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MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

MEMBER AGENCIES

- Cities of
- Carlsbad
- Chula Vista
- Coronado
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- Imperial Beach
- La Mesa
- Lemon Grove
- National City
- Oceanside
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- San Diego
- San Marcos
- Santee
- Solana Beach
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- and
- County of San Diego

ADVISORY MEMBERS

- Imperial County
- California Department of Transportation
- Metropolitan Transit System
- North County Transit District
- United States Department of Defense
- San Diego Unified Port District
- San Diego County Water Authority
- Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association
- Mexico

SHORELINE PRESERVATION WORKING GROUP

The Shoreline Preservation Working Group may take action on any item appearing on this agenda.

Thursday, April 3, 2008

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
 401 B Street, Suite 800
 San Diego, CA 92101-4231

Staff Contact: Shelby Tucker
 (619) 699-1916
 stu@sandag.org

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- PRESENTATION FROM THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ON THE USE OF OFFSHORE REEFS FOR SAND RETENTION
- STATUS AND NEXT STEPS FOR POTENTIAL REGIONAL BEACH SAND REPLENISHMENT PROJECT

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SHORELINE PRESERVATION WORKING GROUP

Thursday, April 3, 2008

ITEM #	RECOMMENDATION
1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS	COMMENTS
Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG) during this time.	
+3. SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2008, MEETING	APPROVE
The February 7, 2008, meeting summary is attached for Working Group review and approval.	
4. PRESENTATION FROM THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ON THE USE OF OFFSHORE REEFS FOR SAND RETENTION	INFORMATION
Staff from the Army Corps of Engineers will provide an overview of the Oil Piers retention project in Ventura County and general information regarding offshore reefs as sand retention devices.	
5. STATUS AND NEXT STEPS FOR POTENTIAL REGIONAL BEACH SAND REPLENISHMENT PROJECT	INFORMATION
SANDAG staff will provide the Working Group with an update on the status of efforts to build a regional beach sand replenishment project similar to the 2001 Regional Beach Sand Project.	
6. UPDATE ON REGIONAL SHORELINE MANAGEMENT EFFORTS	INFORMATION
SANDAG staff and Chris Webb from Moffatt & Nichol will provide the Working Group with an update on the Sand Compatibility and Opportunistic Use Program and Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan.	
7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE	INFORMATION
Steve Aceti from CalCoast will discuss the status of state and federal legislation.	

ITEM #**RECOMMENDATION**

8. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

INFORMATION

The next regularly scheduled Working Group meeting is Thursday, June 5, 2008, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

+ next to an item indicates an attachment

San Diego Association of Governments
SHORELINE PRESERVATION WORKING GROUP

April 3, 2008

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **3**

Action Requested: APPROVE

SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2008, MEETING

File Number 3002800

Members in Attendance:

Jim Bond, City of Encinitas (Vice Chair)
Lorie Bragg, City of Imperial Beach
Carrie Downey, City of Coronado
Richard Earnest, City of Del Mar
Matt Hall, City of Carlsbad
Jim Janney, City of Imperial Beach
Joe Kellejian, City of Solana Beach
Eileen Maher, San Diego Unified Port District
Mitch Purdue, U.S. Navy
Pam Slater-Price, County of San Diego

Advisory Members in Attendance:

Steve Aceti, California Coastal Coalition
August Felando, California Lobster and Trap Fishermen's Association
Marco Gonzalez, Surfrider
Bob Hoffman, National Marine Fisheries Service
Lee McEachern, California Coastal Commission
Kim Sterrett, California Department of Boating and Waterways
Julie Thomas, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Staff Subgroup

Ray Duncan, City of Oceanside
Y. Sachiko Kohatsu, County of San Diego
Leslsea Myerhoff, City of Solana Beach
John C. Swanson, City of Coronado
Greg Wade, City of Imperial Beach
Kathy Weldon, City of Encinitas

Others:

Mary Ann Kempczenski, City of San Diego
Claudio Fassardi, Noble Consultants
Dave Oakley, Encinitas Seacoast Preservation Association
Susan Steele, Encinitas Seacoast Preservation Association
Bud Carroll, City of Carlsbad Beach Committee
Dick Erhardt, City of Carlsbad Beach Committee
Sam Johnson, USGS
Clif Davenport, CSMW
Teri Fenner, EDAW
Andrea Groves, SANDAG
Kevin Wood, SANDAG
Rob Rundle, SANDAG
Shelby Tucker, SANDAG

1. Welcome and Introductions

Vice Chair James Bond, City of Encinitas, called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. and introductions were made.

