



AGENDA

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission City of Pacifica

**WEDNESDAY, February 26, 2020 CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
2212 Beach Boulevard**

**CALL TO ORDER
7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING**

- I PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II ROLL CALL**
- III APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- IV ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- V PUBLIC HEARINGS**
- VI ITEMS FOR CONSENT**
- VII ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**
This is the time set aside for the public to address the Commission on items not appearing on the agenda, public input will be considered for items at this time. Please state your name for the record when addressing the Commission. Statements will be limited to three (3) minutes.
- VIII SPECIAL PRESENTATION**
 - A. Child Care Services Presentation - Mindy Tiet, Child Care Assistant Supervisor
- IX ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**
 - A. The Public Plaza along Beach Boulevard Project conceptual design presentation.
- X REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE FROM COMMISSIONERS**
- XI REPORTS FROM STAFF**
 - A. Director Perez
- XII ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Meeting March 25, 2020

The City of Pacifica will provide special assistance for disabled citizens upon at least 24 hour advance notice to the City Manager's office (738-7301). If you need sign language assistance or written material printed in a larger font or taped, advance notice is necessary. All meeting rooms are accessible to the disabled.



Minutes
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
City of Pacifica

REGULAR MEETING – 7 PM

Wednesday January 22, 2020
City Council Chambers
2212 Beach Blvd.
Pacifica, CA 94044

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Knowles called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

I PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Commissioner Abbott**.

II ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Chair Knowles, Commissioners Abbott, Kellogg, Benton
Shoemaker, Heywood

Commissioners Absent: None

Commissioners Excused: Commissioners Lusson, Poblitz

Staff Present: Director Michael Perez, Recreation Specialist Linda Hanssen

III APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair Knowles called for a motion to approve the minutes of the 12-18-19 meeting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Abbott, seconded by Commissioner Heywood, motion carried 5-0.

IV ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Chair Knowles called for a motion to change the order of the agenda putting Public Hearings first before Items for Consideration. **Motion was made by Commissioner Kellogg, seconded by Commissioner Heywood, motion carried 5-0.**

V PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A) Heritage Tree Appeal HT-519-19 - 606 Canyon Drive.

The appeal was filed by: Primary: Susan Bachman 618 Canyon Drive

Secondary: Nomi Harper, Charles Havner, Lisa Schenkelberg, and Julie Duffy

Superintendent Clark read the Staff Report and gave a summarization of the Arborist Report. He then read the Ordinance Appeal letter from Susan Bachman.

Chair Knowles asked for questions from the commissioners.

Commissioner Benton Shoemaker: Stated that she read about trees supporting each other and that the removal of one tree affects the other. **Superintendent Clark** responded that the consulting arborist does not feel that removing one tree will affect the other. He personally thinks there is some validity to this statement and would remove both adjacent trees. His concern is that if the trees are left that eventually over time they will fail. There is no indication to tell when a tree is going to fall. He feels that there is a risk. It's not uncommon for a cypress tree to fail. An atmospheric river would increase that risk. Different tree species can be planted that are safer and can be maintained. A minimum trim on these two trees would cost would be \$12,000 to \$15,000 and still not eliminate any risk. If the safety level of a tree can't be increased then he doesn't want to use budgeted monies.

Commissioner Abbott: asked if all the high risk trees in Pacifica have been removed. **Superintendent Clark** responded there are no high risk trees, it's taken 30 years to get there.

Commissioner Abbott: is it true that we have about 200 moderate risk trees?

Superintendent Clark responded yes

Commissioner Abbott: asked if other cities remove their moderate risk trees.

Superintendent Clark said Pacific Grove doesn't remove trees until they are high risk and Burlingame elected to leave their large eucalyptus trees.

Commissioner Kellogg: asked what different levels of moderate risk trees there are.

Superintendent Clark stated that rating levels are low, medium, high and imminent. For the trees under consideration, failure of the trees is considered possible but not likely. If this particular tree falls it will fall towards the house.

Commissioner Kellogg: wanted to clarify that pruning was not an option.

Superintendent Clark replied that even if pruned the tree would still be moderate risk.

Commissioner Kellogg: asked if the tree on Canyon is leaning more now than in past years. **Superintendent Clark** replied no that if there was any movement it would be considered high risk and removed.

