



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

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PRESS RELEASE

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Pacifica Pier Closure Underscores Urgency of City's Coastal Resiliency Initiatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Pacifica, CA) – With recent winter storms causing significant new damage to the Pacifica Municipal Pier, the City of Pacifica is accelerating its efforts to seek more state and federal resources to complete costly pier repairs and advance other long-term coastal resiliency initiatives, like the [Beach Boulevard Infrastructure Resiliency Project](#).

Following a Dec. 28 high tide and large wave event, the Pacifica Municipal Pier [closed to the public](#) and, following an emergency safety assessment, [partially reopened on Feb. 14](#). This damage and emergency assessment followed the City's recent completion of [a full structural assessment](#) of the pier that began in 2023, with initial estimates for repair costs totaling \$19 million. The City is actively exploring grant opportunities to complete the repairs and is encouraged by a \$963,000 Congressional appropriation signed into law by President Biden this month as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024.

"The escalating impacts of climate change continue to cause damage and threaten Pacifica's coastal infrastructure, neighborhoods, businesses and treasured community assets, like the pier," said Pacifica City Manager Kevin Woodhouse. "Our community has spent years studying and developing plans that will help preserve our coastal infrastructure overall and adapt to these compounding threats. The time is now to begin implementing these projects with urgency, with needed funding support from our state and federal partners. More frequent Beach Boulevard seawall and promenade breaches and pier damages and closures are causing these beloved coastal access amenities to be inaccessible, preventing tens of thousands of visitors annually from enjoying this section of our scenic coastline."

As Pacifica evaluates the pier damage and develops plans for its rehabilitation, the City is also actively advancing work on the Beach Boulevard Infrastructure Resiliency Project, a critical investment in the long-term sustainability of the West Sharp Park neighborhood and business district. The project's aim is to replace the failing seawall on Beach Boulevard with a new one with improved public access amenities, widen the beach on the southern end of the wall and study and implement, if feasible, a sand replenishment program for the area.

With input from residents, the City is finalizing the preliminary design for the project, including land-side features such as landscaping, hardscaping, beach access and community amenities. On Feb. 22, the City hosted a virtual public meeting for community members to

learn more about the latest project developments, share feedback and ask questions of the project team, with more than 100 community members attending.

Once permitted and constructed, the project will protect critical infrastructure and recreational access, as well as homes and businesses, from the continued impacts of coastal erosion, building climate resilience into the most vulnerable segment of the City's shoreline. With preliminary project cost estimates of \$80 million for construction and \$34 million for ongoing operations and maintenance (including a sand replenishment program), Pacifica is aggressively pursuing state and federal grant opportunities to help fund this vital piece of coastal infrastructure.

Building long-term coastal resiliency is a top priority for the City of Pacifica. Climate change adaptation and mitigation is identified as a goal in the City's 2023-2030 Strategic Plan. Adopted by the City Council last year, the [2023-2030 Strategic Plan](#) adoption followed a multi-year, community-driven fiscal sustainability planning process, [Vision 2025 & Beyond](#), that set the financial foundation for the City's future.

Yielding important milestones, like the 2022 passage of Measure Y and the adoption of new strategies to help grow Pacifica's local economy, Vision 2025 & Beyond positioned the City to make meaningful progress on vital community priorities and initiatives, including climate adaptation and mitigation. Despite these accomplishments, the City will need to seek outside funding to achieve its most critical coastal resiliency goals and projects.

"The City remains committed to protecting our residents, businesses, and coastal infrastructure from the effects of climate change. But we can't do it alone," added Woodhouse. "We urge our partners at all levels of government to support our community in its pursuit of long-term sustainability."

For more information about the 2023-2030 Strategic Plan and Vision 2025 & Beyond, visit the [City's website](#).

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