

**Public Comments**  
**Item 13 – On-Call Certified**  
**Arborist Services**

Written Comments Received By 12pm on 11/13/2023



*November 13, 2023*  
*City Council Meeting*

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**From:** Paul Totah [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 12, 2023 4:35 PM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Subject:** Re tomorrow's meeting item #13 on the consent calendar  
**Attachments:** Albert Weisfuss Response to RFQ.pdf

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear City Council,

When Tree City Pacifica researched other cities' ordinances, we found that most cities have city arborists on staff. Those who didn't, have contracts with single arborists that care for the urban forest and administer the tasks required by the local ordinance.

Pacifica Grove has this model. Attached is the RFQ from the arborist in Pacific Grove to the City of Pacific Grove. This can be used as a reference for a possible solution for Pacifica. Pages 4 and 5 of the RFQ lay out the common tasks completed by the arborist, such as reviewing tree permits, overseeing city tree maintenance, and providing customer service to the public.

We are concerned as to why Pacifica is going with a disjointed model of multiple companies to do the tasks of a single arborist. We have several questions:

1. Please explain the current model in Pacifica? Are there three separate consultants doing the work associated with the tree ordinance?
2. If so, does the cost of these three consultant companies (with their separate overheads and expenses) exceed the cost of one staff city arborist? If not, does it exceed the cost of a half-time contract arborist, as is the model in Pacific Grove? (\$100,000 contract, half-time at \$100 an hour, no benefits or pension)
3. How many hours of arborist time are we getting in the Dudek contract? How much goes to a manager, overhead, or other expenses?

4. Who is doing the arborist work that does not require permits, such as assessing dead trees, determining whether or not a tree is a city tree, and answering questions regarding sewage laterals? Currently, there is serious confusion regarding trees and sewage laterals. Homeowners are being told they must pay a \$1000 permit fee and get an arborist report, one that we believe is not needed.
5. Who is advising citizens on replacement trees?
6. Who is educating the public about the importance and care of the urban forest?

We request that you not approve the Dudek agreement and pursue hiring a single city arborist. The [website of the American Society of Consulting Arborists](#) shows 20 ISA certified arborists within 25 miles of Pacifica. If we really want to serve, preserve, and grow the urban forest, we believe a single arborist (similar to the model in Pacific Grove) is the best path forward.

Thank you,

Tree City Pacifica Members Sandy Ayers, Gail Benton Shoemaker, Marj Davis, Kai Martin, Susan Miller, Jeff Moroso & Paul Totah

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

# Albert Weisfuss, Certified Arborist

PO Box 2263, Monterey, CA 93942



April 3, 2018

City of Pacific Grove's Forestry Program  
C/o City Office of the City Clerk  
300 Forest Avenue  
Pacific Grove, California 93950

Re: Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Professional Arborist Services

Dear RFQ Screening Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer you my proposal once again for Professional Arborist Services for the City of Pacific Grove. I am a lifelong resident of the Monterey Peninsula with over 35 years of professional experience in helping local municipalities (including City of Pacific Grove) and numerous tree service contractors assess several thousand private and public trees requested for removal and pruning. I also have extensive experience in community outreach programs, updating and maintaining tree inventories, and assisting local municipalities in the development of comprehensive urban forestry programs and policy documents to accomplish critical sustainable forestry goals.

My decades-long experience in the City of Pacific and in nearly every city of the Monterey Peninsula has not only allowed me to develop a unique understanding of the Monterey Peninsula forest ecosystem and biodiversity, but has also afforded me the opportunity to build vital relationships and develop a deep understanding of the dynamics of working in the City of Pacific Grove – with constituents, City departments, and other key stakeholders including Cal-AM, Cal-Fire, PG&E, etc. Furthermore, the underlying principles of my career as an Arborist are to protect and preserve trees while providing exceptional customer service and diligently assessing tree removal and pruning requests to mitigate potential adverse impact to private and public property.