Commissioner Kellogg: wanted to know what happened to the similar tree down the street. **Superintendent Clark** it was removed due to a variety of issues.

Chair Knowles: asked if the trees remained would it be monitored to see if it goes from moderate risk to high risk? **Superintendent Clark** said yes.

Chair Knowles: appreciated the arborist's analysis but it wasn't definitive.

Superintendent Clark replied that this was the problem with moderate risk trees.

Chair Knowles invited the primary appellant, Susan Bachman, to speak.

Susan Bachman stated that she has chosen to live next to the tree for 25 years. The tree is a vital part of an ecosystem that houses a myriad of living creatures. The reason for the removal was listed as a risk to her home. She adamantly asserts not to kill this tree in her name. There has not been an increase in the lean, no new construction, and the tree is not diseased. She doesn't feel that there is more risk now than there has been in the last 25 years. She asked why the City wants to kill the tree now, since it is not high risk, and there hasn't been any change. She feels the City is

lowering the bar for Heritage Trees without public input. Public Works told her that this tree was the perfect test case. She takes this to mean if the Commission approves the removal of this moderate risk tree, it will domino into the removal of all the moderate risk trees in Pacifica. This undermines the Heritage Tree ordinance as most are moderate risk. The staff report states that the City seeks to provide a low risk, sustainable urban forest. And that the City should consider the long term fadeout of these trees along Pacifica Streets in favor of safer more manageable trees. She feels this issue of killing healthy moderate risk heritage trees is too important to adopt without a transparent urban forest management plan. Other cities like Pacific Grove have an urban forest plan that only allows the killing of high risk trees. She urges the City to take a step back until we can adopt a transparent urban forest plan. There are passionate people on both sides of the issue that need to be heard. She had to pay a \$388 fee for this appeal for her voice to be heard. She feels this is ridiculous and grossly unfair. She is obligated by her religion to protest the killing of this and other moderate risk trees. Why doesn't the report address the option of cabling the tree? She is also concerned about the root structure of the designated tree and the tree next to it being intertwined. There is a honey bee colony living in the tree. Removal of the colony by a bee keeper to a new environment could kill them. She also requests the \$388 appeal fee be suspended until an urban plan is in place.

Chair Knowles called for public comments.

Julie Duffy said this tree should remain standing. It is home to a lot of wildlife. Bees, hawks, squirrels, etc. Her concern is that she hasn't seen any replacement trees planted.

John Meria asked the City to remove the tree. He believes the cavities housing the bees and squirrels weaken the tree. If the tree falls it will damage his house which is why he wants it removed. He doesn't understand why the City trimmed it in the past instead of taking it down.

Nomi Harper stated that she is shocked. She asked if you have an aging parent do you kill them or nurture them? The tree maintains nature in the area. The tree is not a risk and there is more benefit in saving the tree.

Katherine Curry Meria stated that there were originally 3 trees and one was leaning. In 89-90 the City removed it.

Jason Rees said the City should start planting new trees now so wildlife can reestablish. Do not take this tree out. Keep the tree for a set amount of time and plant new trees.

Commissioner Abbott: stated that of all her years on the Parks Commission tree appeals are one of the most difficult things. We have some essential trees that are important to our neighborhoods. We really need to have more information and a big picture strategy. This is a moderate risk tree and would not still be here if it was a high risk. She feels we need to take a pause and put together a strategy for the City and the trees here. Take Public Works out of this uncomfortable position of trying to work this piecemeal tree by tree. That's not fair and it's not fair to our urban forest which is really important. We need a longer term strategy. She understands there is work to do on that. After listening to these concerns, now is the time to take a stance and come up with a strategy. She feels strongly that this is the time to take that pause and

come up with a strategy we can work with and take to City Council. Take the time and do that work and take the pressure off Public Works and the Commission. If this tree comes out then the second one would also need to be removed to avoid a risky situation. She wants to hear the other commissioners' thoughts on putting together a more robust strategy for the long term.

Commissioner Benton Shoemaker: stated that she appreciates Public Works burden and how difficult it is without sufficient funds to maintain trees. As citizens we need to look at outside funds for additional maintenance. She is concerned about sustaining an urban forest with 200 moderate risk trees. With climate change effects trees can store carbon, and old trees store more carbon than new trees.

