

**CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION**

**MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, 12 June 2014
Tour of Inspection – 3:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting – 3:30 p.m.**

City Hall, Council Chambers
East side of Monte Verde St. between Ocean & 7th Avenues
Carmel, California

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

COMMISSION MEMBERS: LISA BOARDMAN – CHAIR
 DAVID REFUERZO
 KAREN FERLITO
 KATHY BANG
 MICHAEL CARTER

II. TOUR OF INSPECTION

Shortly after 3:00 p.m. the Commission will leave the Council Chambers for an on-site Tour of Inspection of all properties listed on this agenda. The Tour may also include projects previously approved by the City and not on this agenda. Prior to the beginning of the Tour of Inspection, the Commission may eliminate one or more on-site visits. The public is welcome to follow the Commission on its tour of the determined sites. The Commission will return to the Council Chambers at **3:30 p.m.** or as soon thereafter as possible.

1. Mission St., 4 houses northeast of Vista Ave.

III. ROLL CALL

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. APPEARANCES

Thank you for attending the meeting. Anyone wishing to address the Commission on matters not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the Commission, may do so now. Please state the matter on which you wish to speak. Matters not appearing on the Commission's agenda will not receive action at this meeting but may be referred to staff for a future meeting. Presentations will be limited to three minutes, or as established by the Commission. Persons are not required to give their name or address, but it is helpful for speakers to state their name in order that the Secretary may identify them.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of the minutes for the 3 April 2014 regular meeting.

VII. APPLICATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

IF YOU CHALLENGE THE NATURE OF THE PROPOSED ACTION IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE PUBLIC HEARING DESCRIBED IN THIS NOTICE, OR IN WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE DELIVERED TO THE FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION, OR PRIOR TO DELIBERATION OF THE ITEMS ON THE TOUR OF INSPECTION/PUBLIC HEARING.

1. Consideration of an application to remove one Monterey pine (25" diameter) on public property due to damage to the applicant's driveway and foundation. The site is located on Mission St., 4 houses northeast of Vista Ave. The applicant and property owner is Jon Borden. Page 9.

VIII. ORDERS OF BUSINESS

1. Review of the landscape plan for the Carmel Event Center Project located at the southeast corner of Dolores St. and 7th Avenue. Page 13.
2. Receive update on beach fire management options and consideration of holding a special meeting on Carmel Beach to discuss various fire management options. Page 15.
3. Consideration of forming an ad hoc committee to address improvements to the Scenic Rd. Beach Bluff Pathway. Page 19.
4. Discussion on protocols and procedures regarding dissemination and discussion of materials that are relevant to matters on Forest and Beach Commission agendas. No page.

IX. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS

1. Receive the May 2014 and June 2014 reports from the Ad Hoc Beach Committee. Page 28.
2. Forester's report No page.
 - A. April and May tree data – distributed at meeting.
 - B. Project updates.
 - C. Parks activities.
 - D. Beach activities.
3. Public Services Director comments. No page.
 - A. Project Status.
 - B. Budget update
 - C. Planning Commission activities update.
 - D. Update of Council Items.
 - E. Future Agenda Items.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Forest and Beach Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the Planning and Building Department located at City Hall, on Monte Verde between Ocean and 7th Avenues during normal business hours.

If there is not a special meeting, the next regular meeting of the Forest and Beach Commission will be:

10 July 2014

Tour of Inspection – as required

3:30 p.m. - Regular Agenda

The City of Carmel-by-the-Sea does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. The City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Telecommunication's Device for the Deaf /Speech Impaired (TDD) number is 1-800-735-2929.

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**CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
FOREST AND BEACH COMMISSION**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 3, 2014

Tour of Inspection 3:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting 3:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL FOR TOUR OF INSPECTION

PRESENT: Commission Members Ferlito, Refuerzo, Boardman, Carter

ABSENT: Commission members: Bang

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Branson, City Forester

II. TOUR OF INSPECTION

The Commission toured the following site:

1. Crespi Ave., 8 houses southeast of Mt. View Ave.

III. ROLL CALL FOR THE REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m.

PRESENT: Lisa Boardman – Chairperson

Karen Ferlito

David Refuerzo

Michael Carter

ABSENT: Kathy Bang

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Branson, City Forester

Sharon Friedrichsen, Public Services Director

Mike Calhoun, Public Safety Director

Daryl Betancur, Acting Secretary to the Forest and Beach
Commission

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members of the audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. APPEARANCES

Lorna Claerbout appeared to say thank you for having the meeting minutes and agendas available on the City website.

No other appearances.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of the minutes for the 6 March 2014 regular meeting.

Chairperson Boardman identified a spelling correction of a name on page 6 - correct spelling should be: Fiona AYRES.

It was moved by REFUERZO to approve the minutes with the name correction; seconded by FERLITO.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Boardman, Ferlito, Refuerzo
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Bang
ABSTAIN:	Carter

VII. APPLICATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Consideration of an application to remove one Monterey pine (34" diameter) due to the safety concerns and damage to the owners property and adjacent properties. The site is located on Crespi Ave., 8 houses southeast of Mt. View Ave. The applicant and property owner is Kristin Wolfe.

City Forester Branson presented his staff report on the tree removal application and answered questions from the Commission.

Kristin Wolf addressed the Commission with her experience s with the tree since they purchased the home in 2001. She is very concerned about her family's safety, and the safety of her neighbors and visitors to her home. Mrs. Wolf also said her 11 year old daughter was very afraid of the tree since a limb fell and almost hit the young girl. She said she has spoken to the Forester before but had been told there was nothing she could do about the tree. She also may try to change her lot lines to give the tree to the City to avoid any further liability from the tree.

Chairperson Boardman asked Mrs. Wolf about her previous removal requests.

Mrs. Wolf said the Forester would not let her do anything and her tree service will not work on the tree.

Dixie Dixon said she had a neighbors tree fall onto her property after being told the tree was fine. She thought old, dangerous trees should be removed.

Commissioner Bang arrived at 3:58 p.m.

Following discussion on the tree and issues raised by the applicant, a motion was made by REFUERZO to deny the application and recommend the applicant prune the tree; seconded by FERLITO.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Boardman, Ferlito, Refuerzo
NOES:	Carter
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	Bang

VIII. ORDERS OF BUSINESS

1. Review options for the management of beach fires and provide direction on recommendations for a fire management plan.

Forester Branson presented the staff report and answered questions from the Commission.

Director Friedrichsen presented a short PowerPoint presentation on options for managing fires on Carmel Beach as well as current activities by the city regarding beach fires.

Public Safety Director Calhoun presented an update on the efforts of the new beach security patrol and answered questions from the Commission.

Public appearances opened at 4:42 p.m.

Maggie Eaton said she has met the beach security person and he seems very personable. She is concerned the person may not be fully utilized or fully effective. More data needs to be collected to document the effectiveness of the program in accomplishing goals. She was also concerned that use of the city ATV may be a problem when there are many people on the beach. She proposed the idea of a fire free night where visitors can enjoy the sights and sounds of the beach without fires and smoke. She also thinks the City needs to see what other jurisdictions have done to address the smoke problem.

Lorna Claerbout was glad to hear Director Calhoun's report and that people seemed to be complying with the fire rules. She liked the beach rule cards and has handed some of them out at the beach. She also thought there was a need to define where 10th Avenue was from the beach.

Steve Brooks thought the Commission was leaning towards more and better of the same thing. He said the city needs to address the amount of charcoal that accumulates on the beach and the locations of the fires. He likes the idea of semi-permanent fire rings to address the number and location of fires and charcoal proliferation on the sand. He

proposed the City experiment with a limited number of rings and see what the public acceptance is.

Dixie Dixon said she lives near the beach and finds people very respectful. She thinks the City need to think about the number of fires allowed. She also offered to hand out the beach rule cards if a citizens group is formed.

Public comments closed at 5:01 p.m.

Commissioner Bang thanked Maggie Eaton for her photos and documents and thought the security person should come back to the beach the next day to see how people complied with the rules.

Forester Branson presented a draft fire rules sign for comments by the Commission.

Commissioners had the following suggestions regarding signage:

- The sign with the fire rules be placed at the top and bottom of each access point in the fire allowed zone.
- Signs with the other beach rules be placed at the top and bottom all of the other access points with the bottom sign visible from the beach.
- Street identification signs be placed at the top and bottom of each access point with the bottom sign visible from the beach.
- Possibly change the litter icon if a better one can be found.
- Add a QR scan icon that goes to an appropriate site on the City web page.
- Provide consistent placement of the signs.
- Install a sign that defines the northern limit of the fire zone at 10th Ave.

