

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar item No. 26
was approved as Minute Item
No. 26 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 2
to 0 at its 9/27/90
meeting.

MINUTE ITEM

26

9/27/90

W24394

PRC 7457

FONG

PUBLIC AGENCY PERMIT - PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE

Consent Calendar Item Number 26, was removed from the consent calendar and put on the Regular Calendar.

Charles Warren, Executive Officer, presented Calendar Item 26, attached. This is a public agency permit for the construction of a protective structure; an extension of an existing gabion wall designed to protect the toe of the berm existing at the Portuguese Bend Landslide.

In the past, for reducing erosion, approximately 800 feet of gabion berm was permitted and now exists. An additional 1,600 feet for extension to the gabion wall is being requested. All reviewing agencies and the Coastal Commission have approved.

Lois Knight Larue of Lois Larue and Associates, appeared before the Commission to inform the State Lands Commission of what is happening in Rancho Palos Verdes. Ms. Larue provided the Commission with a copy of an article in The Monitor, February, 1989, to help better understand what is happening at Rancho Palos Verdes.

The staff's recommendation is that the Commission approve the Negative Declaration and authorize issuance of a lease to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes Redevelopment Agency for five years, subject to having to get approval of the Coastal Commission for renewal after two years. With that Calendar Item 26 was approved subject to those conditions.

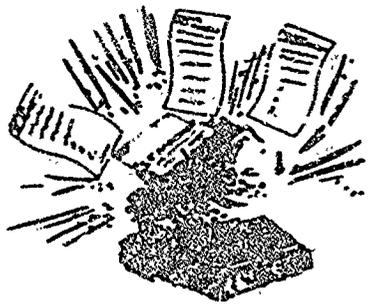
The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the Item subject to the conditions.

Attachment: Calendar Item 26.

A 51

S 29

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THE MONITOR

BE THE PEOPLE

And our Two Cents Worth...

FREE

Vol. 2 No. 1

FEBRUARY, 1969

WHAT MAKES A DUCK A DUCK?

by ENRICA STUART

COUNCILMAN ROGLAS H. MINCHLIFE, our "I am not a developer" executive Vice President of LMAE ASSOCIATES, might find it difficult to explain this, but in any event, we wish to congratulate his parent company, LOUIE ENTERPRISES on their new venture. Loue Enterprises recently bought 112 acres of industrial land in downtown Los Angeles—the largest downtown land sale for 1968.

According to the Los Angeles Business Journal the "Brentwood based developer, in a joint venture with the Boston-based New England Mutual Life Insurance Co., bought the land in the downtown Produce District.

An official from Loue, stated that the developers plan to renovate the Union Terminal produce market—which has been renamed Seventh Street Market.

According to an interview by the Journal, Loue specializes in distressed properties. It also is involved in building \$20 million free places in Orange County, which will include an Embassy Suites hotel and a three story shopping center.

Mr. Loue has a multitude of interests and has been extremely successful. In 1973 he founded Destination Resorts Corp., a company that built apartment houses, resort condominiums and mobile-home parks.

At the present time Loue Enterprises owns or manages \$1.5 billion in real estate.

While Councilman Minchlife is executive vice president of the property management division, we find the disclaimer to the word "developer" a bit hard to swallow. Surely Mr. Minchlife's loyalty is to his entire company not only a segment of it.

ENRICA STUART, HOLDS A PH.D IN GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMICS FROM CLAREMONT AND IS EDITOR OF THE MONITOR

THE MONITOR

IS ONE YEAR OLD.

WE HOPE YOU LIKE US.

Don't You Believe It!

by ENRICA STUART

After three years of deliberation by 128 prominent civic and business leaders the Committee on Los Angeles 2000 released the Final Report, with proposals and recommendations for the future of Los Angeles and most of southern California.

Reorganizing five counties in Southern California to meet the needs of the year 2000 seemed to be quite a task. Therefore, I was a bit surprised when the Final Report turned out to be only 96 pages, most of them graphics.