Relevant to your needs, I am pleased to submit my response to your Request for Qualifications for Professional Arborist Services within the City of Pacific Grove. I have reviewed, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions described in the RFQ. I hope you will agree that the combination of my experience and training has provided me with excellent preparation for the demands of this position. I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to specifically discuss what I could offer your organization. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Albert Weisfuss

Enclosures:   One original hardcopy of my proposal  
                  Two duplicate hardcopies of my proposal  
                  One electronic copy of my proposal  
                  Proposed fees of services

# RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL ARBORIST SERVICES

**\***

ORIGINAL

DUE DATE: April 5, 2018  
SUBMITTED ON: April 3, 2018

**\***

AGENCY:  
City of Pacific Grove

SUBMITTED BY:  
Albert Weisfuss, Certified Arborist  
PO Box 2263, Monterey, CA 93942

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## RFQ Sections

**SETCION 1: ABOUT ME**

**SETCION 2: PROPOSAL**

**SETCION 3: REFERENCES**

**SETCION 4: INSURANCE**

**SETCION 5: ISA CERTIFICATION**

## SECTION 1: ABOUT ME

### SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- ☐ Accomplished Certified Arborist with over 35 years of experience in caring for more than 20,000 trees, and parks and greenbelts across the Monterey Peninsula.
- ☐ Over six years of experience as a Certified Arborist in the City of Pacific Grove with proven track record of exceptional customer service.
- ☐ Demonstrated ability to build trust and work collaboratively with residents and city staff.
- ☐ Advocate for sustainable forestry and preservation of trees through community outreach and education.

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- ☐ Urban forestry management and techniques including inspection, planting, removal, pruning, trimming and maintenance of trees.
- ☐ Quality tree risk assessment including identification of pests and disease.
- ☐ Extensive knowledge of invasive species and their eradication.
- ☐ Tree survey administration and authoring professional reports to enable tree policies and ordinances.
- ☐ Consulting and advising various committees, commissions and the City Council on matters pertaining to private and public trees, parks, and greenbelts.
- ☐ Community outreach and education, and event organization including but not limited to Arbor Day and Earth Day.

### MY EXPERIENCE

Contract Arborist Resource Management Department, City of Seaside	March 2018 - Present Seaside, CA
Contract Arborist Pebble Beach Company, City of Seaside	July 2015 - Present Pebble Beach, CA
Contract Arborist Public Works Department, City of Pacific Grove	July 2011 - Present Pacific Grove, CA
Arborist City of Monterey	1990 - 2010 Monterey, CA
Janitorial Night Supervisor Naval Postgraduate School	1991 – 2001 Monterey, CA
Parks Maintenance Worker City of Seaside Resource Management Department, City of Seaside	1989 - 1996 Seaside, CA

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MY EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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Continuing Education through Society of Arboriculture	On going
Certified Arborist International Society of Arboriculture	1999 - present
Certified Tree Risk Assessor Qualified International Society of Arboriculture	2017 - present
Society of Municipal Arborist Member	2000 - present
Ornamental Horticulture International through Monterey Peninsula College	1993

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MY TECHNICAL SKILLS

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<input type="checkbox"/> MS-Word/Pages	<input type="checkbox"/> MS-Excel/Numbers	<input type="checkbox"/> MS-Power Point	<input type="checkbox"/> MS-Outlook
<input type="checkbox"/> MS-Windows/Mac-OS	<input type="checkbox"/> Google Docs/Sheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Google Drive	<input type="checkbox"/> iWorQ

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MY CLIENTS

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- ☐ City of Pacific Grove
- ☐ City of Monterey
- ☐ City of Seaside
- ☐ Pebble Beach Company
- ☐ Monterey Regional Waste Management District
- ☐ California American Water Company
- ☐ Ocean Pines HOA Pebble Beach
- ☐ Carmel Valley Ranch HOA
- ☐ Compass Management Group, The Dunes on Monterey Bay
- ☐ Monterey Peninsula Country Club
- ☐ Post Ranch Big Sur
- ☐ Carmel Valley Ranch
- ☐ Cypress Gardens Apartments, Marina
- ☐ Architect, Patrick LaMaster

## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL

I have been a contract Arborist with the City of Pacific Grove since 2011. During my tenure with the City, I have been responsible for enforcing the City's tree ordinance and Urban Forestry standards and have accomplished and been responsible for the following:

