MINUTE ITEM
This Calendar Item No. C59 was approved as Minute Item No. 59 by the California State Lands Commission by a vote of 3 to 0 at its 4-24-01 meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM
C59

A 41

S 23

AD 386, 387, 388
389, 390

04/24/01
W 24665
S. Nelson
L. Danley
C. Fossum

CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF OFFERS OF DEDICATION OF LATERAL ACCESS EASEMENTS

PARTIES WHICH HAVE RECORDED OFFERS OF DEDICATION:

Alan and Charlotte Ruth Newman
Robert L. Veloz and Marlene Veloz
Lauren Edwards
Paul R. Beck
Roy I. Harrow and Paula J. Harrow

PARTY TO ACCEPT EASEMENTS:

California State Lands Commission
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, California 95825-8202

INTERESTED PARTIES:

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, California 94105-2219

BACKGROUND:

Since the adoption of the Constitution of California of 1879, access to California's public trust waterways has been a mandated responsibility of state government. The vast majority of the hundreds of title settlement agreements the State Lands Commission has been involved in since its inception in 1938 have included provision of public access to the waterways involved.

In the 1960's, an organization with the acronym COAAST (Citizens Organized to Acquire Access to State Tidelands) began a "Save the Coast" campaign that eventually resulted in the adoption of Proposition 20 by the State's voters in 1972. Since the Legislature's passage of the Coastal Act in 1976, over 1,200 offers to dedicate (OTDs)

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public access easements, both vertical or lateral (to or along) the coast, have been made involving California's 1,100-mile coastline.

These OTDs were formally made and recorded by property owners as a condition of approval of permits to develop within the Coastal Zone. Hundreds of these OTDs remain unaccepted. These offers have a 21 year life from the date of recording, and will expire if not formally accepted by a public agency within that time period.

The OTDs were required to ensure protection of existing public rights of use as well as to mitigate and compensate for the impacts to public access caused by development. In many cases, the location of the boundary between the privately owned uplands and the publicly owned tidelands is unsettled. Furthermore, the public may have acquired rights of use through the doctrine of implied dedication and have rights of recreational use in any area subject to the public easement in navigable waters. Therefore, these OTDs may describe and include areas already having public rights of use or public ownership. Acceptance by the Commission of the dedications does not change the nature of the existing rights, but removes any question of the public's right of use of the area described.

The State Lands Commission has been requested by the Coastal Commission to review and, where appropriate, accept offers of dedication of lateral access easements involving sandy beach areas lying adjacent to tidelands managed by the State Lands Commission. Staff of the Commission is involved in an ongoing process with the Coastal Commission to analyze the OTDs to determine which offers the State Lands Commission should accept.

The State Lands Commission has already authorized the acceptance of 120 OTDs in the Malibu area of Los Angeles County where over 40 percent of the OTDs exist. These approvals involved acceptance of eight OTDs by Minute Item 27 on April 2, 1991; 15 by Minute Item 2 on July 31, 1992; 11 by Minute Item 22 on September 9, 1993; 13 by Minute Item 63 on May 9, 1996; 15 by Minute Item 72 on August 21, 1996; 12 by Minute Item 48 on October 28, 1996; eight by Minute Item 74 on February 12, 1997; six by Minute Item 72 on May 12, 1997; 14 by Minute Item 42 on August 26, 1997; 12 by Minute Item 79 on December 16, 1998; three by Minute Item 23 on June 27, 2000; one by Minute Item 10 on November 27, 2000; two by Minute Item 11 on November 27, 2000.

The Commission's liability for holding these lateral parcels is limited by Section 831.2 of

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the Government Code which provides that a public entity is not liable for injury caused by a natural condition of any unimproved public property. There should be no maintenance and little management required for these easements because of the lack of improvements on the parcels and because the easements simply provide the public with the right to access and use the beach.

The OTDs involve sandy beach areas lying between the private structure built on the upper beach and the tidelands which are already state owned and under the Commission's jurisdiction. Therefore, these areas are not only appurtenant to the Commission's existing area of ownership and jurisdiction, but are for all practical public use purposes integral to it. Staff has reviewed each of the offers and the properties as described on the attached Exhibit B and recommends them as appropriate for Commission acceptance.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15061), the staff has determined that this activity is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA because the activity is not a "project" as defined by the CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

Authority: Public Resources Code section 21065 and Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 15378.

EXHIBITS:

A. Location Map
B. List of Dedications

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT THE ACTIVITY IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO TITLE 14 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, SECTION 15061 BECAUSE THE ACTIVITY IS NOT A PROJECT AS DEFINED BY PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 21065 AND TITLE 14 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS SECTION 15378.

2. ACCEPT THE OFFER(S) TO DEDICATE PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECREATIONAL USE EASEMENT(S) LISTED ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT B.

