



HARBOR DEPARTMENT

3900 Pelican Way
Oxnard, CA 93035
(805) 973-5950

December 19, 2023

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing the Ventura County Harbor Director to Submit a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit Application for the Silver Strand and Hollywood Beaches to the California Coastal Commission on Behalf of the County.

Recommendation:

Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Ventura County Harbor Director to submit a consolidated Coastal Development Permit Application for the Silver Strand and Hollywood Beaches to the California Coastal Commission on behalf of the County to comprehensively address development, including beach maintenance activities conducted by the County.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

There is no fiscal impact associated with adopting this resolution.

Strategic Plan:

This item seeks a consolidated permit path which aligns with the County's strategic priorities of "Reliable Infrastructure and Sustainability." By providing land-use policies that enable efficient governance and the responsible stewardship of coastal resources, the streamlined process would contribute to maintaining and improving dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities, as well as preserving our natural resources. This item also emphasizes the long-term health and sustainability of our coastal areas which aligns with the County's strategic vision.

Discussion:

On October 19, 2021, your Board adopted the Ventura County Local Coastal Program (LCP) amendments, which updated policies related to Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) Programs within section 4.1.3-3 of the LCP. These amendments

introduced a new policy, ESHA Program 6, for the implementation of a “County Beach Maintenance Master Permit, and Beach Management Plan.” The California Coastal Commission (CCC) determined that LCP amendments were legally adequate and thus became effective on September 9, 2022.

Pursuant to this certified LCP amendment, the Harbor Department is mandated to submit a multi-year "master permit" within three years of September 9, 2022. The master permit must comprehensively address ongoing uses and activities characterized as “development” under the Coastal Act conducted by the County at Hollywood and Silver Strand Beaches.

Historically, the beach areas of Silver Strand and Hollywood Beaches have been under the care and management of the Ventura County Harbor Department (Harbor). However, these beaches are not integrated within the jurisdiction of the Harbor and fall beyond the purview of the Channel Islands Harbor Public Works Plan. Instead, Silver Strand and Hollywood Beaches are situated within the authoritative realm of the County of Ventura, subject to governance by the County's Local Coastal Plan (LCP) and Coastal Zoning Ordinances.

The CCC retains original permit jurisdiction over Silver Strand and Hollywood Beaches, extending from approximately 50 feet seaward of the existing dwellings to three miles offshore. Original permit jurisdiction implies that, instead of obtaining a coastal development permit from the County in accordance with the approved LCP and Coastal Zoning Ordinance, a coastal development permit must be directly obtained from the CCC.

In situations where development is planned in both the County LCP area and the original jurisdiction area, coastal development permits are mandated from both agencies. Coastal Act Section 30601.3 authorizes the CCC to process a consolidated coastal development permit application when the local government, the applicant, and the CCC all agree the CCC should do so.

The Harbor and the Ventura County Resource Management Agency continue to work cohesively on the permit requirements, allowing for authorization of beach management through a coastal development permit.

Staff recommends that your Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Harbor Director to submit a consolidated Coastal Development Permit Application for the Silver Strand and Hollywood Beaches to the CCC on behalf of the County.

The County Executive Office, the Auditor Controller's Office and County Counsel have reviewed this letter.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact me at (805) 973-5952.



Michael Tripp
Director

Attachments:

Resolution

Exhibit 1: Joint Agency Request Letter

Exhibit 2: Permit Application