



NOTICE OF MEETING

CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

4:00 p.m., June 21, 2016

Council Chambers – City Hall – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA

1. Call to Order

2. Public Comments

a. Written Communications

b. Oral Communications

Comments must deal with matters subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission that are not on the Agenda. Comments from the public will be limited to three minutes and will not receive Commission action. Whenever possible, letters should be submitted to the Commission in advance of the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of May 17, 2016 Meeting Minutes

4. Reports Not Requiring Action

a. Council Liaison Announcements

Reference: Councilman Peake

b. Public Acknowledgement

5. Unfinished/Ongoing Business

a. Local Coastal Program - Land Use Plan and Implementation Plan -Major Vegetation

Reference: Anastazia Aziz, Senior Planner

b. Review of Commission Goals

Reference: Jean Anton, BNRC Chair

6. New Business

a. Magic Carpet and Mesembryanthemum crystallinum west of Lovers Point

Reference: Jean Anton, BNRC Chair

7. Commissioner's Reports

8. Staff Reports

a. Urban Greening Plan Public Workshop – August 23

Reference: Jessica Kahn, Environmental Programs Manager

9. Items for Next Agenda

10. Adjournment

This meeting is open to the public and all interested persons are welcome to attend. The City of Pacific Grove does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities and meetings are held in accessible facilities. A limited number of devices are available to assist those who are hearing impaired. If you would like to use one of these devices, please contact the Community Development Department at (831) 648-3183.



MINUTES

CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
 BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Council Chambers – City Hall – 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, CA

Copies of the agenda packet are available for review at the Pacific Grove Library located at 550 Central Avenue; the CDD counter in City Hall at 300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday; and on the internet at www.cityofpacificgrove.org/sites/default/files/beautification-and-natural-resources-commission. Recordings of the meetings are available upon request.

DRAFT MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean Anton (C) Mary Flaig (VC), Frances Grate, Dave Myers, Kelly Terry, Thom Akeman (S)

STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Gho, Jessica Kahn, Albert Weisfuss

(Note: Scheduled meeting of April 19, 2016, cancelled by lack of quorum)

1. CALLED TO ORDER at 4 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Written Communications:

Councilmember Bill Peake passing along Planning Commission Chair William Frederickson's concerns about "Magic Carpet" maintenance and shoreline erosion, and Bruce Cowan's request for volunteers to help remove invasive French Broom from Rip Van Winkle Park.

Lisa Ciani's concerns about shoreline erosion and ways to adapt.

Tony Ciani's concerns about city obtaining Coastal Commission approval for the Lovers Point Watershed Project. (2 letters)

b. Oral Communication:

Lisa Ciani reiterated her concerns about shoreline erosion and the Local Coastal Plan's treatment of biological resources. She also asked about the Coastal Conservancy Grant for the recreation trail. (Dan Gho responded the city now has a consultant studying shoreline erosion and there are not yet any recommendations for action. As for the Coastal

Conservancy Grant, the city has asked for proposals and expects to have a presentation for the City Council in the fall.)

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of March 15, 2016

On a motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Grate, the Commission voted 6-0 to approve the minutes.

4. REPORTS NOT REQUIRING ACTION

a. Council liaison announcements

Councilmember Bill Peake showed a “don’t trample” brochure of protected plants and animals in our sand dunes assembled by Kirstie Wilde and her daughter, Hannah, for short-term renters in the Asilomar dunes. He also reported that the Berwick Park sculpture proposal of John Bridges will be going to the City Council, as well as golf netting and the new city budget.

b. Public acknowledgement

Chair Anton extended a welcome to Ben Harvey, now that he has been hired as City Manager, and applauded staff members Daniel Gho and Jessica Kahn for their patience at late-hour meetings and their abilities to be clear and informative.

5. UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS

None

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Tree appeal for 854 Sunset Drive

City Arborist Albert Weisfuss permitted home owner Charles Shinhut to remove three of seven Monterey pines on his property as they were dead or dying. Then an adjacent homeowner, Herbert Behrens of 861 Marino Pines, hired an independent arborist and asked for a permit to remove three more pines that were next to his fence and leaning towards his home. On closer examination, the city arborist permitted two of those to be removed but found the third had to indications of instability that would warrant its removal. It is a mature tree that should be retained and monitored.