Commissioner Kellogg: Understands the safety risk and unpredictability of the tree. She is concerned about the survival of the bee colony in that tree and agrees on a study plan on some kind of tree plan. He stated that it wasn't fair to have this be a one at a time tree appeal and that citizens have to pay for the appeal. There are a lot of trees slated to come down. If everyone were to appeal that would be a lot for citizens to pay and we don't have the power to issue a refund on the appeal.

Commissioner Heywood: asked Superintendent Clark if it was budgeted, and funds were already set aside to remove the tree? **Superintendent Clark** said we have a budget every year for tree work. They go out to bid for what they want to accomplish in a given year. It's not important from a budget standpoint if we cut a tree or do some trimming. The funding is there. The decision on what to do with the tree in question should not be made based on budgeting

Commissioner Heywood: asked if there was money earmarked to remove this specific tree. If it is could the money be used to secure it by cabling instead?

Superintendent Clark replied that cabling would not be helpful in this case. This tree can only be maintained and cabling will not make it stable.

Chair Knowles: agrees we should reevaluate the process. She stated she is not a rubber stamp and takes this process seriously. She agrees that we need to re-evaluate the current strategy and look for something medium to long term. She thinks we should have a study session. She asked what Superintendent Clark's thoughts were. **Superintendent Clark** replied he doesn't want the public to be deluded that there is no risk. He gets calls every day from people who do not want to live with that risk. Under certain conditions such as a bad winter, a lot of the trees become high risk and could come down. His goal is to make sure everyone knows a medium risk tree is still a serious risk.

Chair Knowles called for a motion on the Heritage Tree removal. **Motion was made by Commissioner Abbott not to remove the tree, seconded by Commissioner Benton Shoemaker, motion carried 5-0. Appeal was upheld.**

VI ITEMS FOR CONSENT:

Chair Knowles called for a motion to approve the Items for Consent **Motion was made by Commissioner Abbott, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, motion carried 5-0.**

VII ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None

VIII ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

A) Bike and Pedestrian Plan Update-Draft Plan Recommendation

Associate Engineer Ryan Marquez made gave a presentation of the Bike and Pedestrian Plan Update-Draft Plan Recommendation for approval or denial of the Commission. He presented an overview of the entire project and final recommendations. (See attached presentation.) **Ryan Marquez** thanked the Commission for all their hard work and feedback during the process of completing the plan.

Commissioner Benton Shoemaker: said it was a very impressive plan. She asked if there was a reason there were no proposed crossovers in the South Highway 1 by Linda Mar. **Ryan Marquez** replied that there are a lot things we could do to make the intersections safer. There are a lot of factors to look at: how many people are crossing, how many cars, cost factors, plus Cal Trans and the Coastal Commission input.

Commissioner Benton Shoemaker: Her other question regarded signage to define etiquette and rules for paths shared with pedestrians and bicycles. **Ryan Marquez** felt this was a good idea.

Commissioner Abbott: was pleased to see that the Rockaway/ Fassler/ Linda Mar and Highway One intersections were all addressed in the plan. She is disappointed that there wasn't a plan to address the Highway 1 and Crespi intersection.

Commissioner Kellogg. He commended Ryan Marquez on the plan.

Commissioner Heywood: is glad to see that the Manor overcrossing is being addressed, and asked for an update of the plan. **Ryan Marquez** replied that the City has been discussing that area for 20 years. A preliminary study has just been completed, including cost estimations and feasibility. The next step is to go back to the Transportation Commission. A projected start date is 2023. Coordinating projects with Cal Trans is a lengthy process.

Commissioner Heywood: asked for an update on Oddstad/ Rosita/ Linda Mar Blvd traffic. **Ryan Marquez said** this has been identified as a critical area that needs to be assessed for stop lights and other solutions.

Commissioner Heywood: wanted to know if the Linda Mar and Highway One intersection will be get a four way crossing signal. **Ryan Marquez** said that Cal Trans set up that way. Their decision may have to do with the popular turn lanes.

Chair Knowles: thanked Ryan Marquez for all the hard work and effort this past year. She appreciates the analysis of what is best for everyone. Now the hard works begins finding funding for these projects.

