

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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W6b

Coastal Access Restrictions and Closures due to COVID-19

MAY 12, 2020

CORRESPONDENCE

From: Chris <ccvoodoo@aol.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020, 2:04 PM

To: SouthCoast@Coastal

Subject: La county beach closure

Hello. I live in Hermosa beach. Today the city council sent out a memo to residents that that are closing the strand and the beach.

It's my understand that Hermosa beach does not own the beach that it is owned by the public and managed by LA county.

Does the city of Hermosa beach have the legal authority to close and enforce closure of the sand and beach?

Please advise as soon as possible.

Thanks

Chris

Please excuse the iPhone spell check errors....

From: Jared Nachman <jarednachman@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2020, 1:57 PM
To: SouthCoast@Coastal
Subject: Hermosa Beach Water Access Obstruction

Dear South Coast Coastal Commission,

Yesterday, Wednesday, March 25th, the city of Hermosa Beach released a press statement regarding the closure of beach and ocean access within the city effective Saturday, January 28th at 6 am. In response to this press announcement, I would like to express my concerns regarding the obstruction of access to state waters. As a Hermosa Beach resident, I witnessed the large group gatherings that took place this weekend; however, the city did not attempt to close parking lots, impose fines, and give warnings to beachgoers as an effort to maintain social distancing. I understand that a difficult decision had to be made by city officials in the interest of public safety; however, I believe restricting access to the ocean not only infringes on my rights protected by the California Constitution and California Coastal Act but is counterproductive to the goal of promoting social distancing. In a city as dense as Hermosa Beach, the ocean provides a vast expanse of open water for residents to get outside and exercise while maintaining a minimum of six feet in between each other. After reading Mr. Ainsworth's letter about beach closures, the city's order to limit access to the state's water in the absence of an imminent health threat should not be upheld by the Coastal Commission. On behalf of the watermen in our community and in the interest of public safety, I request that you prohibit the city from obstructing public access to the state's waters. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jared Nachman

From: Marc Venegas <marc.venegas@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 at 9:34 PM
To: "SouthCoast@Coastal" <SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Open California Beaches

Please consider opening all state beaches so responsible Californians can enjoy one of the greatest resources we have. Our mental, physical and emotional health is being sacrificed for reasons that, while well-intentioned, really do not apply to a vast open area that allows for safe recreation with ample amount of room to maintain safe social distancing precautions. Recent studies have show that outdoor activities have a minimal chance of covid transmission while the benefits of outdoor activity are myriad.

As concerned and responsible Californians, we have contributed to the fight against covid-19 by staying at home for the last 6 weeks and will continue to be vigilant and take precautions. However, there surely must be a way to open up our beaches in a manner that does not compromise the gains we have made. I trust that the Coastal Commission will champion this issue with the Governor and local municipalities and bring some common sense to this process.

Thank you,

Marc Venegas
Manhattan Beach
Los Angeles
California

From: Roseanne Landay <rmlanday@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 2:40 PM
To: ExecutiveStaff@Coastal <ExecutiveStaff@coastal.ca.gov>
Subject: Public Comment on May 2020 Agenda Item Wednesday 6b - Informational Update

Dear California Coastal Commissioners,

Like many Californians, I am frustrated by the beach closures due to Covid 19. Yet, I understand and abide by the decision so as to protect my health and that of my community.

Over the past 25 years, when I have gone running in the the soft sand at Will Rogers State Beach, I have encountered few or no other people. Now that I no longer have beach access, I must constantly dodge pedestrians and cars in order to exercise in my neighborhood, often on asphalt streets as there is a lack of sidewalks. Doing so puts my life at greater risk and negatively impacts my health.

Pacific Palisades, nestled between the beach and the Santa Monica Mountains, does not have parks for recreational use. And no, not everybody in the neighborhood owns a mansion. Many of us live in condominiums and apartments that lack yards and gardens. The beach and the mountains are our backyards; they are where local residents go for maintaining our mental and physical health. For us, a day at the beach isn't a big social event with lots of people, gear, and food, but rather, it is our only park and where, as individuals or in small groups, we go on a regular basis for brief periods of time to maintain our well being.

Although I hope that soon, State and local governments will once again make the beaches accessible to the public, perhaps initially by implementing crowd control measures such as keeping parking lots closed, limiting access hours, limiting activities, etc., I am concerned that even when orders to stay home are lifted, the beaches still won't be accessible.

I am very concerned that the public's lack of access to the beach will be longer or permanent if the City of Los Angeles moves forward with a proposed plan to use beach parking lots for housing the homeless, even if in temporary structures. In addition to extending the length of beach closures, such actions would result in unsafe and insecure beaches when they are finally reopened to the public.

Please do not allow the City to obstruct public access to the beaches any longer than necessary. Establishing homeless shelters at the beaches is unviable and could create long term problems

for safe and secure beaches.

The public needs to regain access to its public spaces as soon as possible. Outdoors is one of the safest places we can be during these anxious times.

Sincerely,

Roseanne Landay

From: Kory L. Tydon <lonitydon@icloud.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 12:22 PM

To: Schwing, Karl@Coastal <Karl.Schwing@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: State Beachs - South Orange County closures -Open NOW!