Given the real purpose of the Report, keeping it short and vague is the best way to slide it through the cracks of public inattention and limited involvement. But if what is proposed in these 96 pages does slip through, it will be the beginning of the end of local representative government and voter participation in the decision-making process as we know it.

In essence, what the Report states is that in order to solve problems such as, gangs, drugs, crime, pollution, congestion, traffic, homelessness and the need for affordable housing, we must develop "livable communities suitable for the 21st century." To develop these livable communities, "The Government and the state legislature should establish a...Growth Management Authority (GMA) made up of either directly elected office holders or a constituency organization of locally elected officials, with the responsibility and authority to set overall policy and guidelines for development with area-wide impacts. The GMA would enable better coordination and integration of local governments' planning and land use decisions and could provide a solution to the "not-in-my-backyard" (NIMBY) attitude that all residents share to some degree..."

Elected or not, it is obvious that such an Authority will curtail the power of the residents to partici-

ipate in the decision-making process.

We have all heard of the remark "You can't fight city hall" but can you imagine trying to be heard at a hearing (assuming they will even have hearings) of the GMA, located somewhere within the five counties they represent and run by people who may or may not have a personal involvement with Palou Verdes and its problems?

People usually incorporate into cities because they feel that county government is too distant from their local problems. Now they are proposing a five-county government!

And that is not all. Here are some of the other innovations they have in store for us:

"The state legislature should establish a statewide GOVERNMENTAL RESTRUCTURING COMMISSION for the South Coast to recommend ways to restructure government agencies at the city, county and district levels in order to define authority and responsibility for regional problems..."

The Report calls for the state legislature to modify state laws in order to provide for a continuous stable source of funding by adjusting or eliminating "...most tax-specific constraints on local revenue-raising powers...Article XIII B already assures fiscal accountability...proposition 13...is no longer necessary..."

But Article XIII B should also be revised, according to the Report, in order to provide a new formula for "...calculating expenditure limits...to closely track increases in demand for services...." To achieve this it is necessary to "Reduce all tax or expenditure referendum decisions to simple majority rules. Local governments should be empowered to...employ user fees to finance local government-run enterprise activities (like water, sewer and electricity) but not public safety..."

PLEASE SEE 2060 PG 2/CL.1

The Rape Of Bardenine Canyon

by LOIS LARUE

In September of 1963, we moved to Abalone Cove having bought the "lost house" at the top of Bardenine Road, part of which sits on landfill on the side of Bardenine Canyon. For ten years we enjoyed walking up into the natural beauty of the canyon.

In 1973 children playing in the Kelling Hills area started a fire which swept down into Portuguese Bend and burned houses there, then raged across the hillside, and was finally contained not far from where we live.

As a result of that fire, Los Angeles County Flood Control, fearing that the Bardenine hillside would slip, built three huge debris basins at the foot of Bardenine Canyon and Eagle's Canyon.

For another five years we enjoyed the beauty of the canyon as the natural vegetation re-established itself.

THEN CAME THE DEVASTATION!

The City Council, on the recommendation of its Planning Department headed by Sharon High-tower had approved a developer's plan to build a storm drain at the top of Bardenine Canyon as a channel for runoff from the Pressley Development.

Los Angeles County engineers, under contract to the city, approved the project, and began channeling runoff from the Pressley Development down Bardenine Canyon.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1981, the Earle Palou Verde City Council officially transferred the storm drain to Los Angeles County for maintenance.

My research grew to more and I began, seriously, researching the problem in an effort to comprehend the potential consequences of the runoff. SEE PAGE PG.2/CL.4

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MINUTE PAGE

At the Los Angeles County Engineering Office downtown on Vermont I spoke with Supervising Civil Engineer Murphy who had been in charge of the project. He assured me that we were NOT getting any more run-off than before. Why then was the debris basin filling?