2. Public Comment/Communications

Public comments and communications were invited but none were made.

3. Agenda Item #3, Summary of the December 6, 2007, Meeting

Upon motion from Joe Kellejian, City of Solana Beach, and seconded by Richard Earnest, City of Del Mar, the Working Group recommended approval of the December 6, 2007.

4. Agenda Item #4, Presentation on Tijuana Estuary Demonstration Project

Shelby Tucker, SANDAG introduced Clif Davenport from the California Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW) and Sam Johnson, Chief Geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Santa Cruz.

Mr. Davenport said the CSMW was interested in working with regions to develop regional solutions to sediment problems. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has a rule that no more than 20 percent of sediment placed on beaches can be fine-grained sediment unless substantial additional environment work is performed. There has not been a good scientific basis for this limit. The study in the Tijuana Estuary may significantly reduce the burden of proof to allow more sediment to be placed on beaches. It also will allow greater certainty when looking at possible sediment sources.

The Tijuana Estuary has had major problems with sedimentation, so catch basins were built to capture sediment before it reaches the estuary. Sediment from these catch basins will be sorted and placed in the nearshore. Using sediment locally helps to reduce the impacts associated with trucking it long distances and also is more economical. The project team is funded mostly by the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) along with the California Coastal Conservancy. The

group will go before the Ocean Protection Council to ask for more funds necessary for the completion of the project and could use local support.

Mr. Johnson introduced himself as Chief Geologist for Western Coastal Marine Geology at the USGS. His branch of the USGS deals strictly with conducting science to inform decision makers and is not a regulatory group. Across the state, 30 million cubic yards of sediment comes from rivers yearly, mostly in Northern California. In the Tijuana Estuary, about 120,000 cubic yards of sediment comes through in an average year. Most comes through on specific large storms. The project will place about 60,000 cubic yards, or the equivalent of a wet year, on the beach. It will use the significant data already existing in the region along with an intensive field program. The sediment will be placed in the nearshore during a winter low tide to minimize impacts.

New technology allows detailed seafloor mapping and analysis. Repeat mappings are performed to see changes in the seafloor. The project will use offshore monitoring equipment that can monitor a whole suite of data including salinity, sediment, and wave current. It also will use aerial imaging. The study will give us a rigorous understanding of how sediment works in the nearshore. The principles found at the Tijuana Estuary will be applied to the whole shore.

Mr. Bond asked the steps that would be taken to translate the study's results into a change in the 80/20 rule. Mr. Davenport said the EPA was not averse to relaxing its rule, but is currently cautious because of the lack of data. A small project was done in the Santa Cruz harbor that showed some success. Hopefully, this project will provide the data necessary to make a decision relaxing the rule.

Mr. Kellejian asked if the letter of support needed to go through the Regional Planning Committee to be signed by the SANDAG Board or if jurisdictions should provide letters individually. Members decided that it would be most expeditious to move it through the SANDAG process.

Bob Hoffman, National Marine Fisheries Service, said that he had always been a proponent of allowing fines to be placed nearshore, since they would reach the ocean in a natural system. August Fellando, Lobster and Trap Fishermen's Association, said he did not know off hand what lobster habitat would be affected, but lobsters are caught off Imperial Beach.

5. Agenda Item #5, Status and Next Steps for Potential Regional Beach Sand Replenishment Project

Shelby Tucker, SANDAG, updated the Working Group on recent activities relating to the potential regional beach sand project. In September, the Board approved the cost allocation for the preliminary planning activities, and SANDAG had entered in MOU's with almost every jurisdiction. The Request for Proposals is being prepared and, hopefully, the project will begin in May.

