



**Agenda Item D.1**  
**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM**  
**Meeting Date: June 2, 2009**

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**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Daniel Singer, City Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Support for Goleta Beach Erosion Solution

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- A. Consider a letter of support to the California Coastal Commission for the Goleta Beach Erosion Stabilization Project; and
- B. Consider appointing a Councilmember to represent the City of Goleta and speak on the item before the Coastal Commission on June 10, 2009.

**BACKGROUND:**

In March 2007, Santa Barbara County Parks released a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) regarding the Goleta Beach County Park Long-Term Protection Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to protect the uses and resources of the Park from erosion associated with major storm events and associated threats to the Park and its infrastructure.

The project is located within the County's jurisdiction, in close proximity to the southeastern City limits, and is an important recreational resource to residents in Goleta. The EIR evaluated two projects at co-equal levels: a) the Beach Stabilization / Permeable Groin (or pier) alternative; and b) the Managed Retreat alternative. The EIR also evaluates four other alternatives. In January 2008, the County Board of Supervisors approved a final erosion prevention approach known as a "Permeable Pier" and asked County staff to forward an application to the California Coastal Commission for approval.

The Beach Stabilization/Permeable Pier alternative would include a coastal structure that would create and maintain a wider beach for shore protection and recreation, while minimizing or eliminating potential adverse down coast effects. The permeable piles would be perpendicular to the shoreline, adjacent to and just east of Goleta Pier, consisting of several rows of surface-piercing timber piles driven into the seabed. According to the analysis in the EIR, this was seen as the environmentally superior alternative.

**DISCUSSION:**

On January 15, 2008, the Goleta City Council unanimously approved a motion to support the Beach Stabilization Alternative (versus the Managed Retreat Alternative) and forwarded Council's support to the County Board of Supervisors. This matter is now before the California Coastal Commission with a recommendation to construct the permeable pile sand retention system which essentially acts as a widening of the Goleta pier.

Although the City of Goleta is already on record as supporting this project and the option presented, the County has now requested support for their application at the Coastal Commission meeting on June 10, 2009 in Marina Del Rey. Council should consider forwarding another letter of support for this project and appointing a representative from the Council to attend the afternoon session to speak in favor of said application.

Further details about the project, the EIR, and the Coastal Commission agenda are available upon request.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The Council is under no obligation to support this or any solution to the beach erosion problems plaguing Goleta Beach and may defer this matter or take different action than that requested by the County.

**FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Other than the costs of sending a City Council member to attend the Coastal Commission meeting in Marina Del Rey, there are no costs associated with this action.

Legal Review By:

Reviewed By:

Approved By:

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Tim W. Giles  
City Attorney

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Michelle Greene  
Administrative Services  
Director

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Dan Singer  
City Manager