- ☐ I have reviewed and approved or denied several thousand tree permit requests, accompanying Arborist Reports, and tree hazard evaluation forms.
- ☐ I have consulted the City's Beautification and Natural Resources Commission and City Council on all matter pertaining to trees.
- ☐ I have been responsible for overseeing the trimming and Maintenance of city trees completed by contract, in-house and utility companies.
- ☐ I have been responsible for inspecting public trees and scheduling the spraying and treatment of trees to maintain health and vigor.
- ☐ I have performed tree surveys and updated the city tree inventory using IWORQ program.
- ☐ I have facilitated several sub-committee meetings regarding Select Trees for Pacific Grove and the Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary.
- ☐ I have overseen the city's Memorial Tree Program including meeting with clients, obtaining memorial plaques and planting of memorial trees.
- ☐ I have been responsible for ordering and caring for nursery stock for future tree replacement.
- ☐ I have been responsible for planting, watering and caring for newly planted trees.
- ☐ I have been responsible for organizing and executing the celebration of Arbor Day plantings, public education and other outreach programs.
- ☐ I have been responsible for scheduling and supervising greenbelt fire fuel reduction and habitat restoration including removal of invasive non-native plants, dead trees utilizing inmates from Cal Fire Gabilan Crew Tree Service Contractor:

Building on my responsibilities and accomplishments listed above, upon re-hiring, I will strive to help the City realize its sustainable Forestry goals by implementing the following measures and priorities:

☐ Customer Service:

I strongly believe that good customer service is key to running a successful Forestry Program. I intend to enhance the Forestry Program's customer service by visiting City Hall more often and dedicating at least two 2-hour windows a week in my office to address concerns in person, take and return phone calls, and work with staff to schedule the week ahead.

☐ Streamlining Permitting Process:

Greater efficiencies come with implementing system improvements. One of my top most priorities will be to automate as much of the tree permitting process as possible. I also plan to update our tree permit application form for simplification. Moreover, I plan to automate the tree finding evaluation form utilizing iWorQ's letters and templates capability. This will help save much of administrative work of scanning hand-filled forms.

Additionally, once a permit is created, staff will have immediate access to the permit which can also be emailed directly to the applicant.

☐ Tree Site Inspections:

Most of the concern for staff and/or applicant is not knowing when the City Arborist is scheduled to conduct a site inspection. Within two months of my re-hiring, I intend to start using iWorQ's Inspections portal. Not only will this help the City track tree inspections but will also help staff know when a site inspection is scheduled to further enhance the City's customer service.

☐ Website Content:

Most constituents refer to the City website for initial information regarding trees and permitting process. Within two months of my re-hiring, I plan to streamline our Forestry Program's website content in a way that the content is user-centric and easy to understand.

☐ Tree Inventory:

While the City's Tree Inventory is a great tool and resource, careful consideration must be given to timely and accurately updating this critical long-range planning tool. I would be willing to actively participate in maintaining and updating the tree inventory.

☐ Community Outreach Programs:

Community outreach and education are critical to promoting desired sustainable forestry goals and best practices. One of the ways I intend to promote the City's vision for a sustainable forest and desired canopy goals is to participate in the City's prominent annual events including hosting an information booth at the Good Old Days annual event.

☐ Vigorous and Proactive Tree Code Enforcement:

There is no better way but to proactively and vigorously enforce the City's Tree Ordinances and regulations. My goal is to actively monitor tree trimming and removal activities throughout the City and identify and stop unauthorized tree work. I plan to help the City bring additional revenue by levying penalties upon unauthorized tree work.

☐ Training:

To accomplish compliance with the City's tree regulations and permitting process, training opportunities must be availed to contractors and all involved staff members. I intend to develop fast-tracked annual training modules. The trainings will be aimed at raising awareness and educating Tree Service contractors on City's tree removal, pruning, and permitting regulations.

☐ Memorial Tree Program:

One of my goals will be to reexamine the Memorial Tree Program. I would like to reassess the fees and modify the application form to only reflect locations where memorial trees can be purchased and planted. I also would like to research and identify

all memorial trees which may have missing information. Furthermore, I would like to identify and attempt to reach out to previous applicants and determine whether they might be interested in purchasing a replacement plaque for a fee.

☐ Long-range Tree Policies:

Updates to the City's Tree ordinance and Urban Forestry Standards are now long-overdue. I am willing to initiate a review of the tree ordinance and Urban Forestry Standards as soon as possible. I would like to review and examine our policies in light of the following:

- 1) Best Management Practices as adopted by International Society of Arboriculture (ISA); and
- 2) ANSI A300 Standards adopted by Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA).