Commissioners also expressed a desire for some interpretive signs along the Scenic pathway in the future and that costs of all of the fire management programs should be tracked.

Commissioner BANG made a motion to approve the signs following their suggestions as outlined in discussion and ask the Planning Commission to act on this item as soon as possible; seconded by FERLITO.

Public appearances re-opened at 5:10 p.m.

Judy Refuerzo asked if the leash could be removed from the dog icon.

Commissioner agreed to that suggestion.

Maggie Eaton thought the sign should have a “pack it in – pack it out” message. She also noted the Carmel High school Environmental Club and Design Club may be able to assist with signs and that Carmel River State Beach has rules and interpretive signs together.

Lorna Claerbout thought the new sign was good.

Judy Refuerzo pointed out that trash occurs along the entire beach not only in the fire area. She picked up many items following a Gourmet Fest event at Ocean Ave. She also said Santa Cruz has signs saying there is no poop fairy to encourage pet waste cleanup.

Public appearances closed at 5:18 p.m.

Commissioner FERLITO withdrew her second to the motion.

After further discussion, Commissioner REFUERZO seconded the motion including removal of the dog leash from the signs.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Boardman, Ferlito, Refuerzo, Bang, Carter
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Commissioners continued with discussion of various ideas and elements of enforcement recommendations.

Following discussion, a motion was made by BANG to recommend the City start immediate funding for beach security patrols for 250 days a year, with 2 persons from Memorial Day to Labor Day and on other holidays, one person the rest of the year, develop performance measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the security program, and evaluate using the City ATV for the program; seconded by CARTER.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Boardman, Ferlito, Refuerzo, Bang, Carter
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Public appearances opened at 5:27 p.m.

Maggie Eaton let the Commission know that Save Our Shores has a trash collection scorecard that may be a helpful tool to measure and evaluate trash on the beach.

Judy Refuerzo thought that special events such as the AT&T golf tournament and "Car Week" should have extra patrol personnel on the beach.

Public appearances closed at 5:29 p.m.

Commissioners continued with discussion of various ideas and elements for cleaning the beach of trash and fire debris.

Following discussion, a motion was made by BOARDMAN that the City fund beach charcoal cleanup to provide 2 persons, 3 days a week for the entire year, develop performance measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the program, allow staff to adjust staffing if necessary; seconded by BANG.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Boardman, Ferlito, Refuerzo, Bang, Carter
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Discussion continued on ideas for a second phase of fire management options. The use of fire rings, permits, fire baskets, education and outreach, evaluation of smoke impacts were mentioned as items the Commission would like to discuss at future meetings.

2. Receive an update on the ASBS project and provide direction to staff.

Forester Branson presented the update to the ASBS dry season diversion program and answered questions from the Commission.

No public appearances.

No action taken.

3. Consideration of co-sponsoring an Arbor Day event in July with the Friends of Carmel Forest.

Commissioner Ferlito reported the Friends of Carmel Forest did not want to co-sponsor the July event with the City so this item is moot. She also asked if a private tree event will fill the requirement for an Arbor Day to retain the City's Tree City U.S.A. designation.

Forester Branson will follow up with the Tree City U.S.A. Foundation for an answer to the question.

No further action taken.

4. Consideration of changing the regular meeting date or time of the Forest and Beach Commission.

Commissioner Bang has a regular conflict between another meeting she attends and the regular meetings of the Forest and Beach Commission. She is requesting the Commission change the regular meeting date or time to accommodate her conflict.

Following discussion, BANG made a motion to move the regular meeting of the Commission to the second Thursday of the month with the same starting time of 3:30 p.m.; seconded by CARTER.

After further discussion, FERLITO made a substitute motion to change the meeting time to 4:00 p.m with a tour at 3:30 p.m. She decided to withdraw the substitute motion.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Ferlito, Refuerzo, Bang, Carter
NOES: Boardman
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Acting Secretary Betancur pointed out that the City Attorney would need to review this action before implementation and staff would report his assessment to the Commissioners prior to the next meeting.

IX. REPORTS FROM STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS

1. Receive verbal report from the Ad Hoc Beach Committee.

Commissioner Refuerzo reported on cleanup activities and asked about sand redistribution at Del Mar.

Commissioner Ferlito mentioned that the Carmel Residents Association would like to have their monthly beach cleanup posted on the City's web site. She also asked if the City can help with picking up the larger and heavy items that are found during the monthly cleanups.

Forester Branson reported that the sand redistribution is planned but pending a little more beach development below Del Mar. He also reported that the City is willing to pick up any large or heavy items on the beach if the CRA lets the City know about the items.

2. Forester's report

Forester Branson presented his reports and answered questions from the Commission.

Public appearances opened at 6:33 p.m.

Judy Refuerzo asked about the tree replacement on 4th Ave. between Torres St. and Santa Fe St.

Public appearances closed at 6:34 p.m.

Forester Branson reported the tree replacement should happen soon.

3. Public Services Director's comments.

Director Friedrichsen mentioned a beach cleanup event sponsored by Save our Shores and PG&E was scheduled for Saturday, April 5th. She also reported on recent staff activities that fulfill implementation elements of the Forest Management Plan.

Commissioner Ferlito asked about the Mission trail Nature Preserve scorecard and the Scenic restroom project.

Director Friedrichsen answered both questions.

The Commissioners, staff and the audience thanked Acting Secretary Betancur for his support to the Commission.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson BOARDMAN adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Approved,

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Boardman, Chairperson

Mike Branson, City Forester

The importance of the tree(s) to the urban forest in the area:

The tree contributes to the upper canopy of the urban forest this neighborhood.

Size and species of tree(s) that are to be preserved:

Coast live oak - 18" dbh in city right-of-way

Impacts construction may have on trees that are to be preserved and suggested mitigation:

N/A

Options:

1. Approve the application.
2. Do not approve the application.
3. Postpone consideration.

Staff Recommendations:

Option #2. Do not approve the application. The tree appears to be in good condition and health and without any significant factors that necessitate removal of the tree at the current time. The damage to the driveway/is obvious and in need of some corrective action. I recommend the applicant make arrangements to repair his driveway and after the old driveway material is carefully removed, to work with the City Forester to evaluate the tree roots to determine which roots can be pruned away and which will need to be retained to accommodate a new driveway.

CITY OF CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
P.O. Box "SS"
Carmel, CA 93921
Ph: (831) 620-2070/FAX: 831-624-2132

Date Received 12/26/13
Application Fee: \$ 2500
Receipt # 55074

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO REMOVE OR PRUNE TREES
NO CONSTRUCTION

010 111 012

Location of property: Mission 4 ME VISTA Apt. #
Block: 5.1/2 Lot: 12

Name of Property Owner: Jon Borden Name of Applicant/Contractor: SAME

Mailing Address Box 10977 Mailing Address: SAME
Truckee CA 96162

Phone #: (530) 545-0458 call Phone #: SAME

WHO WILL BE REMOVING/PRUNING THE TREE(S): ARELLANOS tree service
City Business License #: 981837

(PLEASE NOTE IF TREE(S) ARE ON CITY OR PRIVATE PROPERTY)

Number, size and species of tree(s) to be removed: 1 ~ 22" pine tree

Number, size and species of limbs/roots to be removed: _____

Reason for removal or pruning: UPROOTING DRIVEWAY AND FOUNDATION. I WANT TO REPLACE DRIVEWAY

You will be notified in writing the date and time that your request is scheduled for a hearing. If you or your representative is unable to attend the hearing, your application will be tabled. You may reschedule by contacting the Secretary to the Forest and Beach Commission at (831) 620-2070. You may waive your right to speak at the hearing and authorize the Forest and Beach Commission to act on your request in your absence by signing on the following line:
Date: 12-18-13

A SITE PLAN MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION AND SHOW THE FOLLOWING:

1. Location, size and species of ALL trees on the lot.
2. Location and species of tree(s)/limb(s) to be removed or pruned
3. Footprint of the structure.
4. Location of areas for tree replanting - The City has adopted Design Review Guidelines which include a minimum tree density per lot. Please review the attached Policy and indicate on the site plan where you intend to plant trees necessary to comply with this guideline.

