

# CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

## Adjourned Regular City Council and Adjourned Regular Coastal Advisory Committee Minutes

### Joint Meeting - October 13, 2009

A Joint City Council/Coastal Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Development Department Building, Second Floor Conference Room, 910 Calle Negocio, San Clemente, California, by Mayor Donchak.

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

ANDERSON, BAKER, DAHL, EGGLESTON, MAYOR  
DONCHAK

**PRESENT**

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

NONE

**ABSENT**

**COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS PRESENT**

JORDAN, METCALF, SCHWIEN, THOMSON,  
CHAIRPERSON HART

**COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS ABSENT**

MALTINSKY AND NIELSEN

**STAFF PRESENT:**

George Scarborough, City Manager; William Cameron, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Tom Bonigut, Assistant City Engineer; Joanne Baade, City Clerk; Anthony Mejia, Deputy City Clerk

1. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**Inclusion of San Clemente Green on Environmental and Sustainability Issues and the General Plan Update**

Gary Hendrick, representing San Clemente Green, voiced support for expanding the Coastal Advisory Committee's mission to include general environmental and sustainability issues; expressed a desire to assist the Coastal Advisory Committee on environmental and sustainability issues and to be involved with the General Plan Update Advisory Committee.

2. **COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COASTAL ELEMENT DURING THE UPCOMING GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF THE PREPARATION OF A LOCAL COASTAL PLAN**

Chairperson Hart requested Council's direction relative to the Coastal Advisory Committee's involvement in the development of the Coastal Element during the upcoming General Plan update process and the preparation of a Local Coastal Plan.

Dialogue took place relative to the following: 1) Purpose of a Local Coastal Plan and its function as an implementation tool for the Coastal Element; 2) Fact that a Local Coastal Plan was not implemented during the 1990's because of a last-minute requirement for a water-quality component; 3) Process to formulate and determine the composition of the General Plan Update Advisory Committee; 4) Relationship of the Local Coastal Plan to the Coastal Element; and 5) Anticipated timeframe (estimated at 5 to 7 years) to process a Local Coastal Plan through the California Coastal Commission.

It was noted that Council is scheduled to consider the process for updating the General Plan at a meeting in November 2009. The role of the Coastal Advisory Committee in the development of a Coastal Element and Local Coastal Plan will be defined after Council makes decisions relative to the General Plan update process.

3. **REDEFINITION OF THE COASTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S MISSION**

Chairperson Hart reviewed the history and current functions of the Coastal Advisory Committee; proposed that the Council expand the role of the Coastal Advisory Committee to also address general environmental and sustainability issues from an advisory standpoint.

Following discussion, it was agreed as follows:

1. The Coastal Advisory Committee will appoint one of its members to assist the Sustainability Action Plan Task Force by providing input on environmental issues that impact the coast and ocean.
2. The role of the Coastal Advisory Committee in helping to implement coastal-related portions of the Sustainability Action Plan will be determined at a later date.

3. The Coastal Advisory Committee will draft, for Council consideration, refinements to its mission statement (i.e. the preamble to the Ordinance that established the Coastal Advisory Committee). The modifications are to be written in an action-oriented style, as opposed to the current passive prose. Additionally, the revised mission statement is to reflect unique Coastal Advisory Committee functions so as to avoid an overlap of responsibilities with other City commissions and committees. The Coastal Advisory Committee may also propose to Council a change in its name if, after proposing modifications to its mission statement, a name change is felt to be warranted.
  4. Mayor Donchak will contact Chairperson Thomas, of the Parks and Recreation Commission, concerning the possibility of including a Coastal Advisory Committee representative in the Dog Issues Subcommittee's discussions of a possible dog beach. The full Coastal Advisory Committee is to take a position on the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation relative to whether or not a dog beach should be established before the issue is agendaized for Council consideration.
  5. The Coastal Advisory Committee is to continue its efforts to identify ways to discourage individuals from parking their vehicles on the street during hours that prevent street sweeping.
  6. The Coastal Advisory Committee is to consider ways to prevent kelp from accumulating on the beach since kelp attracts flies that consequently enter restaurants in the Pier Bowl area.
  7. The Coastal Advisory Committee is to inform Councilmember Anderson (who is the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities' representative on the State Environmental Quality Committee) of any coastal-related legislation that warrants advocacy or opposition.
4. **POTENTIAL FOR A TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX AND OTHER POTENTIAL REVENUE SOURCES FOR SAND REPLENISHMENT AND OTHER BEACH-RELATED EXPENSES**

