

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

South Coast Area Office  
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**W7e**

Staff: M. Vaughn – LB  
Date: August 22, 2019

**ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT**

**Application No.** **5-19-0376**

**Applicant:** Frank & Dona Degelas

**Project Description:** Demolition of an existing deck cantilevered 5-feet beyond the bulkhead and construction of a 76-foot long concrete deck cantilevered 5 feet beyond the bulkhead with a glass railing along the perimeter of the deck. The glass railing will be etched, frosted, or clear glass with a UV-reflective glazing that is visible to birds.

**Project Location:** 3632 Venture Dr., Huntington Beach, Orange County  
APN: 178-691-30

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION**

The findings for this determination, and for any special conditions, appear on subsequent pages.

**NOTE:** P.R.C. Section 30624 provides that this permit shall not become effective until it is reported to the Commission at its next meeting. If one-third or more of the appointed membership of the Commission so request, the application will be removed from the administrative calendar and set for public hearing at a subsequent Commission meeting. Our office will notify you if such removal occurs.

This permit will be reported to the Commission at the following time and place:

Wednesday, September 11, 2019, 9:00 a.m.  
Newport Beach Civic Center, Council Chambers  
100 Civic Center Drive  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

**IMPORTANT - Before you may proceed with development, the following must occur:**

Pursuant to 14 Cal. Admin. Code Sections 13150(b) and 13158, you must sign the enclosed duplicate copy acknowledging the permit's receipt and accepting its contents, including all conditions, and return it to our office. Following the Commission's meeting, and once we have received the signed acknowledgement and evidence of compliance with all special conditions, we will send you a Notice of Administrative Permit Effectiveness.

**BEFORE YOU CAN OBTAIN ANY LOCAL PERMITS AND PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT, YOU MUST HAVE RECEIVED BOTH YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT AND THE NOTICE OF PERMIT EFFECTIVENESS FROM THIS OFFICE.**

JOHN AINSWORTH  
Executive Director

By: Meg Vaughn  
Coastal Program Analyst

## **STANDARD CONDITIONS**

This permit is granted subject to the following standard conditions:

1. **Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment.** The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
2. **Expiration.** If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date the Commission voted on the application. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
3. **Interpretation.** Any questions of intent or interpretation of any term or condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
4. **Assignment.** The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.
5. **Terms and Conditions Run with the Land.** These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** See pages six through seven.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION (continued):**

The Executive Director hereby determines that the proposed development is a category of development, which, pursuant to PRC Section 30624, qualifies for approval by the Executive

Director through the issuance of an Administrative Permit. Subject to Standard and Special Conditions as attached, said development is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act of 1976 and will not have any significant impacts on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act. If located between the nearest public road and the sea, this development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3.

## FINDINGS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION

### A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The applicant proposes to demolish the existing cantilevered deck and construct a 76-foot long concrete deck that cantilevers 5 feet beyond the bulkhead. The proposed deck includes a railing along the perimeter of the deck that ranges in height from 42-inches to 84-inches. The height of the railing varies because the design is an undulating, curvilinear form. The glass railing is proposed to be etched, frosted or clear glass with a UV-reflective glazing that is visible to birds, which will avoid adverse impacts to marine life in the form of bird strikes. The cantilevered deck will be set back more than 5 feet from the extension of each of the side property lines. The project plans are attached as **Exhibit 2**. The subject site is associated with a residentially zoned, harbor front lot at 3632 Venture Dr., in Huntington Harbour in the City of Huntington Beach (**Exhibit 1**).

The proposed deck drainage will be directed away from harbor waters and toward the lot and area drains connected to an on-site bio-filter. In addition, as proposed by the applicant, soaps, paints, detergents or any products containing ammonia, sodium hypochlorite, chlorinated solvents, petroleum distillates or lye will not be used on the deck, and so will not be allowed to drain into the harbor waters. All the construction activities are proposed to occur from the landward side of the bulkhead with the exception of temporary brackets that will support the forms for the proposed concrete cantilevered deck. This will be accomplished by drilling holes to secure temporary anchors to hold the form in place off of a barge. Any dust from this activity is proposed to be collected with a vacuum and at no time will any debris be allowed to fall into the water. No harbor bottom disturbing activities will occur during this operation. Additionally, all standard BMPs (best management practices) will be practiced during deck construction. Additionally, **Special Condition 1** requires the applicant to incorporate water quality best management practices (BMPs) into the project during construction.