RECEIVED

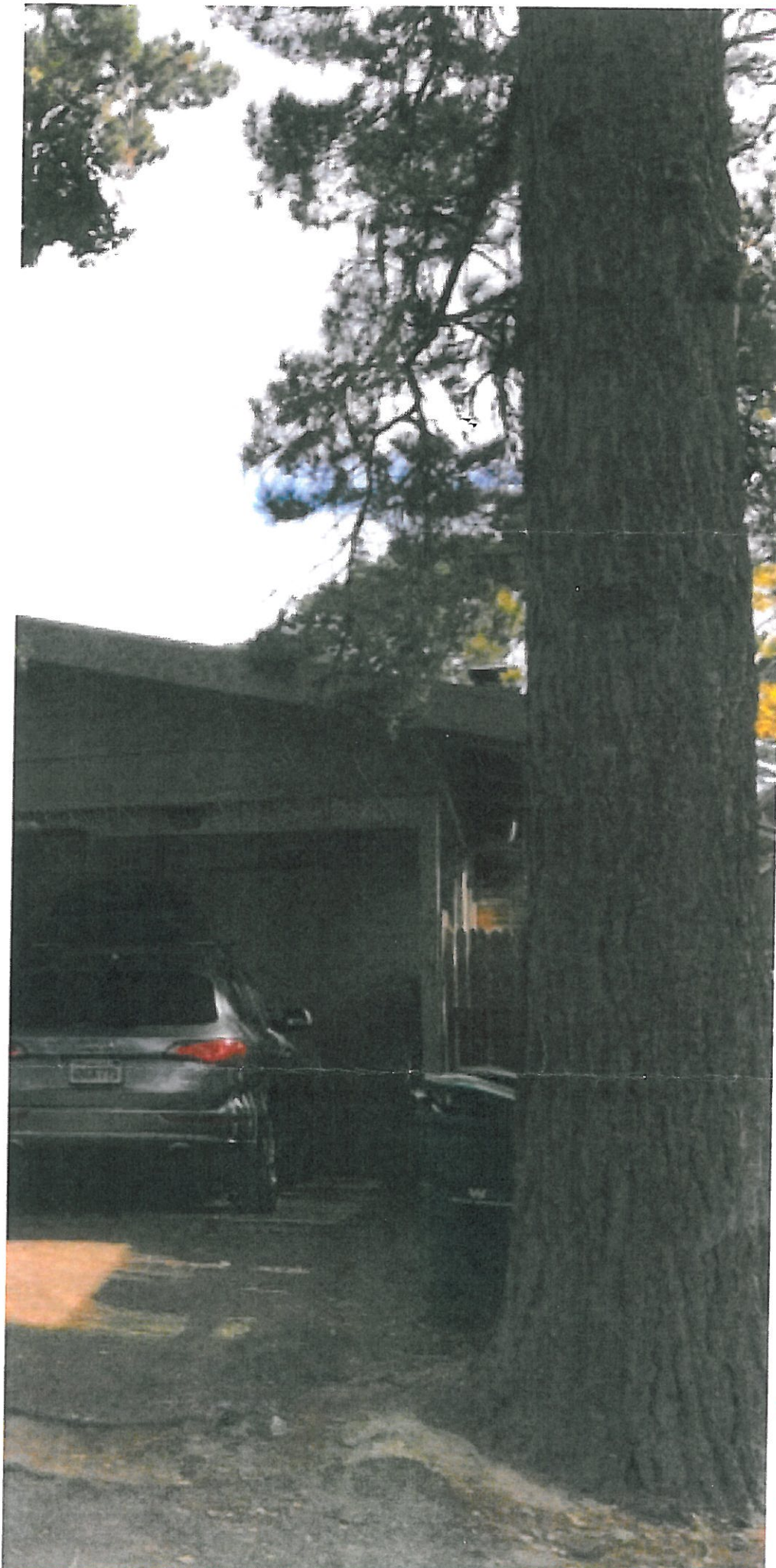
DEC 26 2013
City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
Planning & Building Dept.

- Any decision of the Forest and Beach Commission is based on information submitted with this application - PLEASE BE ACCURATE.
- NO WORK IS PERMITTED until you have picked up your permit for tree work - The Permit must be posted on the job site when work is being performed.

Owner's Signature [Signature] Date: 11-14-13
Agent for Owners: _____ Date: _____

INCOMPLETE APPLICATION WILL BE RETURNED

City Tree - repair / assess root (11)



12

RECEIVED

DEC 26 2013

City of Carmel-by-the-Sea
Planning & Building Dept.

Borden

5.5./12

010-111-017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lisa Boardman, Chairperson
Members of the Forest and Beach Commission

FROM: Mike Branson, City Forester

DATE: 6 June 2014

SUBJECT: Review of the landscape plan for the Carmel Event Center Project located at the southeast corner of Dolores St. and 7th Avenue.

During the regular meeting of 5 December 2013, the Commission allowed the removal of several trees from the site of the Carmel Event Center located on the southeast corner of Dolores St. and 7th Ave. The tree removal authorization had several conditions of approval:

- 1) Plant two upper canopy trees on site, one near the parking entrance and one near the parking exit.
- 2) Plant a mix of trees and large shrubs (Junipers were proposed) along the eastern and southern sides of the site.
- 3) Incorporate and a tree into the area where the camphor and plum trees are to be removed, and in the planter near the Dolores St. building entrance.
- 4) Plant two new trees on public property on the north side of the site – replacing two existing Monterey pines in the sidewalk area. Work with the City Forester on tree selection and placement.
- 5) Provide the Forest & Beach Commission with a landscape plan of the proposed planting to fulfill the above conditions.

The architect for the project has submitted a landscape plan for review by the Commission.

Conditions 1 and 4 appear to be met in the proposed plan.

Condition 5 is partially met.

Condition 2 is partially met with a mix of three new Deodar cedar trees and Blue point cypress (juniper) and low growing ground cover plants. The architect and owners have chosen the cypress to provide dense screening and sound buffering for the adjacent properties as required by the Planning Commission.

Condition 3 has not been met as there is no planting area large enough for a tree near building #2 and drought tolerant plantings are proposed for the planter on Dolores St.

LANDSCAPE PLAN NOTES

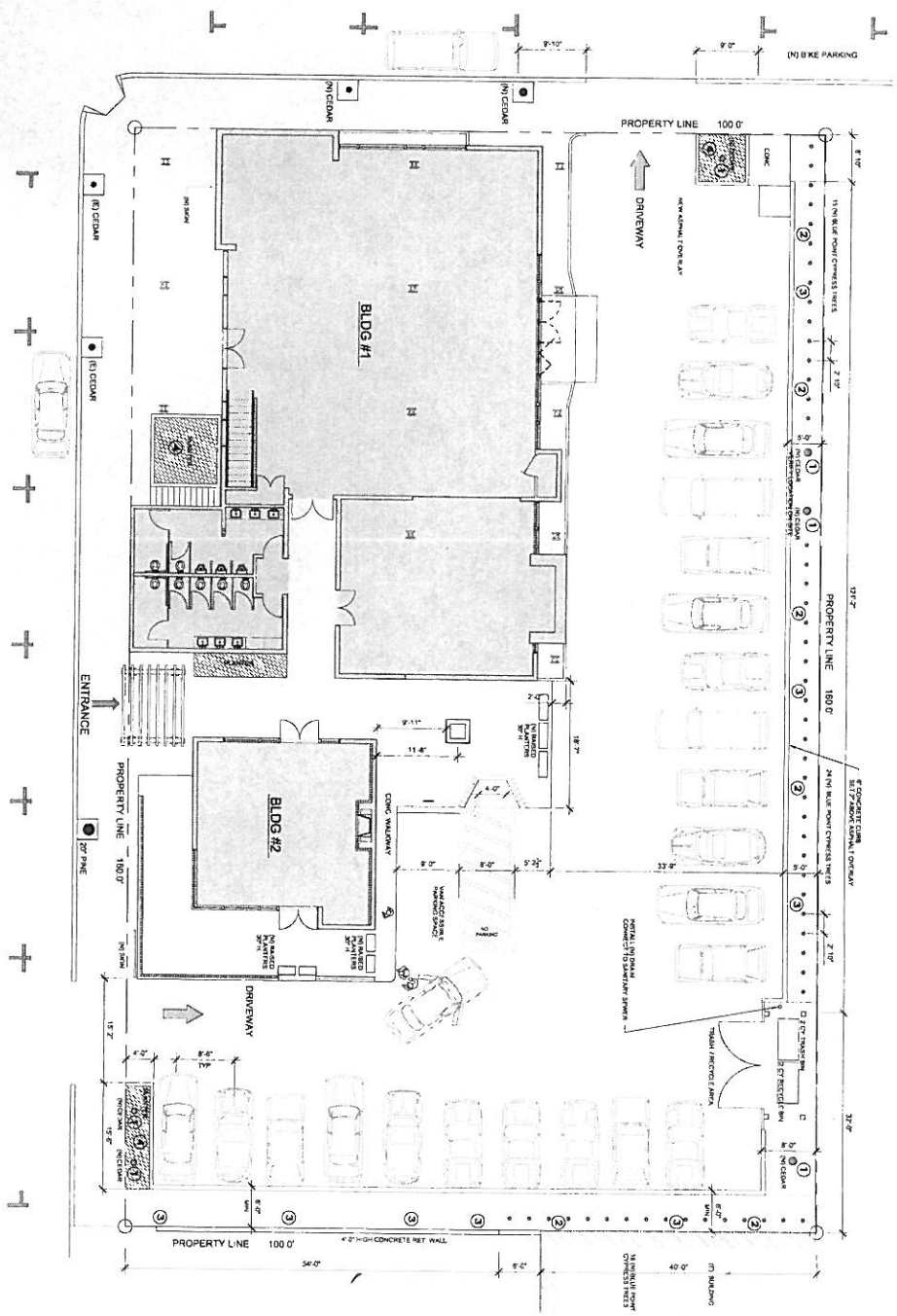
1. PROPOSED NEW UPRIGHT CANOPY TREES, DECIDUOUS (DCA) 10' x 6" DBH @ 10' H, CITY REPORT OF JAVON THYLANDER, CIV 147014.
2. PROPOSED NEW PROPERTY LINE SCREENER TREES, BLUE POINT CYPRESS (BPC) 15' TOTAL.
3. PROPOSED NEW CANOPY PLANTING AT PROPERTY CORNER AS NOTED ON DRAWING.
4. PROPOSED NEW PLANTING TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
 - LANDSCAPE
 - CELTIC
 - ACACIA
 - YUCCA
 - SHRUBS
 - PERENNIALS
 - GRASS

