

Item 8b - Exhibit 3 - Letters of Support



February 17, 2018

Deborah Halberstadt
Ocean Protection Council Prop 1 Grant Program
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311

Support for City of Newport Beach's Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project (PIN 838)

Dear Ms. Halberstadt,

Newport Bay Conservancy supports the grant application from the City of Newport Beach for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project. This project will be accomplished by constructing a floating system in San Diego Creek. Floating booms will guide debris and trash towards a conveyor belt, which will convey it into a collection bin for removal. This will reduce the amount of solid waste carried through storm drain systems into Upper Newport Bay, which is a Marine Protected Area.

Awarding this grant will result in the reduction of debris and trash in the Upper and Lower Newport Bay. By removing this material, the ecosystem and the surrounding community will benefit. This project also increases environmental awareness and provides educational benefits for the community. Approval of this grant will reduce several tons of waste in Newport Bay each year.

Newport Bay Conservancy is concurrently submitting a proposal to OPC for restoration in Big Canyon that will contribute to rebuilding of the entire Newport Bay ecosystem. This will provide for removal of the large stands of invasive Brazilian pepper trees in Big Canyon and for preparation of the environmental documents, permitting and design for restoration in additional downstream areas in the Canyon. Along with the proposed "water wheel" and Polaris Street water quality projects submitted by John Kappeler for the City, this represents a concerted local effort to protect and restore the Upper Newport Bay State Marine Conservation Area.

Newport Bay Conservancy strongly encourages the Ocean Protection Council to award the requested funding for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project, as it would provide environmental and ecological benefits and could be a prototype for similar pollution prevention projects throughout California and the Nation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter J. Bryant".

Peter J. Bryant, Ph.D.
President, Newport Bay Conservancy

Board of Directors

Peter Bryant, President

Derrick Ankerstar

Josie Bennett

Tim Brown

Randall English

Chris Epting

Donna Flower

Taylor Sais

Ian Swift

Joana Tavares

Pam Winkler

Dick Zembal

Advisory Board

Colleen Johns

Jean Watt

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February 16, 2018

Ocean Protection Council Prop 1 Grant Program
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311

Support for City of Newport Beach's Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project (PIN 838)

Dear Ms. Deborah Halberstadt,

Orange County Coastkeeper supports the City of Newport Beach's grant application for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project. This project will reduce the amount of solid waste carried by San Diego Creek into Upper Newport Bay (a Marine Protected Area). If uncollected trash remains in the Bay, chemicals from the waste will deteriorate and harm marine life. By mitigating this waste, the ecosystem and the surrounding community will benefit. This project also increases environmental awareness and provides educational purposes for the community.

Additional benefits of this trash mitigation project include:

- Habitat improvement in Newport Bay
- Improved watershed and ecological health
- Improved water quality and increased pollutant removal
- Improved wildlife
- Collection of data to improve studies of waste

The trash that ends up in the Newport Bay is evident through volunteer trash collections. Therefore, the City of Newport Beach is implementing this project to create a healthier environment for the benefit of the community.

Orange County Coastkeeper strongly encourages the Ocean Protection Council to award the requested funding for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project as it will provide environmental and ecological benefits and can be a model to replicate similar projects throughout California and the Nation.

Best regards,

Raymond Hiemstra
Associate Director
Orange County Coastkeeper

February 15, 2018

Ocean Protection Council Prop 1 Grant Program
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311

Support for City of Newport Beach's Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project (PIN 838)

Dear Ms. Deborah Halberstadt,

Surfrider Foundation supports the City of Newport Beach's grant application for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project. This project will reduce the amount of solid waste carried through storm drain systems into Upper Newport Bay (a Marine Protected Area). It will be accomplished by constructing a floating system in San Diego Creek. Trash booms will guide waste towards a conveyor belt that will be collected by the water wheel. Awarding this grant will result in the reduction of waste in the Upper and Lower Newport Bay. By mitigating this waste, the ecosystem and the surrounding community will benefit. This project also increases environmental awareness and provides educational purposes for the community.

The water wheel project provides improvements to marine environments. If uncollected trash remains in the Bay, chemicals from the waste will deteriorate and harm marine life. Approval of this grant will reduce several tons of waste in Newport Bay each year.

Additional benefits of this trash mitigation project include:

- Habitat improvement in Newport Bay
- Improved watershed and ecological health
- Improved water quality and increased pollutant removal
- Improved wildlife
- Collection of data to improve studies of waste

Each year, the amount of trash that ends up in the Newport Bay increases significantly and is evident through volunteer trash collections. Therefore, the City of Newport Beach is implementing this project to create a healthier environment for the benefit of the community.