The subject site is located within the City of Huntington Beach, which has a certified Local Coastal Program (LCP). However, due to the project location seaward of the mean high tide line, the project is within an area of the Commission's retained permit jurisdiction. Nonetheless, the City's certified LCP may be used as guidance. The land use designation at the water portion of the site is Open Space – Water Recreation (OS – W) and zoned Open Space Water Recreation. The applicant's property (the land) is designated and zoned for residential use in the certified LCP. The proposed development is consistent with the City's certified LCP, specifically with Implementation Plan Chapter 213 Open Space District, which allows private cantilevered decks abutting residential uses, and with Chapter 210, which provides standards for cantilevered decks in Huntington Harbour in the Open Space Water Recreation zone. Moreover, Section 210.06(R)(2) of the IP allows: "*The maximum height for windscreens shall be seven feet above the finished surface of the deck at the bulkhead line.*" The City of Huntington Beach reviewed the proposed plans and issued Approval-in-Concept dated 5/16/19. In this area of Huntington Harbour, the water area is owned and managed

by the California State Lands Commission (CSLC). The applicant has a valid lease from the CSLC for a ten year term, which runs through April 5, 2021. CSLC is aware of the proposed deck project.

Most of the Huntington Harbour water frontage is developed with single-family homes on lots supported by bulkheads, many of which have cantilevered decks and boat docks over public waters, including properties adjacent to the project site. The proposed deck is associated with the single-family residence on the applicant's property. The proposed deck is similar in function to the other cantilevered decks associated with residential development within Huntington Harbour. The proposed development is consistent with past Commission actions in the area.

Although cantilevered above the water, the proposed deck would preclude the general public from utilizing the public water area underneath the deck for recreation or navigational purposes. However, there is no sandy beach area along the bulkhead and a boat dock is present waterward of the area of the proposed cantilever; therefore, in this case, the construction of a deck cantilevered five feet beyond the bulkhead would not create a new impediment to shoreline public access as there is no opportunity for the public to walk or boat in the area immediately waterward the bulkhead at this site. The nearest public access in the area is along the public walkway that runs along the bulkhead on the western half of Trinidad Island (location of the subject site), which is approximately 1,000 feet west of the subject site. There is also a small public, harbor front beach park adjacent to Trinidad Lane at the entrance to the island. Public access to the harbor is also located at Sea Bridge Park, approximately one half mile west of the site.

The proposed development will not have any significant adverse impact on public access to the coast or to nearby recreational facilities. In this case, there is an existing significant pattern of development of 5-foot wide decks cantilevered over the bulkhead. Thus, the replacement of a cantilevered deck at this site and in this location would not be establishing a new pattern of development (nor create an adverse public access condition, as previously mentioned). Because development patterns or use of public Tidelands may change in the future, the Commission imposes **Special Condition 2** stating that the approval of a coastal development permit for the project does not waive any public rights or interest that exist or may exist on the property or on adjacent public waters.

The proposed deck will be cantilevered over the existing bulkhead. A Bulkhead Condition Report & Sea Level Rise Discussion (Report) was prepared for the proposed development by GeoSoils, Inc., dated July 25, 2019. The Report assessed the condition of the existing bulkhead and states:

*"The bulkhead is in good condition and is functioning as intended. There were no signs of any movement, or visible scour at the mudline. The weep holes are functioning. There were some small vertical shrinkage cracks in the concrete face which is typical. The small cracks do not impact the performance of the bulkhead. The construction joints are in good condition. The bulkhead face is level and continuous with the bulkheads fronting the adjacent properties (no rotation)."*

The Report further states:

*"For the likely COPC SLR estimate range (high emissions) the bulkhead/deck is safe from flooding until after the year 2090. For SLR greater than 2.9 feet the height of the*

*bulkhead/deck will need to be increased. For the 0.5% SLR case this may occur in about the year 2070. This is about 50 years from today and may be at the end of the useful life of the deck.”*

The Report also states:

*“The proposed deck/bulkhead can be adapted to respond to sea level rise. The height of the bulkhead can be extended vertically. Such an extension would not require additional harbor channel encroachment. Based upon the low emissions range of the 67% probability SLR projection, the bulkhead/deck will be safe from flooding until the year +/-2100. The existing bulkhead can structurally accommodate an increase in height. Extension is considered a viable means of mitigating SLR and harbor water impacts to the Huntington Harbor bulkheads and residences. An additional +/- 2.08 feet of height, to about elevation +12.0 feet NAVD88, can be added to the deck/bulkhead, which would protect against the 0.5% probability SLR flood risk past the year 2095. Such an adaptation would not result in additional bay-ward encroachment since it could be added directly on top of the existing deck/bulkhead.”*

Thus, the proposed development will not adversely affect the condition of the bulkhead, will not prevent repairs to the bulkhead in the future, and will not prevent sea level rise adaptation measures which the City may implement along and atop the bulkhead.

## **B. PUBLIC ACCESS**

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

## **C. RECREATION**

The proposed development, as conditioned, does not interfere with public recreational use of coastal resources. The proposed development, as conditioned, protects coastal areas suited for recreational activities. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed development, as conditioned, is in conformity with Sections 30210 through 30214 and Sections 30220 through 30223 of the Coastal Act regarding the promotion of public recreational opportunities.