5. DRAINAGE DETENTION BASIN TO BE INSTALLED WITH INLET TO EACH PLANT WITH A 1" x 2" CHAIN PIT. DETENTION BASIN TO BE INSTALLED WITH INLET TO EACH PLANT WITH A 1" x 2" CHAIN PIT. DETENTION BASIN TO BE INSTALLED WITH INLET TO EACH PLANT WITH A 1" x 2" CHAIN PIT.
6. NEW CANOPY TREES TO BE PLANTED ON THE PROPERTY LINE AND THE PROPERTY CORNER. NEW CANOPY TREES TO BE PLANTED ON THE PROPERTY LINE AND THE PROPERTY CORNER.
7. NEW CANOPY TREES TO BE PLANTED ON THE PROPERTY LINE AND THE PROPERTY CORNER. NEW CANOPY TREES TO BE PLANTED ON THE PROPERTY LINE AND THE PROPERTY CORNER.

7TH AVENUE

1 PROPOSED LANDSCAPE PLAN
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

DOLORES STREET



<p>L1</p>	<p>C PINES 7, LLC BLOCK : 91, LOT: 20 APN: 010-145-020-000 CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA, CALIFORNIA</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>ADAM JESELNICK ARCHITECT</p>
	<p>LANDSCAPE PLAN</p>		
	<p>6-1-2014 1/8" = 1'-0"</p>		

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lisa Boardman, Chairperson
Members of the Forest and Beach Commission

FROM: Mike Branson, City Forester
Sharon Friedrichsen, Public Services Director

DATE: 6 June 2014

SUBJECT: Receive update on beach fire management options and consideration of holding a special meeting on Carmel Beach to discuss various fire management options.

Staff will provide an update on recent activities related to managing fires and related issues on Carmel Beach. Topics will include signage and education, charcoal cleanup, and enforcement. A letter is attached from Mike Watson of the California Coastal Commission with his thoughts on the issue of new signs along the waterfront.

Staff is also requesting the Commission consider holding a special meeting later this month down on the beach to discuss on-site the logistics of implementing various fire management options.

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE

725 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300

SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

Phone: (831) 427-4863

Fax: (831) 427-4877



May 9, 2014

Sharon Friedrichsen
Public Services Director
City of Carmel by the Sea
PO Box SS
Carmel, CA 93921

Subject: *Beach Signs (Local Permit # SI 14-20)*

Sharon
Dear Ms. Friedrichsen:

On May 2, 2014, we received the above-referenced sign permit and coastal development permit (CDP) application that you forwarded on behalf of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea to install signing along Carmel Beach and the Scenic Road shoreline access path. The project proposes to install a number of different signs at each access point along the shoreline between 4th Avenue and Martin Way, including new signage regarding Beach Rules, Beach Fire Rules, Tsunami Hazard, Beach Access, Beach Fire location, and Mutt Mitt Stations. The signs are proposed to be made of aluminum and come in a variety of colors and shapes and are up to 30" x 22" in size. In all, more than 50 new signs would be installed along Carmel's shoreline under the City's proposal.

We have reviewed the City's proposal and it appears that the project is inconsistent with the visual sensitivity and signage policies of the City's certified Local Coastal Program (LCP). As noted in the City's LCP, the views of Carmel Beach and the wind-swept Monterey Cypress trees lining the bluffs provide the backdrop to one of the most scenic landscapes in the state. As such, the LCP includes policies designed to protect said visual resources including via implementation of a sign program (LUP 04-5) that uses as few signs as possible (P4-31) to inform beach users of regulations governing beach activities. A host of additional policies (P4-32 - P-4-38) are provided to aid the City in developing a sign program while achieving the desired protection of scenic resources. However, from the materials submitted thus far, it appears the proposed new signs are inconsistent with the LCP's visual sensitivity and signage policies because of the number and sizes of the proposed signs, as well as their proposed locations. For example, Commission staff finds it unnecessary and inappropriate to sign each access point at the top and bottom of the bluff (20 locations) with a reflective 3.5" x 36" beach access identification sign. The new signs will add visual clutter that will detract from the scenic qualities of the area. In addition, staff noticed that at least two of the proposed signs (i.e., Beach Rules and Beach Fire Rules) include rules or icons that are confusing and/or conflict with existing LCP policy. For instance, the fire-allowed and no-fire allowed symbols are included together on these signs, which is confusing. Also, the proposed Beach Fire Rules sign indicates that the maximum size of fires on the beach is 3' wide x 3' tall; however, LCP Section 17.20.200.E states that beach fires up to 4' wide and 5' tall may be allowed. Similarly, both the Beach Rules and Beach Fire

Beach Signs (Local Permit # SI 14-20)

May 9, 2014

Page 2

Rules signs indicate that dogs must be leashed. However, the LCP provides that dogs may be allowed on the beach off-leash if under voice control. Further, notes provided on the Beach Rules and Beach Fire Rules signs also indicate that a "No Alcohol" symbol/icon may be placed on the signs. Again, per LUP policy P4-52, alcohol is allowed on the beach until 10pm.

In each of the above instances, including such rules or icons on the signs would be both inconsistent with the City's LCP and would result in a de facto amendment of the LCP. Certainly, it is within the City's purview to review the LCP's policies and standards with respect to allowable beach activities to evaluate whether such activities are creating or contributing to a nuisance, and to suggest amendments to these policies and standards. However, until an LCP amendment has been approved by the Commission authorizing modifications to the allowable beach uses, the proposed rules or icons on the signs are inconsistent with the LCP and Commission staff cannot support a coastal development permit for a sign program that includes them. In sum, the City should not include these symbols on the proposed new signs at this time.

We further understand that the City's Forest and Beach Commission is holding public meetings to develop policy or rule changes that govern activities along Carmel Beach, including with respect to beach fires along Carmel Beach. Thus, processing a coastal development permit for beach fire rules signs in advance of the planning work in process appears to be premature. We recommend that the City hold off taking an action on a coastal development permit for the sign program until after it has acted on potential rule changes regarding beach activities, and submits and LCP amendment to Commission staff, if necessary.

Additionally, the proposed sign permit does not take into account the potential cumulative impacts of installing another 50+ new signs along Carmel's shoreline. The current proposal as submitted to the Commission only considers potential changes in the visual aesthetic of the beach access points as opposed to a comprehensive evaluation of all signage along Carmel Beach as required by LUP policies O4-5 and P4-31. The proposed sign permit materials and accompanying photo mock-ups are inadequate to assess the cumulative impacts of signing along the shoreline, inconsistent with these LCP policies. For these and the above reasons, we strongly urge the City to postpone taking an action on the sign permit and that the City instead work together with Commission staff to develop a comprehensive sign program for the beach and shoreline that better protects the visual aesthetic of Carmel's highly scenic shoreline and reflects the intent of the certified LCP.

