



COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER

FIRST DISTRICT
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

May 15, 2013

Samuel P. Schuchat, Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Schuchat,

I am writing to express my support for a pedestrian trail project proposed by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego. It is not often that we encounter an opportunity such as this to establish a publicly accessible trail on a coastal terrace 150 feet above the ocean, offering spectacular views of the coastline from the La Jolla Cove to the Scripps Pier and points north.

The proposed trail features a sensitively designed pathway and boardwalk along a west-facing slope, connecting two coastal overlook sites already being developed at Scripps. This project would introduce a unique new recreational amenity to the state's network of coastal trails, an extension of the Scripps Coastal Meander to be mapped and signed as part of the California Coastal Trail.

The proposed trail project site is located just west of La Jolla Shores Drive, a popular coastal access route known for its tantalizing ocean views as the road descends 400 feet in elevation over two miles from the Torrey Pines Mesa down to sea level at La Jolla Shores. Currently, there are few well-marked places for visitors to stop to safely enjoy the view and appreciate the beauty of undisturbed natural areas contained within this stretch of coastline. The planned development of two new coastal overlooks on Scripps/UCSD property with parking and public access provided via Biological Grade (a road internal to the Scripps campus, accessible from La Jolla Shores Drive) provides an opportunity to leverage that infrastructure to further advance both public access and coastal resource conservation goals. The proposed project, envisioned as a short but spectacular new segment of the California Coastal Trail, does just that, while demonstrating best practices in design for such recreational amenities.

As one of the world's oldest and largest centers for earth and ocean science research and education, Scripps is a de facto partner in supporting the Conservancy's mission to preserve, protect, and restore the resources of the California coast. Scientific research conducted at Scripps increases human understanding of earth systems and contributes to greater public appreciation of marine and coastal resources. In addition to offering beautiful ocean, beach, and whitewater vistas, the proposed trail and connecting paths serve as a showcase for habitat



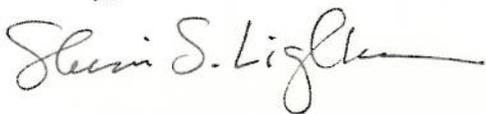
restoration and stormwater pollution prevention efforts undertaken by Scripps/UCSD to preserve and protect the beach and coastal waters of the La Jolla Ecological Preserve, a state-designated Area of Special Biological Significance.

UCSD welcomes thousands of visitors annually, but relatively few are aware or take advantage of opportunities to use existing portions of the California Coastal Trail or the Scripps Coastal Meander, largely due to their fragmentation and the absence of visitor parking and signage close to trailhead locations. Currently, the Scripps Coastal Meander is interrupted in a few key places, forcing pedestrians onto the upper portion of Biological Grade, a steep road with vehicular traffic but no shoulders or sidewalk. Similarly, the only currently mapped alignment of California Coastal Trail in this area is on the beach itself, which becomes impassable during high tide approximately 120 yards north of the Scripps Pier.

This project addresses those disconnects, facilitating public access to a dramatic new segment of trail traversing a coastal terrace between two scenic coastal overlooks where public parking will be provided. As implied by its name, the proposed trail is part of a "meandering" route that offers pedestrians a unique coastal experience of both the natural habitat and developed surroundings (including several buildings of architectural and historical significance) from the Scripps beach all the way up to the Torrey Pines Mesa and UCSD main campus. The proposed new trail will feature signage highlighting access routes to reach the beach and other sections of the meander offering different views and surroundings. The trail will be marked on maps produced by CoastWalk and UCSD and listed on websites that provide information and directions to publicly accessible walking trails. With its easy access off La Jolla Shores Drive and proximity to the Birch Aquarium and other popular attractions, the meander is destined to become known as a must-see segment in the network of trails and pathways that comprise San Diego County's section of the California Coastal Trail.

Thank you for your consideration of the pedestrian trail project proposed by Scripps/UCSD.

Sincerely,



Sherri S. Lightner
Councilmember, District One
City of San Diego

cc: David Hayes, Project Manager, California State Coastal Conservancy, South Coast Region

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MAY 20 2013

**COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.**



DAVE ROBERTS

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

May 15, 2013

Samuel P. Schuchat
Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

*Serving the
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Bernardo*

*Rancho
Peñasquitos*

Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Solana Beach

Tierrasanta

Torrey Hills

Torrey Pines

University City

Dear Mr. Schuchat,

I am writing to express my support for a pedestrian trail project proposed by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego. It is not often that we encounter an opportunity to establish a publicly accessible trail on a coastal terrace 150 feet above the Pacific Ocean. And there are currently very few, well-marked places for visitors to stop and safely enjoy this undisturbed stretch of coastline.

The proposed project does just that—while also demonstrating best practices in designing recreational amenities. It would connect two overlook sites already being developed on Scripps/UCSD property with parking and public access via an internal campus road accessible from La Jolla Shores Drive. As an extension of the Scripps Coastal Meander, it would also be mapped and signed as a short but spectacular new segment of the California Coastal Trail.

UCSD welcomes thousands of visitors annually, but relatively few are aware or take advantage of opportunities to use existing portions of the California Coastal Trail or the Scripps Coastal Meander, largely due to their fragmentation and the absence of visitor parking and signage close to trailhead locations. Currently, the Scripps Coastal Meander is interrupted in a few key places, forcing pedestrians onto the upper portion of Biological Grade, a steep road with vehicular traffic but no shoulders or sidewalk. Similarly, the only currently mapped alignment of California Coastal Trail in this area is on the beach itself, which becomes impassable during high tide approximately 120 yards north of the Scripps Pier. This project addresses those disconnects, facilitating public access to a dramatic new segment of trail traversing a coastal terrace between two scenic coastal overlooks where public parking will be provided.