Surfrider Foundation strongly encourages the Ocean Protection Council to award the requested funding for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project as it will provide environmental and ecological benefits and can be a model to replicate similar projects throughout California and the Nation.

Best regards,

Darrel Ferguson



Chapter Coordinator

Surfrider Foundation Newport Beach Chapter

February 14, 2018

Ocean Protection Council Prop 1 Grant Program
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311

Support for City of Newport Beach's Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project (PIN 838)

Dear Ms. Deborah Halberstadt,

Help Your Harbor supports the City of Newport Beach's grant application for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project. This project will reduce the amount of toxic solid waste carried through storm drain systems into Upper Newport Bay (a Marine Protected Area). It will be accomplished by constructing a floating system in San Diego Creek. Trash booms will guide waste towards a conveyor belt that will be collected by the water wheel. Awarding this grant will result in the reduction of waste in the Upper and Lower Newport Bay. By mitigating this waste, the ecosystem and the surrounding community will benefit. This project also increases environmental awareness and provides educational purposes for the community.

The water wheel project provides improvements to marine environments. If uncollected trash remains in the Bay, chemicals from the waste will deteriorate and harm marine life. Approval of this grant will reduce several tons of waste in Newport Bay each year.

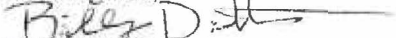
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- Habitat improvement in Newport Bay
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Each year, the amount of trash that ends up in the Newport Bay increases significantly and is evident through volunteer trash collections. Therefore, the City of Newport Beach is implementing this project to create a healthier environment for the benefit of the community.

Help Your Harbor strongly encourages the Ocean Protection Council to award the requested funding for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Trash Mitigation Project as it will provide environmental and ecological benefits and can be a model to replicate similar projects throughout California and the Nation.

Best regards,



Billy Dutton

Founder, Help Your Harbor
602-677-2700

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October 23, 2018

John Laird, Secretary for Natural Resources, Council Chair
California Ocean Protection Council
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Comments on OPC Meeting Agenda Items – Thursday, October 25, 2018

Dear Secretary Laird and Council members:

Given the extremely full agenda at the October 2018 OPC meeting in Santa Cruz, please accept these written comments from Ocean Conservancy on a number of the agenda items in lieu of public comments at the meeting.

We have comments on Agenda Items 4-8 (see below) but first we wish to acknowledge the tremendous leadership provided by Deborah Halberstadt and the entire OPC staff in their successful efforts to ensure that the ocean and coasts featured prominently at Governor Brown's Global Climate Action Summit. For the first time, the ocean was a central part of the discussion at an international climate change conference. OPC's leadership was critical to the development of the "Ocean Climate Action Agenda," a visionary document that articulated a set of goals and objectives around which summit presenters and attendees alike could rally. Ocean Conservancy is proud to have worked closely with the OPC and our ocean colleagues on the development of this document and the resulting ocean panels that took place during this historic event in San Francisco. Momentum is now building to ensure the ocean is closely integrated into other international climate forums and policy vehicles such as COP 24 this December and COP 25 in November 2019. We strongly encourage the OPC to engage in these events and to share the lessons learned in California on ocean and climate with other subnational and national entities. Ocean Conservancy stands ready to assist the state in these efforts.

Agenda Item 4

We support the proposed resolutions regarding MPAs reflected in item 4. This workplan will help the state continue its leadership on MPAs (4a), and we support the state's focus on monitoring actions (4b). Given the New York Times article this week¹ on how

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/10/22/climate/kelp-climate-change-california.html>

warm water, reduced upwelling and seastar disease are compounding to undermine California kelp forests, monitoring and research will grow ever more important as climate change proceeds along the coast.

Agenda Item 5

Ocean Conservancy is strongly supportive of agenda item 5a, California's Ocean Acidification Action Plan and we recommend that the Council adopt it as written. Ocean Conservancy has long been supportive of state action in California on OA (including sponsoring AB 2139, Williams) and submitted comments on the OA Action Plan on August 30, 2018. The Action Plan fulfills one of California's obligations to the International Alliance to Combat Ocean Acidification and is likely to serve as a model for other jurisdictions looking to take concrete actions to confront ocean acidification. Ocean Conservancy is especially pleased that the OA action plan acknowledges the role of other climate and non-climate driven stressors and has identified a suite of actions in light of these other ocean stressors. As a result, this Action Plan, while focused largely on mitigation and management actions for ocean and coastal systems, lays the groundwork for future actions that look beyond OA to the myriad of ways that carbon pollution and climate change are affecting California's ocean.