### SECTION 3: REFERENCES

Stephen W. D. Morton, Urban Forester  
City of Monterey's Parks Division  
[REDACTED] | [morton@monterey.org](mailto:morton@monterey.org)  
23 Ryan Ranch Rd. Monterey, CA 93940

Admin Capt. Aaron Smith  
Cal Fire – Gabilan Conservation Camp  
[REDACTED] | [aaron.smith@fire.ca.gov](mailto:aaron.smith@fire.ca.gov)  
31801 McCoy Rd, Soledad, CA 93960-9615

Andrew Tope  
Topes Tree Service  
[REDACTED] | [topetree@aol.com](mailto:topetree@aol.com)  
650 East Franklin ST. Monterey, CA 93940

Jerry Gates  
Gates Tree Service  
[REDACTED] | [gatestreeservice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gatestreeservice@sbcglobal.net)  
[REDACTED]

Swati Mehta  
Homeowner in Pebble Beach  
[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

## SECTION 4: INSURANCE



### CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)  
12/29/2017

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

<b>PRODUCER</b> Steve DeCarli Insurance Services 484-B Washington St., Ste. 341 License #0567141 Monterey CA 93940		<b>CONTACT NAME:</b> Heather Linn <b>PHONE (A/C, No, Ext):</b> (831) 641-0325 <b>FAX (A/C, No):</b> (831) 855-0110 <b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b> heather@decarliinsurance.com	
<b>INSURED</b> Al Weisfuss PO Box 2263 Monterey CA 93942		<b>INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE</b> INSURER A: Certain UW's At Lloyds London INSURER B: INSURER C: INSURER D: INSURER E: INSURER F:	

<b>COVERAGES</b>		<b>CERTIFICATE NUMBER:</b> CL176204828		<b>REVISION NUMBER:</b>		
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.						
INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADD'L SUBR INSD WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR  GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PROJECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:		PSF03260663	5/21/2017	5/21/2018	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 2,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 250,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 5,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 2,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 2,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 2,000,000 Errors & Omissions \$ 2,000,000
	<b>AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS					COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$ \$
	<input type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED RETENTION \$					EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$ \$
	<b>WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY</b> ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	Y/N <input type="checkbox"/> N/A				PER STATUTE <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER <input type="checkbox"/> E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$
A	Professional Liability		PSF03260663	5/21/2017	5/21/2018	\$2,000,000
DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)						

<b>CERTIFICATE HOLDER</b> Proof of Coverage	<b>CANCELLATION</b> SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.  AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE  Steven DeCarli/STEVE
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ACORD 25 (2014/01)  
INS025 (2014/01)

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SECTION 5: ISA CERTIFICATION

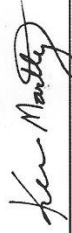
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE  
CERTIFIED ARBORIST™

Albert Weisfuss

Having successfully completed the requirements set by the Arborist Certification  
Board of the International Society of Arboriculture,  
the above named is hereby recognized as an ISA Certified Arborist®



Jim Skiera, Executive Director  
International Society of Arboriculture



Kevin Martlage  
Director of Professional Development  
International Society of Arboriculture

WE-1388A

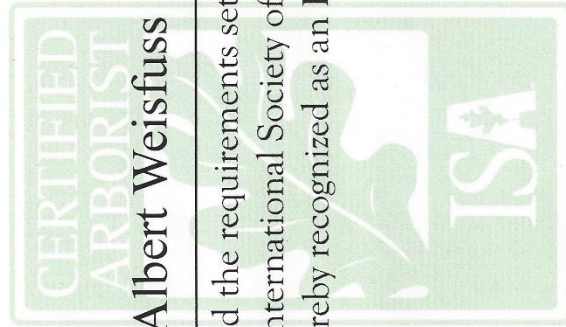
Certification Number

22 Jun 1996

Certified Since

30 Jun 2020

Expiration Date



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE TREE RISK ASSESSMENT QUALIFICATION

Albert Weisfuss

Having successfully completed the requirements established by  
the International Society of Arboriculture, the above named  
is hereby recognized as ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified.