Finally, as indicated in past projects, the Commission's retained permit jurisdiction as shown on the approved post-certification map generally follows the toe of the coastal bluff. Accordingly, all signs proposed for the lower bluff and at the base of the access stairways would be located within the Commission's retained permit jurisdiction. Any development within of this area will require a Coastal Development Permit from the Coastal Commission.

I look forward to working with you on this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (831) 427-4863 if you have any questions regarding the application and the above information requests.

Beach Signs (Local Permit # SI 14-20)

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Page 3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Watson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mike Watson
Coastal Planner,
Central Coast District Office

cc: Rob Mullane, Planning and Building Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lisa Boardman, Chairperson
Members of the Forest and Beach Commission

FROM: Mike Branson, City Forester
Sharon Friedrichsen, Public Services Director

DATE: 6 June 2014

SUBJECT: Consideration of forming an ad hoc committee to address improvements to the Scenic Rd. Beach Bluff Pathway.

Revitalization of the Scenic Rd. Beach Bluff Pathway is discussed in section 4.3.1 and supported by several management policies in section 4.4 of the Shoreline Management Plan. The Forest and Beach Commission has identified revitalization of the pathway as a priority for implementation and the current 5 year Capital Improvement Plan includes this project as a future capital project.

Currently, staff is working to repair the pathway irrigation system and with the new restroom facility and its landscaping components coming on line in early fall it is an opportune time to review the Beach Bluff Pathway landscape plan and identify specific areas, features, plant materials, and other components need improvements or adjustments.

Commissioner Ferlito has suggested the Commission consider forming an ad hoc committee to work with staff on addressing improvements to the Scenic Rd. Beach Bluff Pathway.

If the Commission determines that an ad hoc committee should be formed, the chairperson will accept nominations or volunteers for the positions and will assign the two committee members.

Fire Pits

City ordinance limits recreational beach fires to that portion of the beach located south of Tenth Avenue and seaward of the high tide line.⁵⁷ In addition, Carmel also allows fires to be built in three stone fire pits located near the Ocean Avenue/Del Mar parking lot – these pits are located a very short distance from convenient parking spaces and are popular with beach visitors.

Volleyball Courts

In the dunes near the foot of Ocean Avenue, the City has installed posts for four sand volleyball courts; players must supply their own net and ball. These are often used on weekends and during the summer.

4.3 FUTURE PROJECTS

4.3.1 Revitalization of the Beach Bluff Pathway Landscape

The Beach Bluff Pathway landscape is now in need of revitalization. Since its initial planting in 1988, the landscape has strayed from its original design theme. Species, locations, and densities of horticultural plants have changed, but unfortunately, these changes have not been documented. In some areas, plants have grown tall enough to obscure portions of Carmel's unique coastal viewshed. At other sites, landscape plants that had successfully grown to maturity, became senescent and died. These were rarely replaced by younger, more vigorous plants. There are now entire Pathway planter areas where plants have completely disappeared and replaced by a sterile medium of wood chips.

These conditions were described in recent shoreline assessments; some have been addressed by City staff and/or contractors. The Pathway landscape, however, continues to be affected by the lack of: 1) an operational program that guides staff in their daily efforts, and 2) adequate staff-time and funding to perform tasks necessary to maintain the landscape.

Renewal of the Pathway landscape, if based on a combination of the project's original design concepts and lessons learned during the past fifteen years, would help return the Pathway to its award-winning condition. As mentioned above, the Pathway's landscape plants are important for their aesthetic qualities as well as for the protection they give to Carmel's fragile shoreline bluff tops. Steps recommended for the revitalization of the Pathway landscape are listed below.

⁵⁷ Recreational beach fires are discussed in greater detail in Section 5.

Landscape Plans and Concepts

The original plans and design concepts should be reviewed. They were the result of a very active process involving a citizen task force, world-renown landscape architects, City staff and consultants, along with ideas that grew out of several public hearings. Each species, its color, size, and location, was selected to perform a specific function in the overall landscape design. The original Pathway was greeted by wide acclaim and was the recipient of several awards. The Task Force understood that not all plants would be successful and future adjustments would be necessary. These changes, however, should be made with an understanding and appreciation for the project's original design intent.

Plant Selections

With experience gained during the past fifteen years, the original Pathway plant selections can be assessed, perhaps at the rate of one block per year. Many plants have been successful; others have not. Some failed to thrive because they could not tolerate the harsh forces of nature or the intense human impacts that characterize Carmel's shoreline. Others may have failed because they lacked proper care. Some of the plants were unable to thrive in their planned locale. Others proved to grow too slowly or too tall for their intended purpose. All plantings that do not appear successful should be assessed according to a standard procedure:

If a given plant is not thriving:

- **Is it not suitable for its location?**
Perhaps this species will grow well in a different section of the Carmel shoreline landscape.
- **Was its failure due to trampling or other human/dog activity?**
Perhaps the addition of guardrails or boulders could help achieve success.
- **Was there a problem with watering or fertilizing?**
These should be adjusted before removing a species from the plant list.

If, after these assessments, it is determined that a planting should be modified or a species replaced, then new plants/species must be selected that fit well with the Pathway landscape design criteria, stated above. Any changes to the plant selection must be recorded, and periodically considered by the Carmel Forest and Beach Commission.

Staffing

Changes to the Pathway landscape should take into account the availability of Forest, Parks, and Beach staffing. New plantings have little value if there is not enough staff (or funding for contract labor) to maintain them.

Training

One key to the success of the Pathway landscape project will be staff training. The City's shoreline differs from landscapes in other parts of Carmel. The important role that the Pathway plays in bluff top protection, the protection of coastal viewsheds and the ability of plants to withstand harsh coastal conditions are concepts in need of discussion.

The day-to-day work performed by City staff is as important as the deliberations, plans, and reports produced by commissions, task forces, and consultants. Most projects will not succeed if on-site workers do not "buy into" the plan. Conversely, staff must also be able to share their knowledge and insights, often gained through years of field experience.

4.3.2 Restrooms at Santa Lucia Avenue at Scenic Road)

The two portable restrooms located along the bluff top near Santa Lucia Avenue help meet an important need for all who visit the Carmel shoreline. The City intends to continue use of these temporary facilities until permanent restrooms can be built at an appropriate location, somewhere along the shoreline between Eighth Avenue and the south City limit.⁵⁸

4.4 MANAGEMENT POLICIES

- Provide adequate facilities that will serve the needs of the public, mitigate damage to the environment, and respect the neighborhood. (G4-3)
- Limit development along the Carmel shoreline to facilities that support passive and active recreational activities, beach access, bluff protection and protection of infrastructure. Bluff protection and protection of infrastructure shall be permitted only when required to protect existing structures that are in danger from erosion. (O4-6 excerpt)

⁵⁸ City of Carmel Coastal Land Use Plan (approved June 2003) Policy P4-41

- Discourage any further incursion of recreational activities into the North Dunes habitat. Sensitive resources in the North Dunes habitat area shall be protected. (P4-48)
- Provide restroom facilities consistent with the volume of people who use the beach and Beach Bluff Pathway. (O4-7)
 - Retain the existing restroom facility at the Ocean Avenue/Del Mar parking lot and consider improvements to increase its capacity. (P4-40)
 - Retain the current second restroom facility at Santa Lucia Avenue until it can be replaced by a permanent site. Remove this facility upon construction of one or more additional permanent restrooms south of Eighth Avenue. (P4-41)
 - Maintain as operational all wash-off stations located adjacent to the stairways at Eighth, Eleventh, Thirteenth, and Santa Lucia Avenues. (P4-55)
- Perpetuate the mix of native dune and horticultural plants in an informal natural beach landscape. (O5-3)
 - Sustain and maintain the Beach Bluff Pathway design concept and landscape plant selection. Authorize the Forest and Beach Commission to review and approve minor design changes and plant selections. Require a coastal development permit for significant changes or any change that would substantially alter the design concept. (P4-13)
 - Evaluate the Pathway landscape, including plant selection and associated design elements in consultation with a coastal landscape specialist; identify sites that require revitalization and implement restoration based on the Pathway Design Plan. Address the most severely impacted sites first. (P5-32)
 - Install more seating along the beach pathway. (P4-14)
 - Keep the vegetation on San Antonio Avenue near pedestrian access easements pruned for safe visibility of pedestrians by motorists. (P4-6)
 - Continue the use of Monterey cypress as the predominant tree species on the beach bluff and North Dunes. The exact number of

trees may vary over time, but whenever a tree dies or is lost during a storm, replacement trees should be planted in approximately the same location. Maintain a low-to-medium density of trees (40 to 60 trees) in the North Dunes. (P5-25)