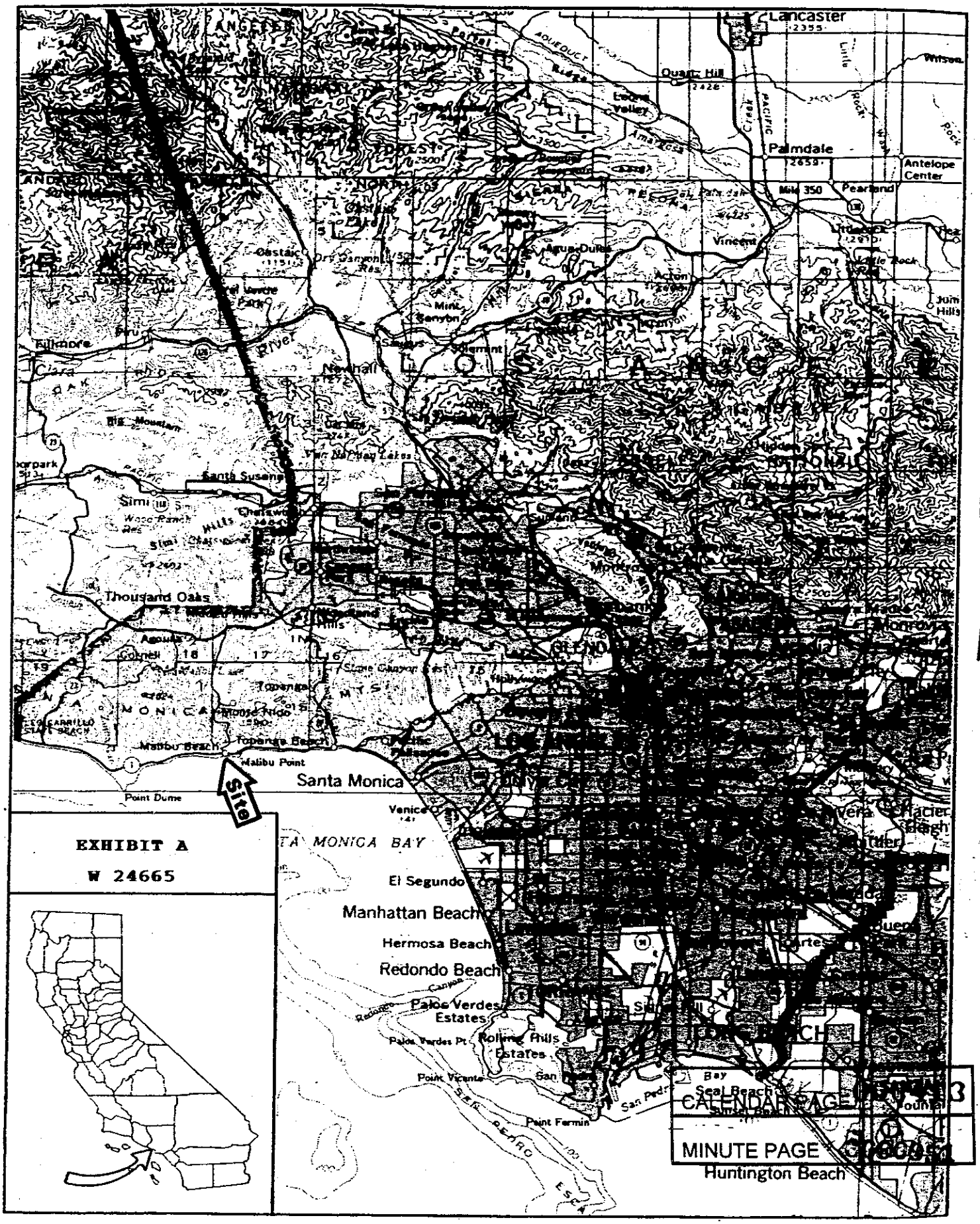

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EXHIBIT B

ADDRESS	OWNER AT TIME OF OFFER	CURRENT OWNER(s)	ASSESSOR PARCEL #	OTD EXPIRATION DATE
28904 Cliffside Drive	Alan and Charlotte Ruth Newman	Raymond Scherr 28904 Cliffside Drive Malibu, CA 90265	4466-009-029 (Portion)	September 22, 2001
27078 Malibu Cove Colony Drive	Robert L. Veloz and Marlene Veloz	A C Warnack P.O. Box 1409 Lancaster, CA 93584	4466-026-003	October 31, 2001
31520 Victoria Point Road	Lauren Edwards	Alan and Charlene Mark 31520 Victoria Point Road Malibu, CA 90265	4470-017-032	December 15, 2001
21660 Pacific Coast Highway	Paul R. Beck	Paul Beck P.O. Box 2426 Malibu, CA 90265	4451-003-020	October 31, 2001

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EXHIBIT B

ADDRESS	OWNER AT TIME OF OFFER	CURRENT OWNER (s)	ASSESSOR PARCEL #	OTD EXPIRATION DATE
18970 Pacific Coast Highway	Roy I. Harrow and Paula J. Harrow	Gary Mamian 18970 PacificCoast Highway #1 Malibu, CA 90265 Richard Grossi 18980 Pacific Coast Highway Malibu, CA 90256	4449-002-021 4449-002-022	January 11, 2003

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