Why did flood Control Division bring in a string of heavy Jeep trucks on at least two separate occasions and remove approximately 2,000 cubic yards of dirt, sand, rocks, and debris which had been carried down the canyon by the force of the run-off after the storm drain was installed at the top?

I presented the results of my investigation to the city council and by a vote of 3 to 2 (Ryan, Sydn, and Hein in favor; Bacharach and Shaw opposed). The council voted to order its Department of Public Works to investigate the Barquentine Canyon problems. Carl Abel, who I was told, had been called in by Roy Jurgensen Associates, then consultants to the city, to supervise Charlie A. [unclear] walked into the canyon with Perry Ehlig, the city's consulting geologist. He submitted a report entitled "Barquentine Canyon Erosion Report," which reads, in part:

"Er. Ehlig stated that any erosion which would take place due to the development and out-fall had already occurred. He did not feel that there would be any serious future problems."

When I began my investigation I called Dr. Ehlig to come and see the problems in Barquentine Canyon. He brought Charlie Abbott with him. We stood up to the bottom and looked up at the top of the canyon. Charlie Abbott said Dr. Ehlig they had put a storm drain in to carry run-off from the Pressley Development down the canyon. Dr. Ehlig responded in evident astonishment: "You did WHAT?"

THE DEVASTATION ACCELERATED. In 1983 the waters in Barquentine Canyon [unclear] not the waters of Deadman's Canyon flowing down into Lower Abalone Cove, contained down Picket and through two homes on the bluff at Sea Cove. After one storm, Barquentine lobe at the top was backed up behind the debris basin.

The city council had voted to investigate the problem. The Los Angeles County Supervising Engineer, the Director of Public Works, the former Director of Public Works, the city geologist, if a one told us there was no problem, what we had was more water coming down Barquentine than we had

SEE RAPE PG. 3/CL. 4

before--well, maybe 33 cars, maybe 32 cars. And this while the canyon's walls disintegrated before our eyes.

I called DONALD CALES, author of "Handbook of Wildflowers, Woods, Wildlife, and Weather" of the Palos Verdes Peninsula in the hope that he could tell me of the heavy rains of 1977-78 were hundred-year rains. "They were," he said, "whereupon my years of anguish and uncertainty and instability to understand what my eyes saw happening and what the city authorities all said, caused me to pour out my story into Donald Cales's perceptive ears."

He pulled out the book "INTRODUCTION TO PHYSICAL GEOLOGY" by UCLA's Professor William J. Miller, noting if I had heard of the LAW OF THE TRANSPORTATION OF WATER. I had not, but--most important--Ferry Ehlig and Carl Abel and Charlie Abbott and Kenneth Murphy had not, or did not know.

THE LAW OF THE TRANSPORTATION OF WATER STATES:

"Even a moderate increase in the velocity of a stream increases almost INCREDIBLY its power to transport silt and debris."

"THE TRANSPORTING POWER OF A CURRENT VARIES AS THE SIXTH POWER OF THE VELOCITY. THE CURRENT WHICH IS JUST ABLE TO MOVE A ROCK MASS OF A GIVEN SIZE WILL, WHEN ITS VELOCITY IS ONLY DOUBLED, BE ABLE TO TRANSPORT A MASS OF SIMILAR ROCK 64 TIMES AS LARGE BECAUSE 2 TO THE POWER OF SIX IS 64. SINCE THE SIXTH POWER OF 3 IS 729, IT FOLLOWS ACCORDING TO THIS LAW THAT BY TREBLING THE SWIFTHNESS OF A CURRENT ITS TRANSPORTING POWER IS INCREASED 729 TIMES."

This was the information which prompted the city council to vote to investigate Barquentine Canyon. And later one of the city councilpersons told me personally: "We know we made a mistake, but we don't have the money to correct it."

Ironically, it was Perry Ehlig, the city's consulting geologist, who pointed out to me that there WAS a slide at the TOP of Barquentine Canyon (the City already knew about the slide at the south of the canyon, but in conversations referred to it as "alipago.") The Pressley developer had cut a road across the hillside to the bottom of the storm drain, a road which paralleled the terrace upon which the Pressley development sits.

