



January 28, 2025

County of Ventura Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolutions Authorizing the Harbor Director or Designee to Submit Grant Applications Under the California State Parks, Division of Boating and Waterways' Coastal Erosion Control Programs for the Channel Islands Hobie Beach Restoration Project and the Kiddie and Hobie Beach Seawall and Surge Wall Replacement Project in the Combined Amount Not to Exceed \$9,500,000.

Recommendation:

Adopt resolutions authorizing the Harbor Director or designee to submit grant applications to the California State Parks, Division of Boating and Water Ways' Public Beach Restoration grant program for the Channel Islands Hobie Beach Restoration project in the amount not to exceed \$3,500,000 and the Kiddie and Hobie Beach Seawall and Surge Wall Replacement project in the amount not to exceed \$6,000,000.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

There is no current fiscal impact. However, if awarded grant funding, the County will be required to provide a match for the projects. The Public Beach Restoration Grant Program has a minimum 15% match requirement, estimated at \$1,500,000, while the Shoreline Erosion Control Grant has a minimum 50% match, estimated at \$6,000,000. If one or both grants are awarded, we will return to this Board with a recommendation to accept, receive and execute the public beach restoration grant awards, agreements and related documents.

Background:

Kiddie and Hobie Beaches are located at Channel Islands Harbor in Oxnard, California, adjacent to Victoria Avenue, which serves as the primary access road for the unincorporated community of Silver Strand Beach and a designated tsunami evacuation route.

The public beach site has long been vulnerable to coastal hazards, including storm surge, and erosion. These hazards have accelerated the deterioration of the existing seawalls,

surge wall, and sand levels. Constructed in the 1960s with limited maintenance since that time, the seawall and surge wall are in critical condition and have exposed rebar and crumbling concrete. This deterioration combined with erosion, frequent flooding along Victoria Avenue during storms and high tides, negatively impacts the area's infrastructure by decreasing its inherent protective qualities resulting in potential catastrophic failure of infrastructure throughout the Harbor. This failure likely would affect docks, a public restroom, parking lot, and tsunami evacuation route. Sediment loss has also diminished the size and accessibility of Hobie Beach, which serves as a launch area for small non-motorized watercrafts.

Discussion:

The California State Parks, Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) is the state entity with principal responsibility for statewide shoreline maintenance and control. The DBW administers two coastal erosion control programs, the Shoreline Erosion Control Program and the Public Beach Restoration Program. The general objectives of each program are:

Shoreline Erosion Control Program: To study, plan, and construct solutions for coastal erosion and stabilization problems.

Public Beach Restoration Program: To restore public beaches through the cost-effective placement of sand on or near beaches.

Under the Shoreline Erosion Control Program, the primary project component would involve replacing the aging seawall and surge wall structures situated at Kiddie and Hobie Beaches within the Channel Islands Harbor. Originally constructed in the 1960s, these walls are located approximately 0.6 miles inland from the offshore ocean breakwater along the harbor entrance channel. They run along the backbeach area of Kiddie Beach, adjacent to critical public infrastructure, including parking and restroom facilities, and the tsunami evacuation route. These proposed replacements are essential to safeguard these facilities and would be designed to withstand current and anticipated sea level rise and increased storm impacts.

The Hobie Beach area regularly experiences storm surge overtopping and street flooding, exacerbated by water backflow from a storm drain. While the beach was last nourished in the 1990s, it has since seen significant sand loss and deterioration. Restoring and maintaining the recreational and protective functions of Hobie Beach through beach nourishment is a key component of the project's sea level rise adaptation strategy. Through the Public Beach Restoration Program, replacing the eroded sand would enhance public access, improve resilience against storm surge, and provide safe recreational space. This approach along with the projects redesign surge wall would help keep sand on the beach and improve water quality.

After submission of two letters of intent to apply for the two programs, DBW has invited the Harbor Department to submit full grant applications. The deadline to submit the

applications is February 3, 2025. DBW requires that an applicant's governing body adopt a resolution authorizing submission of a grant application. Accordingly, the Harbor Department requests that your Board adopt the attached resolutions authorizing the Harbor Department to submit grant applications for the two projects.

Integration of Strategic Plan Priorities:

If awarded, this grant funding supports the County of Ventura's Strategic Priorities to provide reliable infrastructure and land-use policies to enable a vibrant and sustainable community with the goals to: 1) maintain high-performing public safety services; 2) maintain and improve dependable public resources to serve the needs of our diverse communities; and 3) preserve our natural environment.

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel, the Auditor-Controller's Office and County Executive Office.

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



MICHAEL TRIPP
Director

Resolution – Submit an Application for Grant Funding for Kiddie and Hobie Beach Seawall and Surge Wall Replacement Project

Resolution – Submit an Application for Grant Funding for Hobie Beach Restoration Project