Dear Sir,

It is ridiculous to continue the FULL closure of the water and beaches in our State Parks for the activity of surfing as an exercise.

Surfing is an single person isolation sport, reference Hawaii's description (No one will be tandem surfing for quite a while!).

It is wise to continue to restrict parking, (i.e. do not fully open San Onofre) but San Onofre trails is 3 miles of single vehicle parking. It is absurd to have limited access open space beaches closed as that only adds to the crowds at San Clemente, Salt Creek, Newport and Huntington beaches.

Even if it were open up State parks to bicycle access there would NEVER be a valid social isolation violation.

Do the math on the present impacts, the Orange County hospitals are no-where near capacity (as my Daughter who directs at UCI Clinical Trials has told me). The CoronaVirus Curve is flat and the hype of risk does not match the statistics, especially for South OC.

There have been 42 deaths in all of Orange County in 2 months, that is 0.000013% chance of dying from the virus. Far more have died from cancer heart disease etc. and most are getting chronically weaker from lack of exercise.

Take the manpower presently manning the gates sitting in cars and under lean-too tents PREVENTING people efforting to social distance themselves by biking and walking to watch sunsets and surf, to the task of simply reminding people to social distance.

98% of the population is doing a huge effort in Social distance. Yes there will always be some outliers in every society. But 2% doesn't validate the level of restrictions in place. Benefits of exercise to sanity of our mass population far outweigh the risks in spreading the virus at its present levels. It just isn't that prevalent in our population to warrant this level of a police state.

Bottom line: Follow Hawaii's lead, open the ocean and beaches for solitary ocean activities involving exercise.

We got this, do you part.

Thank you,

Loni Tydon

4 W. Ave Cornelio

San Clemente Calif.

92672

From: Jen Hunter <jenniferannegarridoh@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 1:03 PM

To: SouthCoast@Coastal

Subject: Hello from the Contact Page

Project Name and Application Number:

Nature of Communication (In Person, Telephone, Other):

Date and Time Requested:

Full Name: Craig I hunter

Email: huntercraig089@gmail.com

On Behalf Of: full time motorhomes that park in DOHENY STATE BEACH PARK during the day.

Comments: we can't park on the streets, or in lots without getting ticketed or chased out no matter where we go. There is no access to the dump for our RVs. To drive in dump and to drive out. A week ago last Monday during Trump's update the CDC said all state parks can open their parking lots to half the capacity. There has been since no reason to keep these lots closed to seniors sequestering in their own motorhomes in the sanctuary of the lot's during the day..thank you for your time...PS.or squash the city ordinances and tickets.

Public comments submitted to the Coastal Commission are public records that may be disclosed to members of the public or posted on the Coastal Commission's website. Do not include information, including personal contact information, in comments submitted to the Coastal Commission that you do not wish to be made public. Any written materials, including email, that are sent to commissioners regarding matters pending before the Commission must also be sent to Commission staff at the same time.

From: Gerral Group <gerral@outlook.com>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 4:11 PM

To: O'Neill, William <woneill@newportbeachca.gov>; Brenner Joy <joybrenner@me.com>

Cc: Leung, Grace@City of Newport Beach <gleung@newportbeachca.gov>; Jacobs Carol <cjacobs@newportbeachca.gov>; SouthCoast@Coastal <SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov>; Dobson, Amber@Coastal <Amber.Dobson@coastal.ca.gov>; Schwing, Karl@Coastal <Karl.Schwing@coastal.ca.gov>; Scott Pfeiffer <pfeifferscott@yahoo.com>; Renee Pfeiffer <reneedm@yahoo.com>

Subject: Illegal & Misguided Signs

Dear Mayor O'Neill, Councilwomen Brenner and Staff:

While the intent may be admirable, usurping the law is not. I am disappointed and disgusted with the insanity that the City of Newport Beach feels compelled to follow and to abort the protections afforded Citizens in the 1st Amendment to the Bill of Rights. The beaches and the streets are taxpayer supported, they are not PRIVATE and I have every right to park on them, walk on the beaches, use the sidewalks and visit my family and friends. Further, using the City of Newport Beach Seal to intimidate citizens and to act like the statement "Parking is for Residents" is enforceable and is codified is despicable. Shame on Newport Beach. I find these actions reprehensible. Least we forget that it was / is the City of Newport Beach that has created the Parking burden by allowing high density in the Beach area, not enforcing the code that garages are for parking of vehicles, not another living space or a storage locker and allowing a hotel on City owned property that does not have sufficient parking.

The over all statistics provided by Government agencies conveniently provide only numbers, not underlying quantitative statistics. Even these limited statistics do not support the oppressive measures that have been instituted. Orange County has been duped. "One shoe does not fit all".

Yes, savings lives is important, but ultimately it is up to each individual and the choices that they make, not Government to force such choices, unless you are under Communist rule. Government provides the facts and risks. Citizens decide. If Newport Beach was really so concerned about savings lives, why not have a Police Officer at every Bar and Restaurant to check the patrons blood alcohol when they leave? Why sell cigarettes in the City?



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