



August 29, 2011

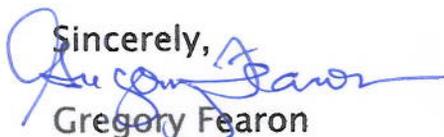
John Laird, Chairman
Ocean Protection Council

Greetings!

Coastwalk California believes that the Ocean Protection Council has chosen the most appropriate and highest priority issues, objectives, actions and metrics in their Draft Strategic Action Plan for 2012 – 2017. We are pleased that many of your objectives and actions seek to improve the abilities of governing bodies to integrate coastal and ocean information into their decision-making. Our work over the past few years has been focused on assisting local and state planning organizations to develop the California Coastal Trail.

Specifically, we believe that the Plan's objectives which support increased funding, development, use and sharing of data offer important new opportunities for all of us to strengthen existing processes designed to protect our coast and ocean resources. Coastwalk California's objectives to develop and preserve coastal access, and the completion of the California Coastal Trail, would be enhanced by the cross-cutting data sharing and educational outreach initiatives included in Issues 12-14, and your support of the updating of California's local coastal plans in Issue 1, Action 1.2.2.

We look forward to working with the Ocean Protection Council to maximize the success of your Strategic Plan, and achieve all of our hoped for goals.

Sincerely,

Gregory Fearon
Board President
Coastwalk California