The road was already slipping when Perry Ehlig noticed it, and today, 8 years later, that road can still be seen.

SEE RAPE PG. 4/CL. 4

seen from Palos Verdes Drive South. It is closer to being vertical than horizontal.

The same pattern of irresponsible behavior was evident in the Abalone Cove Landslide. This one involved Altamira Canyon where the city council had approved a storm drain wide as large as the one on Barquentine to accommodate the demands of the Canyon and Surrall developments. Thousands of cubic feet of water thundered down the canyon into Abalone Cove--making its way through a well-known slide area!

In 1976 my son had discovered the reactivation of the ancient Abalone Cove landslide. A front-page report, with pictures, appeared in the Palos Verdes Peninsula News. I reminded the council of this fact, but still they approved more new development and drainage into Altamira.

When the houses in Portuguese Bend began to slide, the City of Encino Palos Verdes formed the Abalone Cove Landslide Abatement District, and immediately assessed the residents there thousands of dollars to develop--how THAT is chutzpah!

THIS LARGE IS A GRADUATE OF MITCHELL COLLEGE AND WAS DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS AND INSTRUCTOR AT MITCHELL FROM 1943 TO 1979. SHE STUDIED LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA. GEMIN AND HOLD POSITIONS IN THE LONG BEACH DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE LOS ANGELES PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE.

MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. C26
was approved as Minute Item
No. 26 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 2
to 0 at its 9/27/90
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

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09/27/90
W 24394 ERC 7457
Fong

PUBLIC AGENCY PERMIT - PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE

APPLICANT: City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Redevelopment Agency
30240 Hawthorne Boulevard
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:
A strip of sovereign land in the Pacific Ocean
in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, Los Angeles
County.

LAND USE: Use and maintenance of 744 feet of existing
gabion wall and the construction, use, and
maintenance of an additional 1,600 feet of
gabion wall to protect the toe berm of the
Portuguese Bend landslide from severe erosion
caused by storm-generated wave action.

TERM OF PROPOSED PERMIT:
Initial period: Five years beginning
September 30, 1990.
Special: This permit is subject to
termination at the end of
two (2) years from its
beginning date, if the
Applicant's California Coastal
Commission's Coastal
Development Permit is not
approved for an extension.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 026 (CON'D)

CONSIDERATION: The public benefit and safety; with the State reserving the right at any time to set a monetary rental if the Commission finds such action to be in the State's best interest.

BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION:
Pursuant to 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2003.

PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES AND EXPENSES:
Filing fee and processing costs waived in consideration for the public benefit to be derived from this project.

STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:
A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 and 2; Div. 13.
B. Cal. Code Regs.: Title 2, Div. 3;
Title 14, Div. 6.

AE 884: 03/11/91.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. A Negative Declaration was prepared and adopted for this project by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. The City determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment. The State Lands Commission's staff has reviewed such document.
2. The Portuguese Bend Landslide is affecting an area of nearly 1,200 acres since its initial movement began in 1956. This landslide has resulted in the destruction of 135 homes, continued maintenance of Palos Verdes Drive South, and total movement as much as 700 feet.

On the recommendation of the Portuguese Bend Technical Panel, a toe berm was constructed in early 1988, along the base of the landslide adjacent to the Pacific Ocean. This involved relocating 250,000 cubic yards of dirt from a steeply sloping unstable area to an area adjacent to the ocean, resulting in a reduction of sliding from 40 feet per year to three feet (3ft.) per year.

CALENDAR ITEM NO 26 (CON'D)

Severe storms battered the coast of Southern California in the spring of 1988 causing severe erosion and possible undermining of the toe berm. The Redevelopment Agency decided to install a temporary gabion wall to protect the toe berm. The installation of the existing 744 feet of temporary gabions began September 1988 and was completed January 6, 1989.