*Kevin Marlage*  
Kevin Marlage  
Director of Professional Development  
International Society of Arboriculture

24 Mar 2017  
Issue Date

Jim Skiera, Executive Director  
International Society of Arboriculture

24 Mar 2022  
Term of Validity End Date

# **Public Comments**

## **Item 1 – Draft Local Coastal Land Use Plan (LCLUP)**

Written Comments Received By 12pm on 11/13/2023



*November 13, 2023*

*Study Session*

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**From:** James Kremer [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 11:21 AM  
**To:** Public Comment  
**Cc:** \_City Council  
**Subject:** For tonight's LCLUP Council meeting  
**Attachments:** 23-11-13 JK CC mtg comment on LCLUP revs.pdf

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Appended as text below are my comments for tonight's Council meeting on LCLUP.  
I also have attached a PDF file of same.

TO: City Council; [publiccomment@pacifica.gov](mailto:publiccomment@pacifica.gov)

City Council Special Meeting on LCLUP (Nov. 13, 2023)

**Public Comments:**

Jim Kremer, resident in Sharp Park since 2008.

I appreciate and applaud the hard work by City staff to organize the CCC suggestions concisely, and for separating the 28 items highlighted in green from the 80% that are not.

I am working my way through of the changes in Appendix B. I eventually feel I discern the CCC's reason for each change. This is important since CCC staff offered us a minimum set of changes that could allow Commission approval. So every one should meet this standard. **<emphasis!**

Tonight, the agenda says you are <<"taking the first of several final steps">> to earn LCLUP certification. I'll add, hopefully final, because, importantly, this is not guaranteed.

So: I offer 2 points:

1. Most of us will take heart that 80% of the 138 CCC staff suggestions are deemed by the City sufficiently minor that they **could** be accepted by the City <<"**as proposed OR with minor revisions**">>. While the use of the words "**could**" and "**with minor revisions**" offer wide latitude, I chose to feel hopeful that they will be accepted within their regulatory intent. I urge you to endorse these.

2. All of the **greenies** are indeed substantive, and open-minded dialog may lead to a compromise. BUT, understanding the legal basis, I hope we will give up our previous willingness to refuse to change when repeatedly told our preference is untenable.

Don't we all agree the CCC will NOT approve non-compliant policies? In 3-years of previous exchanges with CCC Staff, when City representatives disagreed, they refused to budge. Why should we believe that CCC will now accept our preferred ideas? Please appreciate that the CCC has much less latitude to shift to accommodate us than we have to comply. And realize that failure at the next hearing before the full Commission will almost certainly result in our submission being rejected again. Further, my reading is that some have direct legal implications not only for the LCLUP but also for the whole General Plan.

As you all know but seem not to weigh heavily enough, **Failure** has serious consequences:

- > We face unacceptable delays and possible costs of litigation with the state;
- > Litigation brought by Pacifica citizens on land-use changes & CEQA stipulations are a certainty;
- > & our intransigence puts essential FUNDING for many of our plans in jeopardy.

Intransigence is a tenuous choice that affects the all Pacificans.

3:00 minutes

***Additions to my public comment (insufficient time!)***

**A. Upcoming process.** In my comments for the meeting, I focus on a few general points because the upcoming steps in the LCLUP process allow us to dig more into the details.

However, the format of the upcoming public workshop seems less than optimal. Dividing participants into focus tables means their input is strongly filtered on its way up to staff consideration – most comments are never seen or duly considered by Staff, much less Council. From previous experience with this format, I worry that novel and informed suggestions do not make it into the summaries.

As another consequence of our fraught path forward, I urge you to consider potential damage to the reputation or our City from the intransigent (actually “outlaw”) strategy that it seems we are pursuing in the name of the whole city. It is already having public consequences especially in the light of recent national press coverage, which is not mostly favorable. Critically, I believe it will impact our grant success.

**B. Excluding productive options.** I noted the caveat in the *Agenda Background* that some steps toward this goal are excluded by Staff as too onerous to meet a **self-imposed timeline**. I think I recall similar reasoning being offered leading up to the March surprise from the CCC, which lead us to where we find ourselves tonight.

We are facing at least a 3 month process. If we exclude **now** policy options that would likely allow us to reach a productive compromise with the state regulators,

- > *Wouldn't this be counter-productive?*
- > *Is an arbitrary deadline a sensible reason not to do this?*
- > *Is it prudent to court another ultimatum?*

Unfortunately, city Staff states that the modifications suggested in the CCC's March 2023 document, if certified by the CCC, would “**likely not be adopted by the City Council.**”

Council: You could disprove this! The best alternative for the Pacificans is for Council guidance to Staff to come up with plausible compromise provisions so the LCLUP and GP can move forward. Please, DO NOT allow an arbitrary timetable to block redemptive solutions.