- Protect Monterey cypress from structural damage caused by high winds. Develop a proactive trimming program to reduce length and weight of limbs and branches. (P5-33)
- Encourage neighborhood cooperation and volunteers to assist City staff with the care of the landscape along the pathway. (P5-26)
- Maintain an attractive mix of plant material that favors native species and other drought-tolerant, non-invasive species. (P5-27)
- Encourage the extension of the City's Pathway landscape style onto neighboring properties:
 - Bring all City-owned property along this portion of Scenic Road into compliance with the approved Pathway plan.
 - Encourage private property owners to draw from the broad palette of plants used in the Pathway design.
 - Make presentations to the Scenic Road Property Owners' Association about this concept and share with the Association the plant list and a list of local suppliers.
 - Encourage the use of plants from this palette when reviewing projects on Scenic Road through the Design Review processes. (P5-31)
- Maintain the vegetation and trees along the shoreline in a safe and healthy condition. (O5-4)
 - Encourage the use of existing stairs, trails, and pathways, and discourage off-trail "short-cuts" on or over the bluff face. Install landscaping barriers at each "short cut" on the face of the bluffs and immediately restore damaged landscaping. (P5-7)
 - Prune or repair trees immediately following limb failure to mitigate any safety hazards. At other times, trees may be pruned in accordance with City policy, keeping public safety, access and the tree's health as the primary goals. (P5-34)
 - Pruning of vegetation will be done as needed for the health of the plants. This is a natural landscape and formal garden pruning is to be avoided. The Pathway must be kept clear of overgrowth and periodic

pruning is desired. However, neat straight edging is discouraged. Prevent shrubs from growing too high and blocking views of the ocean through the Cypress trees along the Beach Bluff Pathway. (P5-35)

- Ensure that long-term management activities maintain the natural dune ecology of Carmel Beach in a manner consistent with public safety. Protect areas of the beach from loss of habitat where special status plant species are growing. (O5-40)
 - Restore dune areas to improve habitat for Tidestrom's lupine and other native dune plants. (P5-28)
 - Improve habitat values for the preservation of the California black legless lizard. (P5-30)
 - Avoid disturbance or degradation of resources when maintenance vehicles and equipment enter sensitive habitat areas. (P5-161)
 - Retain a qualified botanist to monitor the population of Tidestrom's lupine and other special status species on the North Dunes of Carmel Beach. The population should be assessed annually (or based upon a schedule agreed upon by the Department of Fish and Game, Coastal Commission and US Fish and Wildlife Service) to determine if the population is stable and if measures to protect the population should be instituted. If the population appears heavily affected by public use, the City should consider fencing or placing barriers around the lupine habitat on the beach. (P5-173)
- Protect the fragile dunes and sensitive plants in the Del Mar Dunes and North Dunes against any significant disruption of habitat values. (O5-7)
 - Prohibit planting and control the spread of invasive non-native plants. (P5-29)
 - Restore, maintain and enhance the degraded habitat in the Del Mar Dunes area to enhance environmental resources and aesthetics. Protect sensitive habitat and special-status species through development and implementation of the Del Mar and North Dunes Master Plan. (P5-42)

- Prevent further planting and spread of invasive horticultural species within the dunes at Carmel Beach. (P5-174)
 - Remove any non-native invasive vegetation from special status habitat to eliminate competition and implement a dune restoration plan. (P5-175)
 - Implement a Dune Restoration Plan. (P5-176)
 - Minimize spread of non-native plants. (P5-177)
 - Conduct black legless lizard surveys and manage appropriately. (P5-178)
- Identify, protect and manage Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs) to ensure their long-term integrity and the biological productivity of these habitats. (G5-12)
 - Monitor, study and develop effective management programs for the City's parks and ESHAs. Endeavor to reduce conflicts between environmental protection and use of public and private property within ESHAs. (O5-36)
 - Maintain and enhance the resource value of environmentally sensitive habitat areas in consultation with a qualified biologist and in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Game. Remove any non-native, invasive vegetation from sensitive habitats. (P5-159)
 - Reduce the introduction and spread of invasive horticultural species into and within identified ESHAs. (O5-37 excerpt).
 - Provide beach users with information about Carmel Beach, its vegetation, facilities, amenities, and limitations (rules). (O4-4 excerpt)
 - Establish a uniform signage program for the beach and bluffs to better inform beach users of regulations governing activities on the beach. (O4-5)
 - Post "beach access/pedestrians only" signs at the top of pedestrian easements to help visitors locate these access routes including North Dunes access routes and the easement from San Antonio through Sand and Sea. (P4-29)

- Install signage along Scenic Road to direct traffic and indicate beach parking hours. (P4-30)
- Use as few signs as possible to accomplish the desired purpose. Rely on design features and/or public education to influence behavior first. Establish standards for the total number of informational signs along the shoreline. (P4-31)
- Consider locating signs at the bottom of the bluff if appropriate. (P4-32)
- Use signs that are aesthetically pleasing, easily seen, minimal in size, brief in content, of muted color and uniform in design. (P4-33)
- Post educational/interpretive signs where appropriate along Scenic Road and in the North Dunes area. (P4-34)
- Use international symbols whenever possible, along with a brief explanation of prohibitions and Municipal Code Section citations. (P4-36)
- Maintain all signs to ensure that they are legible. Signs that are vandalized or defective shall be replaced or repaired as soon as possible. (P4-37)
- Maintain signs at each stairway indicating fires must be at least twenty-five feet from the base of the bluffs and that they are not allowed north of Tenth Avenue. (P4-38)
- Use trash containers as a location for educational and regulatory signs. (P4-39)
- Provide signage prohibiting fires in the dunes area. Consider using doors on restroom stalls for posting beach rules and regulations. (P5-40)
- New development shall minimize risks to life and property, assure stability and structural integrity over the life of the development, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area. (G5-1)

Ad Hoc Beach Committee Report

May, 2014

All Photos taken in April, 2014 on 3 weekends



1. General



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Summary.

In general the condition of the beach east of the high tide line and up to the bluffs is experiencing the effects of beach fires. This is roughly one quarter to one third of the overall beach sand area. This appears to be due to an increasing number of fires at nights. Additionally, the beach contains charcoal, logs and other fire debris virtually from one end to the other due to the tidal action of late winter/early spring storms and illegal fires north of 10th. Photos in this report will show that the dunes at Del Mar, the dunes at 6th and the shores all the way to Pebble Beach contain charcoal and logs. As pointed out in the last meeting, Carmel Beach is the only beach from SF to the Mexican border that allows an unlimited number of fires. Since the City of Carmel weekly beach charcoal cleanup hasn't started yet and we had a mild winter, the overall level of charcoal debris is higher than normal.

Other General Issues.

a. **New patrol.** May was the first full month of the new schedule of patrol by the contracted officer on Friday and Saturday evening from about 6:30 until about 10:30. In general, this program seems to be having a positive impact on the issue. There appear to be fewer fires north of tenth, and when the police are called, the response is usually rapid. However, there is still evidence of illegal fire practices (too close to the bluff, too large, covered with sand or kelp, trash burned in the fire, etc) despite the introduction of patrols. Also, on more than one occasion, new fires were built in the same area after the patrol officer left the site, and it took longer to get back to the newer fires. In addition, there seems to be less trash on the morning after the patrol, although this is difficult to determine since this is the "off season" and there has been no systematic measurement of trash left on the beach prior to and after the patrols started. Photographs taken on weekend mornings still show a considerable amount of trash left on the beach. Although there does appear to be some correlation with trash and beach fires, as far as we know, no one has ever checked the consumption of the beach from a trash standpoint after the day beach users have left. Save Our Shores collected over 100 pounds of trash on its clean-up of. Also, it has been reported that people often start setting up their camp fire sites between 5 and 6 PM on weekends which suggests that the beach patrol hours should be increased during spring summer and early fall months.

b. New issues:

1. Fires after 11PM.

On Saturday AM, April 12th, a person who was building a large fire pit in the legal area said he was a part of a group that has a fire once a month and offered that they would be very willing to pay for a permit and use a fire pit. He asked how else they could help with the fire issues. Additionally, has asked what had been going on the evening before. He said that he had come down after 11PM in hopes of placing some of his equipment for the fire on the beach the evening before. He said there were over 20 fires burning after 11PM and large crowds. Additionally, on the previous weekend it was clear that a very large fire had occurred after the officer had left, and a large

amount of trash was left. It appears that folks know the officer leaves at 10:30 and are arriving after that. A good suggestion would be to not only have the patrols start earlier, but also to go later possibly until midnight.

2. Tents left on beach.

This report will show that folks have started leaving tents on the beach for “someone else” to clean up.