Chairperson Hart reported that a funding mechanism for sand replenishment in the City of San Clemente does not currently exist; noted that the citizens of Encinitas passed a ballot measure to increase its Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) from 8% to 10% to fund sand replenishment and beach-related expenses.

Discussion ensued relative to the potential consequences of increasing the TOT during the current economic recession. Council noted the importance of capturing the lost revenue from unidentified vacation rentals and bed and breakfasts, but expressed that the City will face significant deficits in the upcoming years and it is not an appropriate time to consider increasing the TOT.

5. **PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES UPDATES**

Assistant City Engineer Bonigut provided updates on the following projects as contained in the Administrative Report and responded to Council and Committee inquiries.

A. **The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Shoreline Erosion Feasibility Study and Continuing to the Design Phase for a Sand Replenishment Project**

Assistant City Engineer Bonigut expressed concern with the progress of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Shoreline Erosion Feasibility Study; stated that a conference call is scheduled to take place on October 22, 2009 with Los Angeles Corp representatives to try to finalize a reasonable schedule; noted that once issued, the draft report needs to go through a public review process, followed by Council determination as to whether to proceed to the next phase.

Attendees discussed the probability of federal funds becoming available to implement the sand replenishment and erosion mitigation plan. In response to Council inquiry, Assistant City Engineer Bonigut explained that if federal funds are not awarded through the 2010 Water Resources Development Act, the Shoreline Erosion Feasibility Study will have a shelf-life which will allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the City to pursue other federal funding sources.

B. **Establishment of a Safety/Quiet Zone**

Assistant City Engineer Bonigut announced that information concerning the Safety/Quiet Zone effort is available on the City's website and responded to Council and Committee inquiries.

Mayor Donchak announced that the potential closure of the at-grade El Portal railroad crossing will be agendized for the Council meeting of October 20, 2009.

C. **Refinement and Improvements to the Beach Trail/Improvements to Coastal Access/Evaluation of Beach Facilities**

Assistant City Engineer Bonigut noted that the status of the above projects is identified in the Administrative Report and responded to Council and Committee inquiries.

6. **ROUND TABLE**

**Beach Clean-Up Day**

Chairperson Hart summarized the success of the beach clean-up day that occurred on September 19, 2009; commended Councilmember Baker for participating in the clean-up activities; noted that 2,264 cigarette butts were collected by Isabel Pelham and Brenda Miller between January through September, 2009 and that 2,340 cigarette butts were collected during the recent beach clean up day; displayed 149 balloon pieces that were found on the beach.

**Canyon Clean-Up Day**

Mayor Donchak announced that the Watershed Task Force will host a canyon clean-up day on October 24, 2009 behind Albertson's market on Avenida Pico; noted that San Clemente High School students will participate in the clean-up effort.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**City Council**

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER EGGLESTON, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON, CARRIED 5-0, to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. to an Adjourned Regular Council Meeting to be held on October 20, 2009 in the Council Chambers, located at 100 Avenida Presidio, San Clemente. Closed Session items will be discussed at 4:30 p.m. The General Session will begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Coastal Advisory Committee**

MOTION BY COMMITTEE MEMBER THOMSON, SECOND BY COMMITTEE MEMBER METCALF, CARRIED 5-0 (COMMITTEE MEMBERS MALTINSKY AND NIELSEN ABSENT), to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. The next Regular Coastal Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on November 12, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ole Hanson Fireside Room, located at the San Clemente Community Center, 100 North Seville, San Clemente.

JOANNE BAADE

CITY CLERK of the City of  
San Clemente, California

LORI DONCHAK

MAYOR of the City of  
San Clemente, California