The Behrens, who are paying for the removals on their neighbor’s property, appealed the decision to the BNRC. Robbi Behren said their independent arborist told them the third tree was the worst of the bunch.

Commissioners discussed the different arborists' opinions and on a motion by Commissioner Akeman seconded by Commissioner Flaig, voted 5-1 to uphold the city arborist's decision to deny removal of the third pine. Commissioner Myers dissented.

b. Trees in city budget

Jessica Kahn, environmental programs manager, reported that the current city budget has \$177,000 for trees, \$175,000 of it used for contracts with the part-time city arborist and two tree contractors. She also reported that 175 property owners have yet to plant required replants for trees they have removed. The staff sends letters reminding property owners of the replant requirements. Commissioners and staff discussed how compliance might be improved with penalties and "more teeth" in the reminder letters. Chair Anton offered to help write letters or stuff envelopes or whatever it takes.

7. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Vice Chair Flaig reported that she and Chair Anton attended a seminar organized by Assemblymember Mark Stone on beach erosion that was very informative. She said it would be worth watching on his Website.

Commissioner Akeman reported this year's harbor seal pupping is nearly over and 11 pups were born on or around the 5th Street beach. Those were among the healthiest of this year's pups as most looked good and have weaned successfully. Overall, warm water and the resultant absence of fish caused a food that have devastated the local harbor seals and their pups, holding this year's generation to about a third of what it has been.

Chair Anton suggested forming a committee to see what can be done about saving the Magic Carpet west of Lovers Point.

8. STAFF REPORTS

a. Lovers Point Watershed Project

Public Works Director Gho reported the work to replace failing stormwater and sanitary sewer lines in the watershed for approximately a fourth of the city will start at the end of May and stretch into December. Road and underground work will be done in sections from Pine Avenue down to Lovers Point in the \$3.5 million project designed to reduce storm water and pollution flows into Monterey Bay. Most of the cost is provided by a state Clean Beaches initiative grant.

Public comment was received from Lisa Ciani, who wondered if stormwater could be diverted to the Marina treatment plant in rainless periods of the rainy season, and Mrs. Kabat of Jewell Street who wondered how construction would impact her home.

b. Contacting the Commission via email

Jessica Kahn reported that a link has been added to the BNRC Website that allows anyone to send an email that will automatically be forwarded to Commission members.

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA (June 21, 2016)

Chair Anton wants to discuss a way to save the Magic Carpet west of Lover Point and the Mesembryanthemum crystallinum that provides the stunning blooms. .

10. ADJOURNMENT at 5:35 p.m.



CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Beautification and Natural Resources Committee
FROM: Anastazia Aziz, AICP, Senior Planner
MEETING DATE: June 21, 2016
SUBJECT: Local Coastal Program - Land Use Plan and Implementation Plan - Major Vegetation
CEQA STATUS Statutory Exemption, CEQA Guidelines Section 15265

RECOMMENDATION

Accept as information.

BACKGROUND

The Local Coastal Program Update was initiated in April 2014 when the Coastal Commission awarded a grant of \$130,000 to assist the City in achieving Local Coastal Program certification. To date, staff and EMC Consultants have held various public workshops, meetings, work sessions with the Planning Commission, and joint sessions with Council. Grant funding ended in April 2016. The City has funded the balance of the update endeavor.

DISCUSSION

Coastal Commission staff stated that removal of “major vegetation” in the coastal zone would require a Coastal Development Permit and requested the City define “major vegetation.” City staff suggests that “major vegetation” be defined as native trees, consistent with Title 12. Coastal staff agrees with the recommendation.

The language was coordinated with both the City Arborist and Environmental Programs Manager. Tree removals of native trees in the Coastal Zone would require a joint Tree Removal and Coastal Development Permit. Section 2.4.1 of the Land Use Plan states the following (as revised by language amendments at the June 2, 2016 Planning Commission meeting) and contained in the [June 16, 2016 Planning Commission packet](#):

The Pacific Grove General Plan recognizes the trees of Pacific Grove as “major natural resources.” Accordingly, the Local Coastal Program recognizes that certain trees are “major vegetation,” the removal of which constitutes development that requires a Coastal Development Permit. A Coastal Development Permit is required for removal of all native trees within the coastal zone including all Gowen Cypress regardless of size; Coast Live Oak, Monterey Cypress, Shore Pine, Torrey Pine, Monterey Pine six (6) inches or greater in trunk diameter measures 54 inches above grade.