Due to the success of the gabion wall in preventing erosion to the toe berm, the applicant has proposed the construction of gabions along the remaining toe of the Portuguese Bend Landslide. The gabions would extend along the shore approximately 1,600 feet beginning at the east end of the existing 744 feet of existing gabions. This would provide shoreline protection in the Portuguese Bend Landslide east of Inspiration Point to the Portuguese Bend Club Beach.

The gabions are a series of wire baskets filled with rocks. A filter fabric is placed between the existing soil and the gabions to prevent the soil from washing through the gabions. The baskets step up from the shore and are a total of nine feet deep by nine feet high. The area behind the gabions is proposed to be filled with landslide cobble with a soil cover placed on top. This will provide a 12-foot wide level area for access to gabions.

The Applicant desires to complete the gabion construction before the winter storm season. The Applicant is studying proposals for the funding and construction of a permanent protective structure.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

City of Rancho Palos Verdes

FURTHER APPROVALS REQUIRED:

California Coastal Commission

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description
- B. Location Map
- C. Negative Declaration/Notice of Determination

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CALENDAR ITEM NO 26 (CON'D)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION WAS PREPARED AND ADOPTED FOR THIS PROJECT BY THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THAT INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.
2. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
3. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF A FIVE-YEAR PUBLIC AGENCY PERMIT - PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE USE, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 30, 1990, SUBJECT TO TERMINATION IN TWO (2) YEARS IF THE CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION'S COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT, APPLICATION NO. 5-90-636, IS NOT APPROVED FOR AN EXTENSION; IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND SAFETY WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT AT ANY TIME TO SET A MONETARY RENTAL IF THE COMMISSION FINDS SUCH ACTION TO BE IN THE STATE'S BEST INTEREST; FOR A GABION WALL PROTECTIVE STRUCTURE ON THE LAND DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF.

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EXHIBIT "A"

W 24394

LAND DESCRIPTION

All that State owned sovereign land lying beneath the proposed and existing gabion shore protection as shown on the map "Shoreline Protection Project, City of Rancho Palos Verdes California Redevelopment Agency" dated November 27, 1989, a copy of said map is on file in file W 24394 in the office of the California State Lands Commission in Sacramento, California, said gabion shore protection being in the City of Rancho Los Palos Verdes, Los Angeles County, California.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED SEPTEMBER 18, 1990 BY LLB.

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EXHIBIT "T"



CALENDAR PAGE 304
 MINUTE PAGE 2703

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, 1600 North Street, Rm. 121, Sacramento, CA 95814 - 916/442-0012

See Note Below

SDN # _____

NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FORM

Environmental Assessment No. 605,

Coastal Permit No. 91, and Grading Permit No. 1432

- 1. Project Title: City of Rancho Palos Verdes, E.S.
- 2. Lead Agency: City of Rancho Palos Verdes, E.S.
- 3. Contact Person: Laurie B. Jester
- 3a. Street Address: 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard
- 3b. City: R.P.V., CA 90274
- 3c. Phone: (213) 377-6008
- 3d. County: Los Angeles
- 3e. Zip: 90274

PROJECT LOCATION 4. County: Los Angeles 4a. City/Community: Rancho Palos Verdes

4b. (optional) Assessor's Parcel No. 7572-019-902 4c. Section N/A Top. N/A Range N/A

5a. Cross Streets: Palos Verdes Dr. South and Peppertree 5b. Nearest Community: N/A

6. Within 2 miles of: a. State Hwy. No. No b. Airports No c. Waterways Yes

7. DOCUMENT TYPE
- CEQA
 - 01 NEP
 - 02 Early Cons
 - 03 Map Doc
 - 04 Draft EIR
 - 05 Supplement/ Subsequent EIR
 - (If no, prior SDN #)