3. Graffiti.

As Margaret Eaton’s photos show, graffiti in the fire areas has increased dramatically. Also, her photos show that people are continuing to remove rocks from the beach bluff revetments to use as campfire seats or to contain beach fires.

2. Citizen’s suggestions.

In the process of walking the beach every day, and taking photos on weekends, many citizens have approached with concerns and with ideas for improving the situation on the beach. These include:

- a. As is done in camping areas in the state and around the country, use kiosks to apply for permits to use designated fire pits. This person camps a lot and says that the systems now for getting camp site permits are very easy, and can use a credit card, etc. Additionally, they suggest that the permit fee can be used to fund enforcement. Also, since the permit requires a name, individuals who leave trash can be fined.
- b. Another person suggested the name of a local artist, whom he knows, and whom he believes would be willing to design attractive fire pits for the city. He offered to facilitate a meeting with the right people.
- c. Another citizen talked about some folks recycling washing machine insides as fire pits. She said that the holes are small enough to keep most of the charcoal debris inside the container.
- d. Another citizen suggested a pilot project with 25-30 fire rings. The city could rent them, and then hand them out for several weeks to see how they work before investing in them.
- e. These are mostly local citizens of Carmel by the Sea who use the beach in the daytime, when the damage and dirt are most visible. Many of them walk every morning and pick up trash as they go.

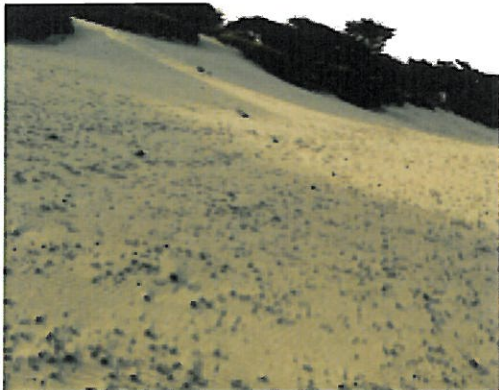
3. Commissioner action.

Additionally, Commissioner Refuerzo exchanged emails with Principal Marsden at the River School and he agreed to publicize the CRA monthly beach cleanups in his weekly

email to parent in order to drum up support from family beach users who spoke passionately in support of beach fires.

1. General condition of the Beach.

As stated above, the situation seems to be deteriorating. There is debris from one end to the other. One citizen wanted to allow her kids to roll down the hill at Del Mar as they have in the past,. However, the hill was covered in charcoal. They moved to the next hill north, but it too was covered. As below:



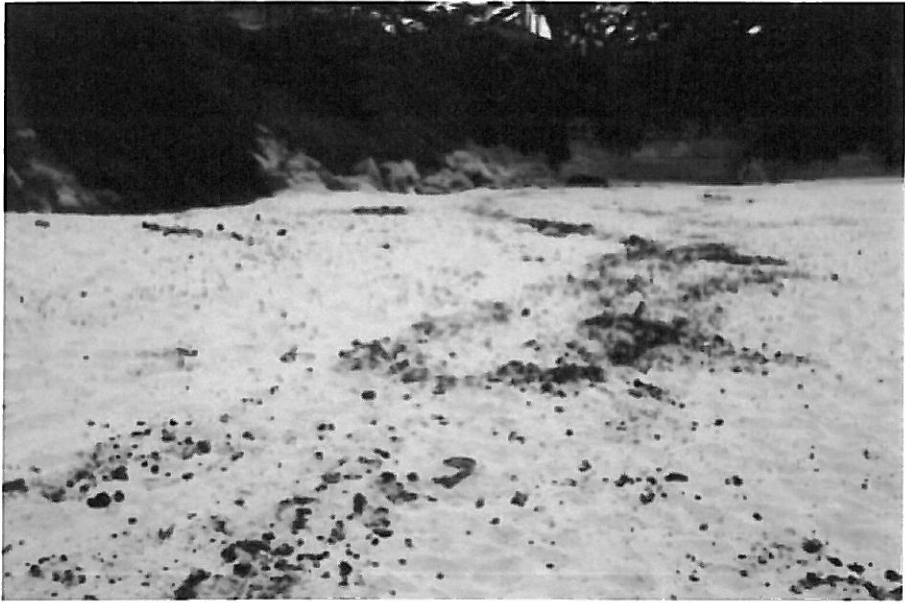
Additionally, there was a large amount of debris at the foot of the steps at 4th:



GENERAL CONDITION OF THE BEACH

A few photos that don't really show how extensive the charcoal is.





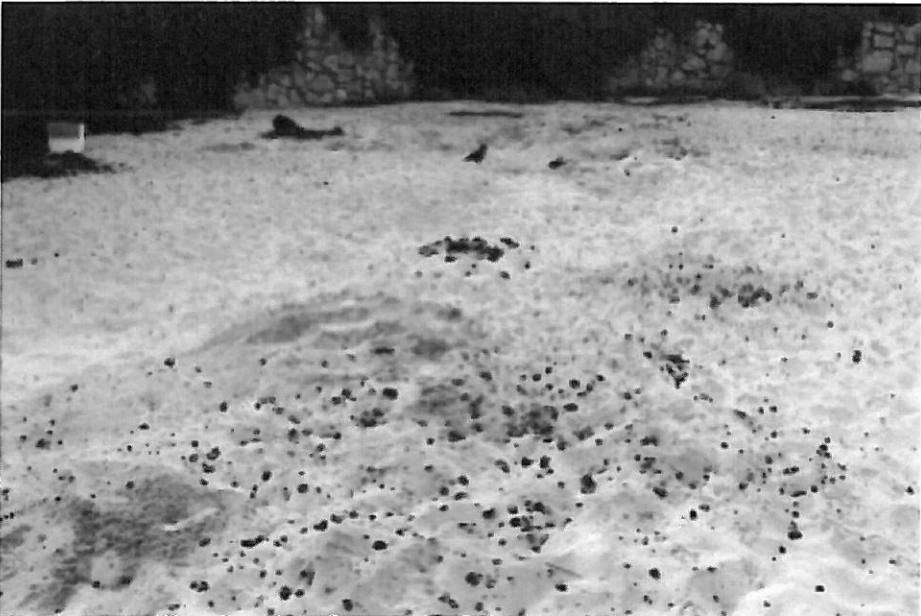
93





35

GENERAL CONDITION OF THE BEACH



TRASH

Trash seems to be less during the nights the officer is on duty. However, all of these photos were taken on the morning after a patrol. Again, very few of many examples, not including those sent in by concerned citizens.



TRASH



38

TRASH



TRASH

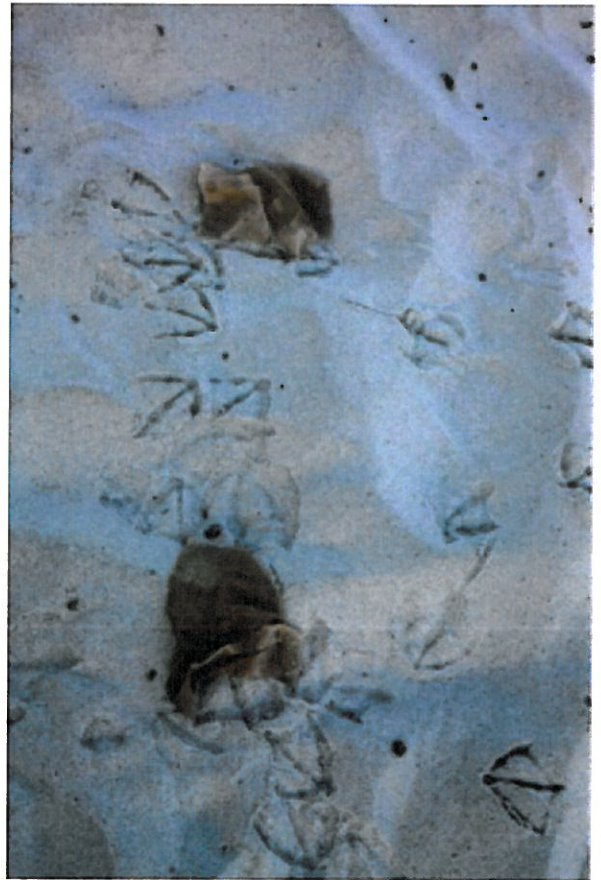


Note treated indoor floor boards



TRASH

Note bird tracks indicating birds foraging for garbage



(41)

TRASH



42

TRASH



43

TRASH

Please remember these photos were all taken on three weekend in April.