There have been few native tree removals in the coastal zone over the last three years and they are listed in the table below. The drought has been a major cause of tree removal.

Monterey Pine	26
Coast Live Oak	2
Monterey Cypress	8

The Draft Implementation Plan permitting procedures suggested revisions by the Coastal Commission also contained in the [Planning Commission June 16, 2016](#) packet, make clear a Coastal Development Permit is required for removal of Major Vegetation. As stated on page 11 of the Coastal Commission Implementation Plan comments, a Coastal Development Permit is required for:

The removal or harvesting of major vegetation other than for agricultural purposes, kelp harvesting and timber operations which are in accordance with a timber harvesting plan submitted pursuant to the provisions or the Z'berg'Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973.

The tree removal findings for a Coastal Development Permit are very similar to existing City findings. A joint Tree Removal and Coastal Development Permit would include all City findings plus the Coastal Development Permit findings below:

- 1) Trees are dead, diseased or dying;
- 2) Trees are not part of any Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area;
- 3) Removal will not affect public views of the forested character of the area;
- 4) Removal will not adversely impact coastal resources, public access or public recreation opportunities.

2016 Local Coastal Program Revised Adoption Timeline

Activity	Date
Planning Commission Recommendation on Final Local Coastal Program to Council (Land Use Plan and Implementing Ordinances)	June 16, 2016 and/or Special Meeting week of June 20, 2016
City Council Local Coastal Program Hearing	June 29, 2016
Submit to Coastal Commission	July 7, 2016
Coastal Commission Hearing	TBD, tentatively August 2016
Council Adoption of Certified Local Coastal Program	TBD

Note: Timeline subject to change - 06/10/16

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Anastazia Aziz, AICP, Senior Planner

BEAUTIFICATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
2016 Goals and Projects - FINAL 3/15/16

A. PARKS

1. Continue to work with Public Works on plans to improve Lovers Point landscape
2. Recommend the planting of more trees in all city parks using the 2015 tree inventory data
3. Continue receiving updates on all city park improvements.
4. Explore the possibility of curtailing cigarette butt waste in all parks.

B. SHORELINE TRAIL

1. Recommend the completion of the current project.
2. Encourage the Council to seek funds for future expansion of the trail.

C. MONARCH SANCTUARY

1. Maintain a subcommittee to work on the Monarch Sanctuary Management Plan and related issues.
2. Coordinate with staff on volunteer efforts.
3. Review and provide updates and information as needed through annual reports and counting results.
4. Hold at least an annual community meeting with the museum docent program.
5. Help provide public education especially for properties adjacent to the sanctuary.

D. RECYCLING

1. Explore the possibility of having a local recycling redemption center.
2. Help with the selection of new recycling containers for the downtown area.

E. TREES AND LANDSCAPE

1. Support continued community tree planting programs.
2. See that the recommended tree list brochure is available in public areas.
3. Recommend that the city council provide funds for tree planting in all public projects.

F. DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION

1. Support the addition and preservation of downtown benches.
2. Encourage the addition of public art in the downtown area, such as the “Monarch Madness” display and auction.
3. Work with the Community and Economic Development Department on the downtown 5-year plan.
4. Recommend that newspaper dispensers be cleaned on a regular basis.

G. WATER

1. Keep updated on the ASBS Compliance Plan (storm water).
2. Recommend water awareness in all city projects and goals.
3. Work with Public Works to find more sources of non-potable water for use in public areas such as Greenwood Park.
4. Recommend continued public education programs.

H. MARINE LIFE AND HARBOR SEALS

1. Support Public Works in the annual and timely installation of fencing near the harbor seal birthing sites.
2. Support the Bay Net docent program when requested.
3. Keep current on the harbor seal ordinance from 2013.
4. Watch for changes in marine life that may affect the city and, if appropriate, suggest any responses that are warranted.

I. LOCAL COASTAL PLAN

1. Stay current on the Local Coastal Plan issues by having regular updates and attending workshops.