We recommend that OPC turn next to development of a work plan and budget for spending new resources from the Environmental License Plate Fund and Prop 68, consistent with the OA Action Plan, and developing a complementary work plan for advancing coastal resilience priorities in consultation with the coastal management agencies and the conservation community.

Agenda Items 5-8

Ocean Conservancy is also pleased to see a wide range of cutting edge research projects proposed for disbursement of Prop. 84 funding in agenda items 5-8. Each is designed to provide additional, actionable information on issues of importance to the state, and we are supportive of all the disbursements. In particular, the projects that address 1) domoic acid (5b3), 2) multiple stressors and impacts on pseudo-nitzschia (8a2), 3) geography of ocean acidification stress (5b4), 4) synergistic effects of OA and warming (5b6), 5) effect of MPAs on fisheries and fishery management (6a4), and 6) plastics and seafood safety (8a4) are especially important to the future health of California's ocean and coast and the services they provide our state's residents.

Agenda Item 8

Finally, Ocean Conservancy is especially supportive of item 8b, a Proposition 1 project to support the City of Newport Beach's efforts to establish the Newport Bay Water Wheel Project. Marine debris, and especially plastic pollution, is a major threat to ocean health, with nearly 8 MMT of plastics flowing into the world's ocean yearly². A central solution to this problem lies in preventing debris from entering the ocean in the first

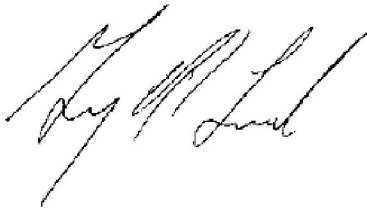
² Jambeck et al. (2015). Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean. *Science* 347(6223):768-771

place. The Baltimore Water Wheel has proven to be a cost effective, highly efficient means to intercept large debris in freshwater streams, long before these materials find their way into the central ocean gyres. With its creative design, "Mr. Trash Wheel" has also played a major role in public education about the issue of plastics pollution more generally. By targeting water quality and watershed protection, the Newport Bay project is fully aligned with the goals and objectives of Proposition 1.

Lastly, Ocean Conservancy wants to acknowledge and thank Secretary Laird and Secretary Rodriguez for their years of service under Governor Jerry Brown's administration on behalf of our ocean and coast through their tireless efforts on behalf of the Ocean Protection Council. As the state moves toward new leadership in 2019, your partnership with Governor Brown to highlight the value of a healthy ocean to all Californians is to be commended.

From all of us at Ocean Conservancy, we thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George H. Leonard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

George H. Leonard, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist

From: Shestek, Tim <tim_shestek@americanchemistry.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 25, 2018 10:21 AM

To: CNRA COPC Public

Cc: Wyer, Holly@CNRA

Subject: OPC Meeting - Agenda Item 8(1)(b) - comment from the American Chemistry Council

Members of the Ocean Protection Council:

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) urges the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) to support funding for the Newport Bay Water Wheel Project. This is an innovative project aimed at capturing and removing trash and marine debris before it reaches the ocean. ACC is committed to ending plastic waste in the environment. To that end, the plastics industry has taken several steps and partnered with governments, NGOs, and the private sector to identify and deliver solutions to the issue of marine debris. Some of these projects are outlined in the following documents:

- America's Plastics Makers Contribute to Solutions on Marine Litter
<https://plastics.americanchemistry.com/fact-sheets-and-infographics/Americas-Plastics-Makers-Contribute-to-Solutions-on-Marine-Litter.pdf>
- U.S. Plastic Resin Producers Help Promote Recycling & Keep Plastic Waste Out of the Marine Environment
<https://plastics.americanchemistry.com/ACC-Plastics-CE-Infographic.pdf>

As you may know, ACC was an active participant in the development of the OPC's Ocean Litter Prevention Strategy. We continue to remain engaged in this process and have volunteered to serve as a partner organization on a number of identified action items in the strategy document. Should the OPC look to expand its support for future trash wheel projects in other parts of the state, ACC would be very interested in discussing potential partnership opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or comments. ACC looks forward to working with the OPC and other stakeholders to address this important issue.

Sincerely,

Tim Shestek

American Chemistry Council

Tim Shestek | American Chemistry Council

Senior Director, State Affairs

tim_shestek@americanchemistry.com

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