



# AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Meeting Date: September 17, 2019

Agenda Item   CJ    
**Approvals:**  
 City Manager             
 Dept. Head             
 Attorney             
 Finance           

**Department:** Beaches, Parks and Recreation  
**Prepared By:** Samantha Wylie, Recreation Manager

**Subject:** *DECLARATION OF SURPLUS AND DISPOSITION OF PIER INTERPRETIVE SIGNS.*

**Fiscal Impact:** None.

**Summary:** Staff recommends that the City Council declare the old pier interpretive signs identified in Attachment #1 as surplus, and approve and authorize PierPride to offer the signs for sale as a fundraising opportunity. PierPride will utilize the funds received for additional improvements to the pier, as approved by Council in the future.

**Background:** In May 2019, the pier interpretative signs were replaced and upgraded with new signs in a program sponsored by PierPride. The old signs were removed and have been stored at the City Maintenance Yard.

PierPride has requested to take ownership of the old signs for use as a fundraising opportunity for future improvement projects on the pier. If approved, the organization hopes to sell its first sign at a fundraiser scheduled at The Fisherman's Galley. The organization anticipates funds from this sale will be applied towards pier restroom improvements to which PierPride has committed to support at \$50,000.


**Recommended**

**Action:** STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the City Council declare the pier interpretive signs identified in Attachment #1 as surplus and approve and authorize PierPride to sell the signs as a fundraising opportunity.

**Attachments:** Former Pier Interpretive Signs


**Notification:** PierPride

## WEST REEF & DANA POINT HEADLANDS



**West Reef** is located about 1/4 of a mile north of the pier. Only seen during lower tides, and completely submerged during extreme high tides, this reef is home to an abundance of marine life. Lobster, many different species of fish, crabs, eels and even small sharks can be found in and around the reef. Depending on the season and swell direction, West Reef is a popular destination for snorkeling on calm, flat summer days and surfing during a wintertime west swell.

The **Dana Point Headlands**, beyond West Reef, rise some 220 feet above the harbor below. The Dana Point headlands and the Dana Point Harbor make up the northern border of what is known as the Capistrano Bay with Cotton's Point as the southern border. The headlands were left in a relatively natural state until 2005 when development of this area began. For centuries, this natural harbor gave refuge to many passing ships. Today, the Dana Point Harbor is home to nearly 3,500 vessels.



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## SEAL ROCK & COTTON'S POINT

**Seal Rock** is part of a natural rock formation known as the San Mateo Rocks and is approximately one mile south of the San Clemente Pier. Seal Rock, as it is known to locals, is home to a rookery (a colony of breeding animals) of California Sea Lions, not seals as its name implies. Sea Lions are known for their intelligence, playfulness and distinctive bark. Always looking for a meal, sea lions are opportunistic feeders, spending a majority of their day searching for fish, squid, crabs and clams.





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**San Mateo Point**, past Seal Rock, was later renamed Cotton's Point by locals and surfers in the 1920's after Henry Hamilton Cotton who built his home near the cliff's edge. Cotton's home was built in accordance with the dream of City founder and master planner, Ole Hanson, for a "Spanish Village by the Sea". Although Franklin Roosevelt visited in the 1930's, this area was not given recognition until 1968, when then President Richard Nixon purchased Cotton's former home. The property became known as the Western White House. Today, San Mateo (Cotton's) Point marks one of the premier surfing spots in all of Southern California.

## CASA ROMANTICA CULTURAL CENTER AND GARDENS



Once home to San Clemente's founder Ole Hanson, the Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens serves as the cultural centerpiece of San Clemente and is the only regional historical center in south Orange County. In 1991, the Casa Romantica was added to the National Registry of Historic Places, which serves as the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation.

Built in 1928, the Casa Romantica beautifully adorns a coastal bluff-top that overlooks the San Clemente Pier and represents Ole Hanson's architectural vision for a "Spanish Village by the Sea."

This Spanish Colonial Revival-style home sits on more than 2 acres and is surrounded by an expansive outdoor garden courtyard. The Casa embodies Ole Hanson's dream to have the whole city be one great park and the architecture all one type.

To this day San Clemente has kept Ole Hanson's dream of a "Spanish Village by the Sea" alive. Red tiled rooftops, white stucco structures, red tiled sidewalks and rolling foothills symbolize his dream.

The Casa Romantica is located at 415 Avenida Granada. For more information call (949) 498-2139 or visit [www.casaromantica.com](http://www.casaromantica.com).

