



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Community Services  
**Department No.:** 052  
**For Agenda Of:** February 27, 2018  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department

Director: George Chapjian, Community Services Director (805) 568-2467

Contact Info: Brian Yanez, Deputy Director of Parks (805) 568-2475

**SUBJECT:** Replacement Lease with California State Lands Commission for Placement and Maintenance of Swim and Channel Marker Buoys in the Pacific Ocean in Santa Barbara County.

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the attached Lease No. PRC 7082.1 (Attachment A) between the County of Santa Barbara and the State of California, acting by and through the California State Lands Commission, for seasonal placement and maintenance of swim and channel marker buoys in the Pacific Ocean at Arroyo Burro Beach, Goleta Beach, Lookout Beach, Miramar Beach and Butterfly Beach in Santa Barbara County.
- b) Adopt and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the attached Resolution approving the Lease from the State Lands Commission to allow the placement and maintenance of swim and channel markers in the Pacific Ocean at Goleta Beach, Arroyo Burro Beach, Lookout Beach, Butterfly Beach and Miramar Beach (Attachment B).
- c) Determine that the above recommended actions are not the approval of a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15311(c), finding that the activity consists of placement of seasonal or temporary items in generally the same locations from time to time in publicly owned areas designed for public use, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment C).

**Summary Text:**

The Board’s approval of Lease PRC 7082.1 with the California State Lands Commission will allow the County’s continued placement of swim and channel marker buoys in the Pacific Ocean at Arroyo Burro Beach, Goleta Beach, Lookout Beach, Miramar Beach and Butterfly Beach in Santa Barbara County. The placement of buoys in the ocean acts as a barrier between powered vessels and swimmers to demarcate a safe public swimming area. Lease PRC 7082.1 will replace the expired Lease No. PRC 7082.9. The term of the Lease will be for a period of fifteen (15) years commencing May 1, 2017, and ending on April 30, 2032. The consideration provided to the California State Lands Commission for granting this Lease is \$125, with an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment, and the public health and safety.

**Background:**

The County of Santa Barbara has been authorized to place buoys in the Pacific Ocean creating “Special Use Areas” since May 7, 1984, when the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 3371. Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 26, Article V. - Special Use Area and Beach Regulations - Sec. 26-66 et seq., establishes the authority to designate “Special Use Areas” along the Santa Barbara County coastline to protect persons from injury or death from the operation of motor-powered boats or other water devices in such limited areas, which include, but are not limited to, swimming, surfing, snorkeling and scuba diving, fishing, sailing, rowing, and other non-motor-powered small boat use (Attachment D). The buoys act as a barrier between powered vessels and swimmers to demarcate a safe public swimming area.

The new lease will allow the County’s continued placement of swim and marker buoys at Goleta Beach, Arroyo Burro Beach, Lookout Beach, Butterfly Beach and Miramar Beach between May 1<sup>st</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> annually. However, the County Parks division places the buoys at the aforementioned locations after May 1, but prior to Memorial Day weekend through mid-September following Labor Day weekend.

Of the five locations, only two are staffed by County personnel during the summer months: Arroyo Burro Beach and Goleta Beach Park. The other three locations are not staffed, but are patrolled by Park Rangers on occasion depending on availability. In addition, the proposed placement of the buoys will not interfere with public access along the beach during and after their installation. As such, their placement will not interfere with public use of the sandy beach areas in the vicinity. The below table identifies the amount of buoys at each location and equipment to anchor the buoys in place.

**PLACEMENT OF SWIM BUOYS**

	Swim Buoys	Red	Green	Orange Floats	Anchors	25' Cables	40' Cables	Shackles
Arroyo Burro	5							
Butterfly	12							
Goleta Beach	12	2*	2*	2*				
Lookout	6							
Miramar	13							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>48</b>				<b>55</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>118</b>

\*Note: The red, green and orange floats distinguish a boat launch corridor through the swim area at Goleta Beach

In summary, the proposed project involves the placement of buoys in the Pacific Ocean at County Beaches to act as a barrier between powered vessels and swimmers to demarcate a safe public swimming area. While the buoy placement is only a subset of the County's designated special use areas, it has been determined by the California State Lands Commission Boundary Unit that the areas demarcated by the buoys are the best alignment to address the identified public safety needs.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

The annual rent required by the California State Lands Commission is \$125, with an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment. In addition, the Community Services Department Parks Division incurs annual costs for contracting the placement and removal of buoys. Staff maintains and makes the necessary repairs throughout the duration of time the buoys are out at sea. The total annual cost for the buoy placement and maintenance is approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000.

**Special Instructions:**

- Please have the Board Chair execute two (2) original copies of Attachment A and provide two (2) copies with original signatures to Brian Yanez. Please call Brian for pick up at extension 2475.
- Please have the Board Chair execute two (2) original copies of Attachment B and provide two (2) copies with original signatures to Brian Yanez. Please call Brian for pick up at extension 2475.
- Please send an electronic copy of the Minute Order to Brian Yanez at [byanez@sbparks.org](mailto:byanez@sbparks.org)

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: California State Lands Commission Lease No. PRC 7082.1

Attachment B: Resolution Approving the Application to the State Lands Commission for the Placement of Buoys, Floats and Signs within Designated "Special Use Areas."

Attachment C: CEQA Notice of Exemption

Attachment D: Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 26, Article V. - Special Use Area and Beach Regulations