant cost, to the Marina Drive landscape have similarly been overlooked by those that oppose the project. CenterCal very much supports and appreciates the efforts of the City in this regard.

Additionally, the plans to add enhanced access, provide dedicated bike lanes and additional bus stops complements not only the vision for our project, but is consistent with the City's own long term plan for greater access and mobility for residents.

During the many years of our project's outreach efforts we were honored to gain the support of thousands of Long Beach residents. Part of their support was based on the long term plans that the City has for improvements along Marina Drive. In addition, both CenterCal and the City have always placed an emphasis on environmental stewardship and resident access during the respective project planning phases. This emphasis has been corroborated by the community support for the project.

We appreciate the time and effort staff has placed in reviewing the appeal and respectfully submit our concurrence with staff's recommendation to deny same.

Regards

Barret Bradley
Development Associate

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