

TALKING POINTS FOR FRIENDS OF GOLETA BEACH PARK (HEREIN FRIENDS) MEMBERS WHEN ADDRESSING COMMISSIONERS:

- CCC Staff recommends that the Commission approve the as-built revetment for a limited, conditional 20 year term
 - Friends supports this limit as the chances of getting a permanent permit has zero chance of receiving a majority vote. Staff's rationale for such stems from the EIR assessment that the chances of sea-level rise will be after 2050. Friends recommend to not challenge this assumption and be satisfied for 20 years of permitted rocks.
- CCC Staff recommends that the Commission require a Beach and Revetment Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan
 - There are trigger points with 8 "Special Conditions" that could cause this 20 year permit to cease with a new "Adaptive Plan" required which will include a "managed retreat" alternative. FYI, the Staff report says if for any reason (such as a major storm surge) there is exposure of over 200 linear feet of rock for a 24 month period, this would be the trigger. Friends believes the risk of such exposure is minimal and that County Parks will be diligent in a beach nourishment including covering exposed rocks for park and beach visitors safety and enjoyment (this is also suggested by CCC Staff), and therefore we should not challenge this condition.
- The following organizations supporting the CCC Staff recommendations in permanently protecting our Park for the 1.4M visitations annually:
 - SB County Supervisors
 - SB County Staff
 - SB County Parks Commission
 - City of Goleta
 - UCSB
 - Sierra Club
 - Goleta Chamber of Commerce
 - Goleta Water District
 - Goleta Sanitary District
 - So. California Gas Company
 - Beachside Restaurant
 - 800+ members of Friends of Goleta Beach Park

EDC arguments to remove current west-end rock revetment:

- Coastal engineers and scientists tell us the rock seawall is already causing Goleta Beach to erode, harming public access, recreation, sand supply, and habitat.
- There is no lateral access left at high tides. People are forced to walk over rocks and through the parking lot! This is not what we envision as a California coastal experience.

- EDC and Surfrider have developed a scaled-back compromise plan which would remove the dangerous rocks where exposed and restore a larger, wider beach for people.
- This plan was developed with the overarching goals of protecting the park and protecting the beach for future generations.

[Friends recommends that we stay consistent with our arguments we have been making for years and have included below sound arguments that can be used by any supporters of our position.]

- The EIR documented that the emergency rocks on the west-end of the park are above the mean tide line and minimally may impact down coast sand migration. [A good point to make is that most times of the year, the slough is blocked because of heavy sand migration that continues to migrate in our coastal littoral area, proving that the west-end rocks are not a negative factor.]
- The CCC Staff Report says..."Coastal Act Section 30251 requires that visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected, landform alteration shall be minimized, and where feasible, degraded areas shall be enhanced and restored." [The rock revetment on the west side of Goleta Beach Park meets this condition.]
- The CCC Staff Report also sights Section 30235..."Revetments, breakwaters, groins, harbor channels, seawalls, cliff retaining walls, and other such construction that alters natural shoreline processes shall be permitted when required to serve coastal dependent uses or to protect existing structures or public beaches in danger from erosion, and when designed to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supply." [Goleta Beach Park meets the intent of this regulation!]
- CCC Section 30221 says..."Oceanfront land suitable for recreational use shall be protected for recreational use". [Goleta Beach Park has been in existence in its current footprint since the early 1940's for all Santa Barbara County residence.]
- [Over the years that the emergency rocks have been installed they have done their job in protecting all park assets (park grass, trees/landscaping, picnic benches, bathrooms, parking lots). Without these protection buffers, the major El Nino storms in the 2002-05 would have devastated our park and parking lots without mercy.]
- [The rock revetment on the westside have only been exposed when there has been a major storms (last time March 2014) and fortunately are covered up with beach nourishment by County Staff for the safety and enjoyment of all beach park visitors.]
- [The BEACON kelp restoration project in the Goleta Bay coupled with permitting the rock revetment will also better protect Goleta Beach Park.]
- [By leaving all protection measures in place will allow for future generations to enjoy the beauty and amenities of this wonderful beach park for years to come.]