

Lenzi, Chelsea

From: Barker, Russ
Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2014 8:08 AM
To: Board Letters
Subject: FW: BOS Hearing of March 4, 2014 - Public Comment on Agenda Item # 14-00171 – Set Hearing for Goleta Beach 2.0 Project Selection

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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From: Chris Crabtree [<mailto:ccrabsb@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2014 10:47 PM
To: Barker, Russ
Subject: BOS Hearing of March 4, 2014 - Public Comment on Agenda Item # 14-00171 – Set Hearing for Goleta Beach 2.0 Project Selection

Russ - Can you submit the below into the agenda package? I know it is late but I only heard about the hearing date late night.

Thank you
Chris Crabtree
708-7543

To: County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors

From: Chris Crabtree

Subject: Public Comment on Agenda Item # 14-00171 – Set Hearing for Goleta Beach 2.0 Project Selection

Date: March 3, 2014

I have lived in the Santa Barbara/Goleta area since 1974 and I am a meteorologist by training, having conducted weather and marine (ocean sea and swell) forecasting in the area since 1980. I began to review the Goleta Beach County Park Managed Retreat Project 2.0 (project), as I was shocked to read about (1) the erroneous claims that the western rocks were having a negative effect on sand supply on this or any other beach and (2) the project proposal to eliminate vital access to the coastline, that being parking lots 6 and 7. Ultimately, I want to find reasonable and environmentally responsible solutions to protecting the Goleta Beach Park from surf damage. I have read virtually the entire project DEIR. I submitted roughly 10 pages of written comments on the DEIR and they support the following.

The harm the project would do to the public and the Park in terms of loss of parking spaces and increased vulnerability to damage from surf action far outweigh environmental benefits realized by the project. In fact, some of the mitigations proposed in the DEIR would result in greater impacts than the impacts they would attempt to mitigate (MM MM VIS- 3b for example). The best solution

for near-term protection of the Park is the DEIR No Project Scenario 2. This is the case as in part, the solution is already in place - it requires no construction effort.

I encourage the County to move forward with the No Project Scenario 2 and to work with the California Coastal Commission to keep the western rocks in place and for the foreseeable future, augment these structures with beach nourishment materials as the most viable means for the near-term protection of the Park. In addition, I recommend that the County work with Park stakeholders to develop a coastal protection plan that will manage Park resources in the long-term. I believe that the Fish and Wildlife grant money used to fund this project EIR process and development allows such expenditures.

The high surf event last week-end damaged the Beachside Café and deposited a lot of debris onto the Park. It will take time and money to clean up this mess. However, the important thing to realize is that this was an exceptional event that in combination with a high tide, resulting in perhaps the eighth to tenth highest amount of wave energy experienced by Goleta Beach in the last 40 years (final ranking TBD). For the Park to survive as well as it did from such an extreme event proves how viable the current configuration of rock revetment and beach nourishment protect the Park. This is essentially the No Project Scenario 2 - it works.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these comments.

Chris Crabtree
708-7543