WOOD

There is a tremendous amount of wood left on the beach. These photos represent only 6 days (3 weekend walks) in April 2014



45

WOOD



46

WOOD



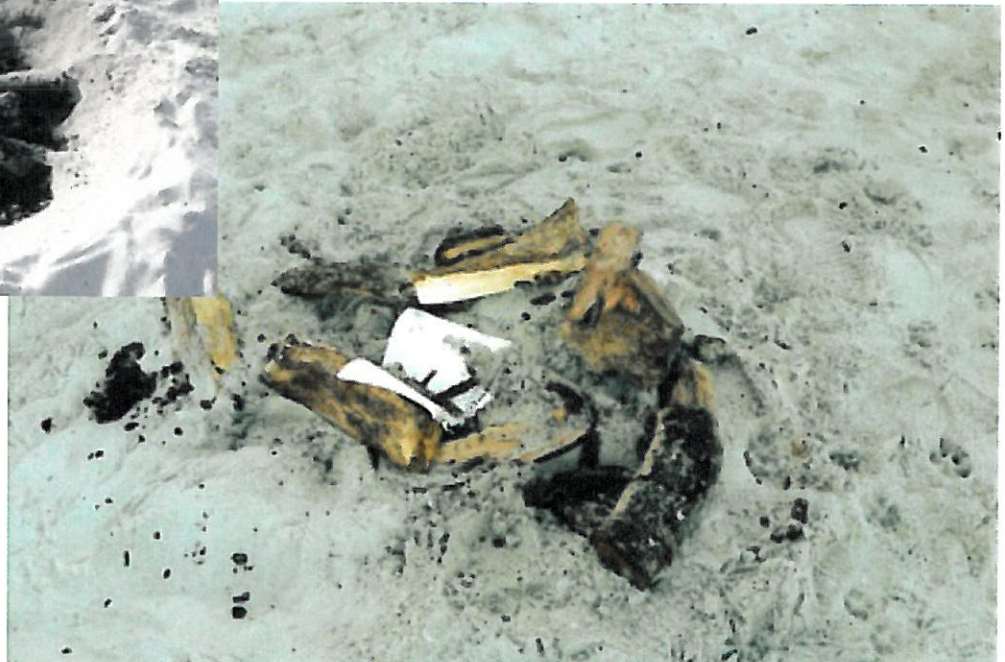
47

WOOD



48

WOOD



49

WOOD



WOOD



TENTS

This month two tents were left on the beach.



FIRES NEAR BANK

A FEW examples of fires near banks in April.



FIRES NEAR BANK



FIRES NEAR BANK



FIRES NEAR BANK

KELP EMBEDDED WITH CHARCOAL



From
11th to
13th
the
banks
are



KELP EMBEDDED WITH CHARCOAL

covered with kelp that is embedded with charcoal.



OTHER ISSUES

Many more photos can be supplied for these issues.

1. Multiple fires put out with sand.



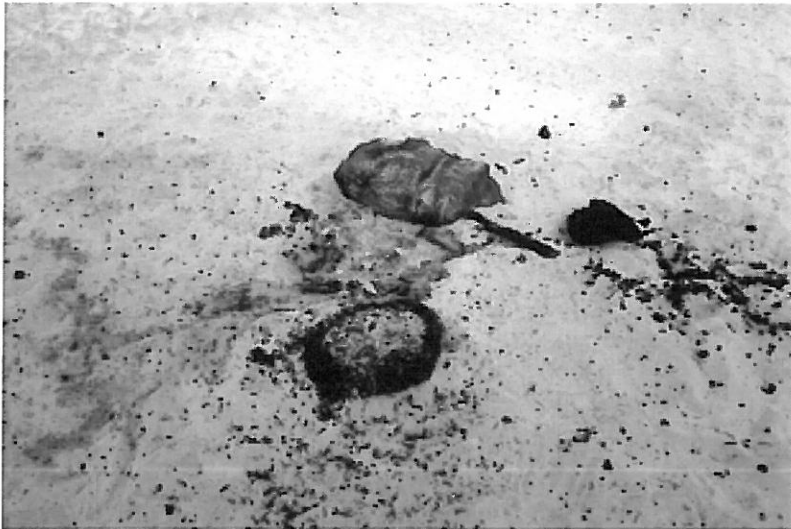
2. Fires still burning or smoldering the next day



3. Graffiti

OTHER ISSUES

4. Rocks pulled from the revetments for seating or fire rings.



RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are offered for discussion.



1.
As

already recommended, allow use of the ATV for officer to get around the beach more quickly,



2. As already recommended, add second officer on weekends, during the summer and holidays.

3. Start the patrols earlier which will allow officers to intervene

RECOMMENDATIONS

before fires are lit and prevent the beach fire rule infractions.

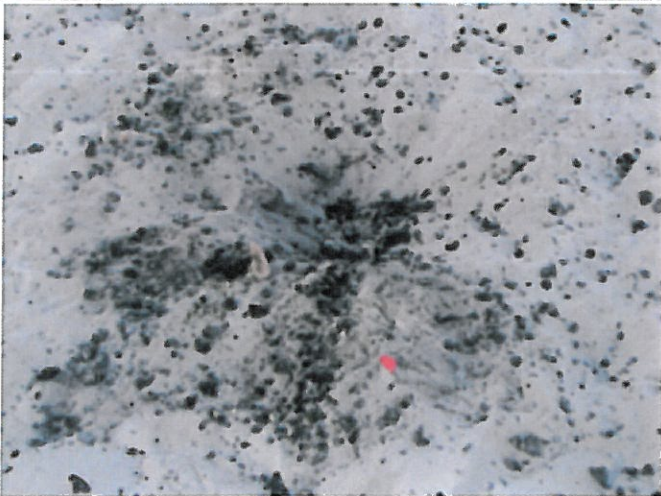
4. End the patrol later so that fires after 11PM can be managed, or add cameras for police monitoring and enforcement.

5. To the list of beach infractions distributed by the patrol, add:
prohibitions against litter
prohibitions against tents
prohibitions against graffiti
prohibitions against removing rock revetments
fines associated with infractions.

6. Begin process of planning for long term solution that will allow for a limited number of fires.

- a. Consult Air Board about smog issues to evaluate safe number
- b. Review guidance from Coastal Commission
- c. Evaluate kiosk technology for permits
- d. Meet with artists for alternative attractive pit design
- e. Determine appropriate number of fires to allow.

Ad Hoc Beach Committee Report
June 2014
(New photos, during May 2014)



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Summary

This report will not repeat the issues of the May report. They continue as reported, only growing as time passes. Instead this report will focus on other issues and some observations.

1. Tents. As reported last month there is an increase of people camping overnight on the beach. At the public hearing on beach signs, conducted by the Planning Commission last month, one citizen suggested that signs address the problem of sleeping on the beach. The last report noted tents that had been used overnight. This month there were at least two other instances of this as below. The second photos show a tent that was there overnight for two nights over a weekend.



2. Events marred by charcoal. Carmel has been proud of its white sand beaches and touts them on its web sites and marketing materials. Many folks have weddings and other events on the beach. However, it is impossible to have an event south of tenth near the banks without charcoal covering the area. These photos show three instances of folks trying to enjoy or set up for events in this area.



3. Web sites. This city and its associated entities, Chamber of Commerce and Travel site promote the beach as a place to go to have a “bonfire” or beach fire. The use of the word “bonfire” is inappropriate.

<http://www.carmelcalifornia.com/carmel-beach.htm>

<http://www.carmelcalifornia.org/things-to-do/beaches.aspx>

The city needs to decide if marketing beach fires is appropriate, and if so, how to promote responsible use of the beach. There are still many fires smoldering the next day, much trash around fire sites, many fires north of tenth, some fires being put out with sand, some fires near the banks, and other violations.

4. CRA Beach Cleanup on May 17, 2014. The city should consider putting this event on their site in order to elicit even more support. Commissioner Refuerzo participated with about 20 other locals in cleaning up the beach. The beach was surprisingly fairly clean of trash. Some illegal fires north of 10th were noted, but generally most fires south of 10th were 25 feet away from the banks.

5. Beach Fire Observations from Commissioner Refuerzo for Sunday morning May 25, 2014 and Sunday morning June 1, 2014. “Generally, I am seeing the majority (80%) of fires being built greater than 25 feet from the banks. Also, I counted more fires being extinguished utilizing water than using sand both mornings. Roughly, I would say that the percentage of fires being put out correctly is somewhere between 60% and 70%. Before the patrols, that number would likely have been less than 50%. In my opinion for this small data set, the First Alarm patrols are making a difference. That being said, overall charcoal debris still remains high”.

6. The sand replenishment used after the summer storm water run-off projects at Del Mar appears darker and less white. Was Carmel beach sand used or sand from somewhere else?