Chair Knowles called for a motion recommending that the PB&R Commission approve and adopt the Bike and Pedestrian Draft Plan for the City Councils' approval.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kellogg to approve and recommend the Bicycle and Pedestrian Final Draft Plan, seconded by Commissioner Heywood, motion carried 5-0.

IX REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDANCE FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Abbott: informed the Commission that the Library committee is planning a meeting for the Sharp Park community. They are continuing to work on the communication strategy.

Commissioner Benton Shoemaker: stated that Tree City of Pacifica and Public Works completed and submitted the Tree City USA application and is ready to look for funding.

Commissioner Knowles let the Commission know that the Beach Coalition is having their fundraiser February 7. They are showing the Movie "The Great Highway".

Commissioner Kellogg: No report

Commissioner Heywood: No report

X REPORTS FROM STAFF

Director Perez reported on the following:

He thanked Superintendent Clark and Ryan Marquez for their contributions to the meeting.

- PBR is hard at work looking at the midyear budgets.
- Next Commission meeting will have a Study Session. February 26, 6:00 PM.
- The Beach Boulevard Plan will host a pop-up input session at Sharp Park beach on February 1, 10-4. There is also an on-line survey.
- The Fairy Tale Ball was very successful with 50 Princesses and Princes attending.
- We are hiring a 5th Child Care Teacher.
- Senior Services will be recruiting for a Meals On Wheels Coordinator and Transportation Specialist/Bus Driver
- Please review the staff reports. There is a lot that was accomplished in the last 3 months. Thank you to our staff.

XI ADJOURNMENT

Chair Knowles asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Commissioner Kellogg made the motion to adjourn, Commissioner Benton Shoemaker seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0** and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Hanssen Recreation
Specialist



Staff Report

Item IX. February 26, 2020

SUBJECT:

The Public Plaza along Beach Boulevard Project conceptual design presentation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive report/presentation on the Public Plaza along Beach Boulevard Project conceptual design; provide input, comments and questions to the consultants and staff after additional community outreach efforts were performed per the recommendation of the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The City of Pacifica Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is a planning tool used to prioritize capital project needs beyond the City's annual budget cycle. The CIP is a dynamic document that is updated every year by identifying new projects, updating the status of existing projects, and prioritizing all projects. The Engineering Division of the Department of Public Works develops the CIP with input from the various City Departments, the City Council and the public. The identified projects in the CIP were selected to make the best use of the City's limited resources. The Public Plaza along Beach Boulevard Project, along Sharp Park Beach, is one of the identified projects in the CIP.

Gates + Associates, chosen by staff after participating in an extensive interview process, is the consulting firm specializing in urban design, land planning and landscape architecture, tasked with developing the design concepts for this project. Gates + Associates will develop a schematic design with input gathered by various stakeholders. A final conceptual plan will be created along with a set of construction documents for obtaining bid solicitations from potential contractors.

Tasks that have been completed to date are the geotechnical testing and topographic surveys of the future site of the Beach Boulevard Plaza; they are currently developing



Staff Report

the preliminary conceptual plan. On October 9, 2019, Gates + Associates participated in a community outreach effort at the Farmer's Market held on Old County Road; they managed to obtain a substantial amount of public input data that is being incorporated into the draft conceptual plan being presented today.

During the December 18, 2019 Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission Meeting, commission members requested to have additional community outreach efforts performed. As a result, Gates + Associates developed an online survey which was accessible to the public through the City website and social media. Additional community outreach efforts also included a pop-up event held on Saturday, February 1, 2020 on Beach Boulevard. The data collected from the three (3) community outreach efforts have been compiled and the results are being presented here this evening.