As a constructive example, I would like to support a specific approach, although I know it may strain Staff's exclusion.

The CCC recommendations deleted numerous items with observable triggers for various future adaptations (e.g. Sec. 6.6 Sub-area policies: “(0–2 ft SLR)”). I suggest we consider addressing the need for specific adaptation planning. The CCC wanted this approach to be EXPANDED, and only resorted to the many deletions when City resisted more complete development of this. This is a missed opportunity.

From my experience on the 2018 *Citizens Working Group on Sea Level Rise*, the shift from a temporal timetable for adaptation to a flexible set of alternatives based on observable measurements of physical changes monitored along our coastline threshold was a decisive compromise. In this one move, the city effectively resolved the impasse deadlocking public acceptance. When certain changes are actually observed, certain responses are appropriate. Until then, they are moot.

The CCC endorses this approach, but their Staff made clear it had to be incorporated more clearly. That is the reason CCC Staff deleted all mentions with just the metric (e.g. observed SLR &/or erosion). Most of the hard work on such a plan has been completed. It could be put in place in Sec. 6, perhaps by a modest contract with qualified consultants. The contingent nature and its quantitative evidence-based foundation should make it acceptable to the regulators.

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of Pacifica. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

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However, the format of the upcoming public workshop seems less than optimal. Dividing participants into focus tables means their input is strongly filtered on its way up to staff consideration – most comments are never seen or duly considered by Staff, much less Council. From previous experience with this format, I worry that novel and informed suggestions do not make it into the summaries.

As another consequence of our fraught path forward, I urge you to consider potential damage to the reputation of our City from the intransigent (actually "outlaw") strategy that it seems we are

pursuing in the name of the whole city. It is already having public consequences especially in the light of recent national press coverage, which is not mostly favorable. Critically, I believe it will impact our grant success.

**B. Excluding productive options.** I noted the caveat in the Agenda *Background* that some steps toward this goal are excluded by Staff as too onerous to meet a **self-imposed timeline**. I think I recall similar reasoning being offered leading up to *the March surprise* from the CCC, which lead us to where we find ourselves tonight.

We are facing at least a 3 month process. If we exclude **now** policy options that would likely allow us to reach a productive compromise with the state regulators,

- > *Wouldn't this be counter-productive?*
- > *Is an arbitrary deadline a sensible reason not to do this?*
- > *Is it prudent to court another ultimatum?*

Unfortunately, city Staff states that the modifications suggested in the CCC's March 2023 document, if certified by the CCC, would **"likely not be adopted by the City Council."**

Council: You could disprove this! The best alternative for the Pacificans is for Council guidance to Staff to come up with plausible compromise provisions so the LCLUP and GP can move forward. Please, DO NOT allow an arbitrary timetable to block redemptive solutions.

As a constructive example, I would like to support a specific approach, although I know it may strain Staff's exclusion.

The CCC recommendations deleted numerous items with observable triggers for various future adaptations (e.g. Sec. 6.6 Sub-area policies: "(0–2 ft SLR)"). I suggest we consider addressing the need for specific adaptation planning. The CCC wanted this approach to be EXPANDED, and only resorted to the many deletions when City resisted more complete development of this. This is a missed opportunity.

From my experience on the 2018 *Citizens Working Group on Sea Level Rise*, the shift from a temporal timetable for adaptation to a flexible set of alternatives based on observable measurements of physical changes monitored along our coastline threshold was a decisive compromise. In this one move, the city effectively resolved the impasse deadlocking public acceptance. When certain changes are actually observed, certain responses are appropriate. Until then, they are moot.

The CCC endorses this approach, but their Staff made clear it had to be incorporated more clearly. That is the reason CCC Staff deleted all mentions with just the metric (e.g. observed SLR &/or erosion). Most of the hard work on such a plan has been completed. It could be put in place in Sec. 6, perhaps by a modest contract with qualified consultants. The contingent nature and its quantitative evidence-based foundation should make it acceptable to the regulators.