As a result of the feasibility study that was submitted to the DBW in the summer, there is a \$6.5 million line item in the Governor's budget. Kim Sterrett, DBW, said that the funding was not guaranteed until the budget was signed, but it has a good chance of passing. Since money comes from special funds, it is not affected by the current state deficit. The funding will be phased with the optimism for additional \$6.5 million installments. SANDAG needs to prepare a plan to determine how to phase the project budget, including a contingency if all funds do not come through.

Ms. Tucker said SANDAG was working hard to find other areas of funding and had been working with city staff from each jurisdiction to look at allocations for the match. There are a number of options, but cities will have to work together to pick one that works for everyone. Options A and B came from the staff subgroup, option C was the SANDAG staff recommendation, while option D was based on the formula for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit. Ms. Tucker said it was important to make a decision on the allocation to help facilitate the formulation of a finance plan and move it forward to the Board.

Mr. Bond said that different options affected different cities differently, but that we should try to keep every city at the table. Although Encinitas would prefer to pay less, it can support any option. Ms. Tucker said the dollar amounts may change, but it was important to focus on an equitable allocation. She will be working with engineering and finance staff to develop a phased funding approach.

Mr. Kellejian said that Solana Beach has been setting aside TOT and mitigation fees specifically for beach sand projects and can fund any option, but wants to find an equitable solution. Option C lets each city pay more for the sand they actually receive and, therefore, receive the most benefit for their money. It is important to remember that up to 85 percent of the money is coming from the state, so these funds only represent 15 percent.

Donna Frye, City of San Diego, said she personally supported allocating funds for beach replenishment, but that she was not sure how the allocation would make it through the city's budget process. As an individual councilmember, she cannot make a commitment for the whole body. Ms. Tucker indicated that it was important to select a method today, even if a city did not know how it would appropriate the funds when that time came. The state funding is a one-time opportunity that we need to pursue.

Mr. Earnest thanked the subgroup for providing a number of different options. Although he did not know where his council would find the money, they would commit to trying to find it. If the state funding changed, however, they would have to reconsider how the cost is allocated.

Jim Janney, City of Imperial Beach, asked if the county could participate financially. Ms. Slater-Price said it could be discussed, but she was not sure how receptive other supervisors would be. Mr. Kellejian said it was important to remember that 85 percent of the money was coming from the state, so it really is a regional project, even if it is up to coastal cities to pay 15 percent. He thought that option C would be good, so San Diego could say they got the least costly option for the city.

Matt Hall, City of Carlsbad, said that being able to get the project started would look good for SANDAG as it tries to pursue new funding sources for a regional quality of life initiative. Ms. Slater-Price said it was important to remember that the beaches are public resources, as enshrined by the voters in the Coastal Act, and that people need to support them as such.

Mr. Kellejian made a motion to recommend option C to the Regional Planning Committee, and Ms. Downey seconded it. The motion carried without opposition.

6. Agenda Item #6, Update on Regional Shoreline Management Efforts

Ms. Tucker gave an update on some recent efforts. Staff has been moving forward to complete the environmental work for the Sand Compatibility and Opportunistic Use Program (SCOUP) with the cities of Coronado, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, and Solana Beach. The Mitigated Negative Declaration would soon be released for public comment. Moffat & Nichol and EDAW worked tirelessly to complete the project.

SANDAG recently hosted a public workshop on the Coastal Regional Sediment Management Plan. Extra materials were made available, and input is greatly appreciated.

The recent board retreat focused on quality of life issues, including discussion of shoreline management. Overall there was a positive response for shoreline issues, although there were still many details to be worked out. There also was a feeling that if sand-retention structures are to be used, they should not be visible. There was a strong feeling that we need to use polling to determine the public sentiment and to sell a message of fun, as well as benefit for the whole region.

Ms. Downey said that Mark Lewis, the Mayor of El Cajon was a champion for beaches, showing that it was a regional issue. Board members seemed to be in agreement that something regional should be done to support beaches.

7. Agenda Item #7, Adjournment and Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2008, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Bond at 1:02 p.m.