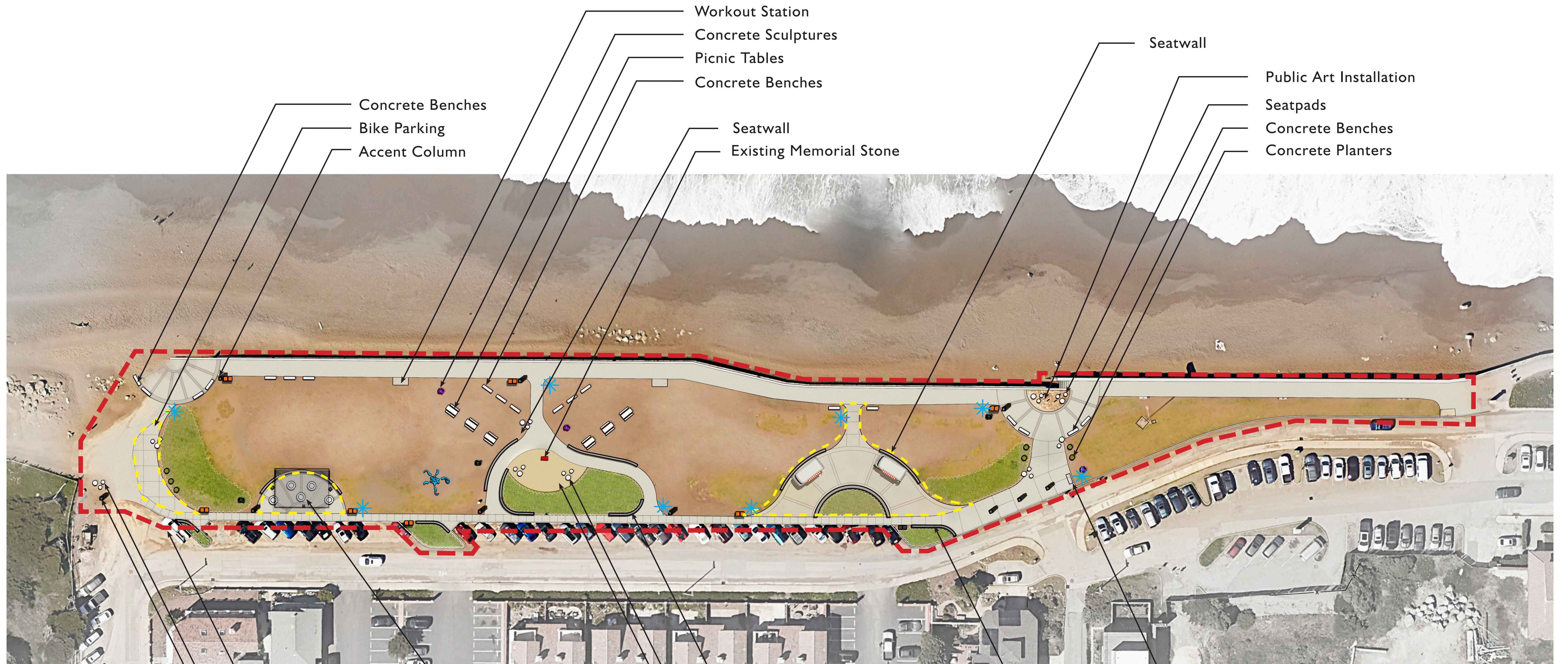
The project will renovate the picnic area along the southern end of the Beach Boulevard Promenade to make it an attractive and inviting community gathering spot while also enhancing protection from storm impacts and reducing maintenance costs. The proposed scope of work includes installing more attractive hardscape as a plaza area, ocean-themed stone play animals, potential outdoor gym station, new picnic tables, bicycle parking, features to prevent ocean waves from spreading sand throughout the plaza area, BBQ grills, and installing landscaping that will enhance the area. The features installed should help reduce City staff time required for maintenance and cleanup of the area.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

Beach Boulevard Plaza Landscape Concepts



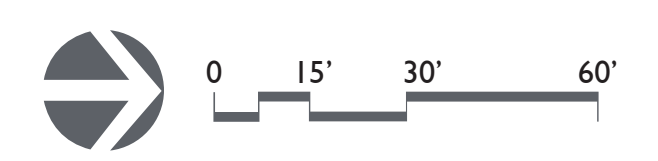
- Workout Station
- Concrete Sculptures
- Picnic Tables
- Concrete Benches
- Seatwall
- Existing Memorial Stone
- Seatwall
- Public Art Installation
- Seatpads
- Concrete Benches
- Concrete Planters

- Concrete Benches
- Bike Parking
- Accent Column

- New Paving
- Seatpads
- Accent Column

- New Picnic Zone:
 - Trellis
 - BBQ
 - Tables
 - Seatwall
- Seatwall
- Seatpads
- Decomposed Granite

- Seatwall
- Seatwall
- Bike Parking



- Trash Receptacles
- Educational Signage Opportunities
- Dune Restoration
- New Concrete Paving