## **D. WATER QUALITY**

The proposed work will be occurring on, within, or adjacent to coastal waters. The storage or placement of construction material, debris, or waste in a location where it could be discharged into coastal waters would result in an adverse effect on the marine environment. To reduce the potential for construction related impacts on water quality, the Commission imposes special conditions requiring, but not limited to, the appropriate storage and handling of construction equipment and materials to minimize the potential of pollutants to enter coastal waters. To reduce the potential for post-construction impacts to water quality the Commission requires the continued use and maintenance of post construction Best Management Practices. As conditioned, the Commission finds that the development conforms to Sections 30230 and 30231 of the Coastal Act.

## **E. LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM**

An LCP for the City of Huntington Beach was effectively certified in March 1985. However, the proposed development is occurring within an area of the Commission's original permit jurisdiction, due to the project location seaward of the mean high tide line. Consequently, the standard of review is the Coastal Act and the City's LCP may be used as guidance. As conditioned, the proposed development is consistent with Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act and with the certified LCP for the area.

## **F. CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

The City of Huntington Beach is the lead agency responsible for CEQA review. The City determined that the project qualifies for a CEQA exemption pursuant to Section 15303. Typically projects are exempt from CEQA pursuant to section 15303 when they consist of construction of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures. As conditioned, there are no additional feasible alternatives or additional feasible mitigation measures available which will substantially lessen any significant adverse impact the activity would have on the environment. Therefore, the Commission finds that the proposed project, as conditioned to mitigate the identified possible impacts, is consistent with CEQA and the policies of the Coastal Act.

## **SPECIAL CONDITIONS:**

This permit is granted subject to the following special conditions:

### **1. Water Quality**

#### **A. Construction Responsibilities and Debris Removal**

- (1) No demolition or construction materials, equipment, debris, or waste shall be placed or stored where it may enter sensitive habitat, receiving waters or a storm drain, or be subject to wave, wind, rain or tidal erosion and dispersion;
- (2) Any and all debris resulting from demolition or construction activities, and any remaining construction material, shall be removed from the project site within 24 hours of completion of the project;
- (3) Demolition or construction debris and sediment shall be removed from work areas each day that demolition or construction occurs to prevent the accumulation of sediment and other debris that may be discharged into coastal waters;
- (4) Machinery or construction materials not essential for project improvements will not be allowed at any time in the intertidal zone;
- (5) If turbid conditions are generated during construction a silt curtain will be utilized to control turbidity;
- (6) Floating booms will be used to contain debris discharged into coastal waters and any debris discharged will be removed as soon as possible but no later than the end of each day;
- (7) Non buoyant debris discharged into coastal waters will be recovered by divers as soon as possible after loss;
- (8) All trash and debris shall be disposed in the proper trash and recycling receptacles at the end of every construction day;
- (9) The applicant shall provide adequate disposal facilities for solid waste, including excess concrete, produced during demolition or construction;

- (10) Debris shall be disposed of at a legal disposal site or recycled at a recycling facility. If the disposal site is located in the coastal zone, a coastal development permit or an amendment to this permit shall be required before disposal can take place unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment or new permit is legally required;
- (11) All stock piles and construction materials shall be covered, enclosed on all sides, shall be located as far away as possible from drain inlets and any waterway, and shall not be stored in contact with the soil;
- (12) Machinery and equipment shall be maintained and washed in confined areas specifically designed to control runoff. Thinners or solvents shall not be discharged into sanitary or storm sewer systems;
- (13) The discharge of any hazardous materials into any receiving waters shall be prohibited;
- (14) Spill prevention and control measures shall be implemented to ensure the proper handling and storage of petroleum products and other construction materials. Measures shall include a designated fueling and vehicle maintenance area with appropriate berms and protection to prevent any spillage of gasoline or related petroleum products or contact with runoff. The area shall be located as far away from the receiving waters and storm drain inlets as possible;
- (15) Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Good Housekeeping Practices (GHPs) designed to prevent spillage and/or runoff of demolition or construction-related materials, and to contain sediment or contaminants associated with demolition or construction activity, shall be implemented prior to the on-set of such activity; and
- (16) All BMPs shall be maintained in a functional condition throughout the duration of construction activity.

**2. Public Rights.** The approval of this permit shall not constitute a waiver of any public rights that exist or may exist on the property. The permittee shall not use this permit as evidence of a waiver of any public rights that may exist on the property.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PERMIT RECEIPT/ACCEPTANCE OF CONTENTS:**

I/We acknowledge that I/we have received a copy of this permit and have accepted its contents including all conditions.

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Applicant's Signature

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Date of Signing