

San Mateo County Harbor District
Beach Replenishment Committee Meeting Report

Tuesday, May 19, 2015
Half Moon Bay Yacht Club
Start 7 pm, End 9:05 pm
Commissioner Co-Chairs: Pietro Parravano, Nicole David

The meeting was attended by:

National Marine Sanctuary: Max Delaney (GFNMS), Karen Grimmer (MBNMS)
US Army Corps of Engineers: John Dingler, Tessa Beach, James Zoulas,
California Coastal Commission: Lesley Ewing
San Mateo County, Supervisor Don Horsley's Office: Nicholas Calderon

Lisa Ketcham, Midcoast Community Council
Mike Wallace
Neil Merrilees
Leonard Woren
Charles Loy
Someone whose name we did not catch, sorry!

Item #2

Nicole pointed out that the committee is an advisory committee to the Board of Harbor Commissioners only and cannot make decisions. Committee will carry recommendation to the entire Board for adoption.

Committee's role could possibly be to connect with relevant stakeholders, coordinate efforts among stakeholders, and initiate review and permitting process for a pilot study at Surfer's Beach. Local land-use decision-making and implementation would remain with local agencies. Committee would explore consolidated efforts with City of HMB. An additional committee goal would be to establish a long-term sediment plan.

Located within the Santa Cruz Littoral Cell (a 75 mile stretch from Moss Landing to Pillar Point) are three harbors. Two have optimized dredging operations with beneficial use of sand on adjacent beaches. They have minimized the impacts of harbor structures on natural sediment transport. Pillar Point Harbor now has the opportunity to do the same.

John Dingler gave an update on the Army Corps' Surfer's Beach project. Detailed project report expected by end of fiscal year (September 30, 2015); results suggest that there is no economic benefit to project. Hwy 1 will be protected by Caltrans; Miramar Rd will be protected by County. No action will likely be recommended.

Item #3

Goal: Develop priority plan for shoreline protection with alternatives

Discussed: Sand replenishment with different sand sources, multi-purpose artificial reef, jetty breach, pipe pumping sand over breakwater, reconfiguration of breakwater.

Karen/Max:

Land-based clean sand easier to permit for beach replenishment.

Placement above mean high water isn't into sanctuary and could be done without sanctuary permit.

Mean high water is dynamic within the year and over time (since management plan put into place). Nineteen year running average (1992-2008): 4.9 ft.

Elegant solution is to use dredged material from harbor for beach replenishment. Management plan update process will consider language to better define dredged material disposal. Process will take minimum of 3 years.

Santa Cruz and Moss Landing dredged material disposal programs were grandfathered and have designated EPA disposal sites.

Option 1: Place wet sand from inside of outer breakwater above mean high water.

Approximately 150,000 cy.

Option 2: Place land-based sand (e.g., Perched Beach) below mean high water.

Approximately 20,000 cy.

Dune-like shape of beach will likely have longer lasting effects for shoreline protection since more sand is added toward the bluff and top sand can naturally fill in for sand that has been washed out during storms.

Fluorescent dye could be used to study sand movement along the coast and to evaluate benefits to other shoreline areas farther south.

Item #4

Due to time constraints (there is almost no beach left) and smaller scale of pilot study cost-sharing among beneficiaries may be the best approach. Other, more long-term funding options could be:

Potential funding mechanisms within USACE:

- Continuing Authorities Program
- General Investigation

Potential funding options within USFWS:

- Cooperative Conservation Initiative

Potential funding programs within DBW:

- Public Beach Restoration

- Beach Erosion Control

Potential funding programs within SCC:

- Urban Waterfronts
- Site Reservation
- Resource Enhancement
- Case Studies

Option within CCC:

- Fee collected through CDP process or mitigations fees

Other potential sources:

- Cost sharing-among beneficiaries (Caltrans, City of HMB, SMC HD, SM County, DPR)
- User fees (establish parking and beach user fee)
- Private funding sources (foundations or businesses)

Item #5

Environmental Assessment was completed by USACE and will be included in Surfer's Beach study (expected to be released September 30, 2015). Could be used for review process of pilot project.

Combined (consolidated) permit approach between City of HMB and SMCHD was recommended. SMCHD could be local lead agency working with state and federal lead agencies through permitting process.

SMCHD could use consultant to facilitate review and permitting process.

Subcommittee could help committee get started. Goals: develop most efficient strategy and avoid duplication efforts.

The following agencies will likely be involved:

1. **Environmental review** will drive permitting decision and will have to be completed before applying for permits.

Compliance with:

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Lead agencies: USACE, CCC, RWQCB, USFWS, NMFS, CARB, SHPO

NEPA documentation needed: Environmental Assessment (with finding of no significant impact) or comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Lead agencies: CCC, SWRCB, RWQCB

CEQA documentation needed: Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Environmental Impact Report

2. Permitting

Federal agencies involved:

USACE, USEPA, NOAA, MBNMS, GFNMS, USGS, MMS

State agencies involved:

CCC, CSLC, SCC, CGS, DPR, DBW

Local municipalities:

County of San Mateo, City of Half Moon Bay, San Mateo County Harbor District

Item 6: This item was tabled for future discussion in the interest of time.

The Beach Replenishment Committee will meet every three months and the next meeting will be held on August 18, 2015 at 7 pm at the 504 Avenue Alhambra, in El Granada.

LIST of ACRONYMS

BECA Beach Erosion Concern Area

Caltrans California Department of Transportation

CARB California Air Resources Board

CCA California Coastal Act

CCC California Coastal Commission

CDFW California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CDP Coastal Development Permit

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

CESA California Endangered Species Act

CGS California Geological Survey

CNRA California Natural Resources Agency

CRSMP Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan

CSLC California State Lands Commission

CSMW California Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup

DBW California Division of Boating and Waterways (under California Department of Parks and Recreation)

DPR California Department of Parks and Recreation
EA Environmental Assessment
EIR Environmental Impact Report
EIS Environmental Impact Statement
GIS Geographic Information System
JPA Joint Powers Authority
LCP Local Coastal Program
MBARI Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
MBNMS Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
MMPA Marine Mammal Protection Act
MMS Minerals Management Service
NEPA National Environmental Policy Act
NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RSM Regional Sediment Management
RWQCB Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCC California State Coastal Conservancy
SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer
SICH Sediment Impaired Coastal Habitat
SLR Sea-level rise
SMRCD San Mateo County Resource Conservation District
SWRCB State Water Resources Control Board
USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers
USCG United States Coast Guard
USEPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFSW United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS United States Geological Survey