8. LOCAL ACTION TYPE
- 01 General Plan Update
 - 02 New Element
 - 03 General Plan Amendment
 - 04 Master Plan
 - 05 Amendment
 - 06 Specific Plan
 - 07 Redevelopment
 - 08 zoning
 - 09 Land Division (Subdivision, Forest Map, Tract Map, etc.)
 - 10 Use Permit
 - 11 Concal Ag Preserve
 - 12 Other Grading and Coastal Permits

10. DEVELOPMENT TYPE
- 01 Residential: Units _____ Acres _____
 - 02 Office: Sq. Ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
 - 03 Shopping/ Commercial: Sq. Ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
 - 04 Industrial: Sq. Ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____
 - 05 Power: MW _____
 - 06 Water: MGD _____
 - 07 Transportation: Type _____
 - 08 Mineral Extraction: Mineral _____
 - 09 Power Generation: Usage _____ Type: _____
 - 10 Other: Gabions to prevent Seacliff erosion

- 9A. NEPA
- 06 Notice of Intent
 - 07 Envir. Assessment/ FORDI
 - 08 Draft EIS

9. TOTAL ACRES: 45 Acres

- OTHER
- 09 Information Only
 - 10 Final Document
 - 11 _____
 - Other _____

11. PROJECT ISSUES DISCUSSED IN DOCUMENT

- 01 Aesthetic/Visual
- 02 Agricultural Land
- 03 Air Quality
- 04 Archaeological/Historical
- 05 Coastal Zone
- 06 Fire Hazard
- 07 Flooding/Drainage
- 08 Geologic/Seismic
- 09 Jobs/Housing Balance
- 10 Minerals
- 11 Noise
- 12 Public Services
- 13 Schools
- 14 Septic Systems
- 15 Sewer Capacity
- 16 Soil Erosion
- 17 Solid Waste
- 18 Toxic/Hazardous
- 19 Traffic/Circulation
- 20 Vegetation
- 21 Water Quality
- 22 Water Supply
- 23 Wetland/Riparian
- 24 X Wildlife
- 25 Growth Inducing
- 26 Incompatible Landuse
- 27 Cumulative Effects
- 28 Other _____

12. FUNDING (approx.) Federal \$ _____ State \$ _____ Total \$ 310,000 County \$60,000 Existing 80 \$250,000 Proposed 16

13. PRESENT LAND USE AND ZONING: Open space with two single family residences approximatel 1600 feet from the project area. Zoning - Open Space Hazard.

14. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The placement of 1600 feet of gabions, along the toe of Portuguese Bend Landslide at the shoreline to temporarily protect and prevent

15. SIGNATURE OF LEAD AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE: [Signature] Date 8.1.90

NOTE: Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all non projects. If a SDN Number already exists for a project (e.g., from a Notice of Preparation or previous Draft document) please fill it in.

FORM REVISED 4/83; REPLACES CA163

MARK DISTRIBUTION ON NEXT PAGE

*(14. cont.) landslide material from eroding into the ocean. An additional 300 feet is existing. The gabions are a series of wall backfill with landslide cobble.

860702 888-0072331

MINUTE PAGE 2764

To: Office of Planning and Research
State of California
1490 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 90815

NOTICE OF COMPLETION

Environmental Assessment No. 605, Coastal Permit No. 91 and Grading Permit
Project Title No. 1433

4900 block of Palos Verdes Drive South - South of Palos Verdes Drive South -
Project Location - Specific East of Peppertree

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA Los Angeles
Project Location - City Project Location - County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project
The placement of 1600 feet of gabions along the toe of Portuguese Bend
Landslide at the shoreline to temporarily protect and prevent landslide
material from eroding into the ocean. An additional 800 feet is existing.

The gabions are a series of wire baskets filled with landslide cobble.