The proposed trail and connecting paths would also serve as a showcase for habitat restoration and stormwater pollution prevention efforts undertaken by Scripps/UCSD to preserve and protect the beach and coastal waters of the La Jolla Ecological Preserve, a state-designated Area of Special Biological Significance. It would feature signage highlighting access routes to reach the beach and other sections of the meander offering different views and surroundings.

Exhibit 5: Project Letters

To further its exposure to the public, the trail would be marked on maps produced by CoastWalk and UCSD and listed on websites that provide information and directions to publicly accessible walking trails. And finally, with its easy access off La Jolla Shores Drive and proximity to the Birch Aquarium and other popular attractions, the newly proposed "meander" could become known as a must-see segment in the network of trails and pathways that comprise San Diego County's section of the California Coastal Trail.

Thank you for your consideration of the pedestrian trail project proposed by Scripps/UCSD.

Sincerely,



DAVE ROBERTS
Supervisor, Third District
County of San Diego Board of Supervisor

cc: **David Hayes**
Project Manager
California State Coastal Conservancy
South Coast Region

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



Board of Directors

November 9, 2012

Mike Reilly
*President
Sonoma County*

Ms. Joan Cardelino
Mr. David Hayes
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Sarah Gurney
*Vice-President
Sonoma County*

Linda Hanes
*Secretary
Sonoma County*

Dear Joan and David,

Gregory Fearon
*Treasurer
Sonoma County*

I am writing in support of a project proposed by Scripps Institution of Oceanography (Scripps) at the University of California, San Diego. They are proposing to develop a new, publicly accessible trail on their campus, affording sweeping ocean views from a coastal terrace 145-200 feet above the beach. This project would introduce a unique new recreational amenity to the state's network of coastal trails, an extension of the *Scripps Coastal Meander* to be mapped and signed as part of the California Coastal Trail, offering magnificent views of the San Diego coastline from La Jolla Cove to Torrey Pines State Beach.

Nancy Graves
San Luis Obispo County

Maggie Hardy
Monterey County

Mark Massara
San Francisco County

Sandi McCubbin
San Francisco County

Richard Retecki
Sonoma County

Chris Thollaug
San Mateo County

John Woolley
Humboldt County

This particular location has been lacking coastal trail and safe public access. I also know connecting this area to the CCT has been on the radar of SANDAG. While this does not accomplish the full goal of developing a complete connection between La Jolla Shores and Torrey Pines, it does provide an additional segment that will bring us one step closer to that long term goal. I personally know this area well and can affirm that the views and public benefit of accessing this area would certainly be worthwhile.

Una J. M. Glass,
Executive Director

Coastwalk encourages you to favorably consider this project and the excellent benefits that it could provide to the public.

Mailing Address:
555 South Main St., Suite 1
Sebastopol, CA 95472
(707) 829 6689

Sincerely,

Una J. M. Glass
Executive Director

www.coastwalk.org
california@coastaltrail.info

Cc: Tim Duff, SCC
Ken Hall, Scripps/UCSD

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NOV 14 2012

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101-4231
(619) 699-1900
Fax (619) 699-1905
www.sandag.org

May 14, 2013

File Number 33002.00

Mr. Samuel P. Schuchat, Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

SUBJECT: California Coastal Trail

I am writing to express my support for a pedestrian trail project proposed by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). The California Coastal Trail is recognized as a regional facility in SANDAG's 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, so I am pleased to see this effort to establish a publicly accessible trail at UCSD that can serve as part of the coastal access the trail will provide through the San Diego region. Providing a trail on a coastal terrace 150 feet above the ocean will offer spectacular views of the coastline from the La Jolla Cove to the Scripps Pier and points north.

The proposed trail project site is located just west of La Jolla Shores Drive where there are few well-marked places for visitors to stop to safely enjoy the view and appreciate the beauty of undisturbed natural areas contained within this stretch of coastline. The planned development of two new coastal overlooks on Scripps/UCSD property with parking and public access provided via Biological Grade provides an opportunity to leverage that infrastructure to further advance both public access and coastal resource conservation goals.

An existing trail in the area, the Scripps Coastal Meander, is interrupted in a few key places, forcing pedestrians onto the upper portion of Biological Grade, a steep road with vehicular traffic but no shoulders or sidewalk. Similarly, the only currently mapped alignment of California Coastal Trail in this area is on the beach itself, which becomes impassable during high tide approximately 120 yards north of the Scripps Pier. This project addresses those disconnects, facilitating public access to a dramatic new segment of trail. For these reasons, I encourage the California Coastal Conservancy to support this project.

Sincerely,


GARY L. GALLEGOS
Executive Director

SVA/ais

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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- 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

**La Jolla Shores Association
P.O. Box 64
La Jolla, CA 92038-0064**

January 25, 2012

Samuel P. Schuchat, Executive Officer
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

SUBJECT: Grant Application for Coastal Meander by University of California,
San Diego and Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

The University of California, San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) proposes the development of a coastal meander public access walkway along Biological Grade on the SIO campus. The meander will connect two public coastal overlooks and will allow for an improvement in public visual coastal access. The proposed meander is consistent with the University's Master Plan and Long Range Development Plan, as well as the La Jolla Community Plan and the City of San Diego's Local Coastal Program.

At their meeting of January 11, 2012, the board of directors of the La Jolla Shores Association received a presentation about the proposed project and a grant application to the Coastal Conservancy. The board subsequently voted unanimously to endorse the grant application.

Sincerely,



Audrey D. Keane, Chair
La Jolla Shores Association

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JAN 31 2012

**UCSD
COMMUNITY PLANNING**