City of Rancho Palos Verdes Department of Environmental Services
Lead Agency Division

30940 Hawthorne Boulevard, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274
Address Where Copy of ~~Final~~ ~~Available~~ Negative Declaration is available

30 days from receipt by State Clearinghouse
Review Period

Laurie B. Jester (213) 377-6008 223
Contact Person Area Code Phone Extension

Associate Planner - City of Rancho Palos Verdes

CALENDAR PAGE 302
MINUTE PAGE 2755

Jan



RANCHO PALOS VERDES

Mayor MELVIN W. MURKES
 Mayor Pro Tem JOHN C. MERRIGANT
 Councilman DOUGLAS M. KINCLOFF
 Councilman ROBERT E. RYAN
 Councilwoman LACH BACHARACH

August 1, 1990

Terry Lovelady
 State Clearinghouse
 1400 10th Street, Room 121
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Lovelady:

Enclosed are all of the required documents for the Negative Declaration for Environmental Assessment No. 605 for the proposed project located in the 4900 block of Palos Verdes Drive South in Rancho Palos Verdes. Attached is the Notice of Completion and Transmittal Form as well as 10 copies of the Initial Study, Discussion of Potential Impacts, Preliminary Determination of Findings, regional map and local map. Also, attached is P.C. Resolution 90-27 which approved the Negative Declaration.

The proposed project is the placement of 1600 feet of Gabions along the toe of Portuguese Bend Landslide at the shoreline to temporarily protect and prevent landslide material from eroding into the ocean. An additional 800 feet is existing. The Gabions are a series of wire baskets filled with landslide cobble.

Final approval of the project will be issued by the State Lands Commission and the California Coastal Commission. For your information, the Coastal Commission Application No. for the 1600 foot gabion extension is S-90-636, and the State Lands Commission application file Reference No. is W24394. Both of these agencies as well as the Department of Fish and Game have already reviewed and commented on the Negative Declaration. Attached are copies of their comments for your information.

Your prompt review of these documents is appreciated. Please contact me at (213) 377-6000 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Laurie B. Jester
 Laurie B. Jester
 Associate Planner

LBJ:pg

✓ cc: Jon Taylor

Enclosures

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MINUTE PAGE	2766

INITIAL STUDY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 605

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is the construction of gabions along the toe of the Portuguese Bend Landslide at the shoreline to temporarily protect and prevent landslide material from being eroded into the ocean. The gabions are a series of wire baskets filled with rocks. A filter fabric is placed between the existing soil and the gabions to prevent the soil from washing through the gabions. The baskets step up from the shore and are a total of 9 feet deep by 9 feet high. The area behind the gabions is proposed to be filled with landslide cobble with a soil cover placed on top. This will provide a 12 foot wide level area to access the gabions. The gabions would extend along the shore for approximately 1600 feet beginning at the east end of the existing gabions. This would provide shoreline protection in the Portuguese Bend Landslide east of Inspiration Point to the Portuguese Bend Club Beach. Placement of the existing 800 feet of gabions began September 1988 and was completed January 6, 1989.

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The site is at the toe of the landslide adjacent to the rocky beach in Portuguese Bend east of Inspiration Point and west of Klondike Canyon. This bluff area is very steep and broken up due to the massive landslide and wave erosion. Numerous fissures and steep drop offs are apparent. Very little vegetation exists in the area since it is unable to become established due to the constant land movement. Further north above the bluffs there are isolated areas of disturbed Coastal Sage Scrub and small areas of introduced grasslands. A variety of small animals which are associated with the Coastal Sage Scrub plant community may be found in the area to the north of the bluffs. Few animals habitate the area because of the extreme slopes, land movement and lack of vegetation.

There is much sediment in the water in the project area from the erosion of the sea bluff and kelp growth is very sparse. To the west of the project area, where the existing gabions are located, the water is much clearer, there is an extensive growth of kelp and vegetation is growing on the sea bluffs.

The proposed project is seaward of the historic mean high tide line. Due to massive landsliding, the toe of the landslide has moved approximately 200 to 650 feet seaward of its location in 1944. The "Artificial" mean high tide line which has been created due to the landslide and erosion is located seaward of the proposed gabions.

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