**CALENDAR ITEM**

# C70

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| A | 41 | 10/19/12 |
| | | W 24665 |
| S | 23 | S. Nelson |

## CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF AN OFFER OF DEDICATION OF LATERAL ACCESS EASEMENT

**PARTY THAT RECORDED OFFER OF DEDICATION:**
Gregory J. Bonann, Trustee of the Gregory J. Bonann Trust of 1995

**PARTY TO ACCEPT EASEMENT:**
California State Lands Commission

**INTERESTED PARTY**:
California Coastal Commission

**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 (Commission) has entered into since its inception in 1938 have included the 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, more than 1,500 offers to dedicate (OTDs) public access easements, both vertical and lateral (i.e., to and 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. These OTDs 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 and 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 OTDs 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 California Coastal Commission has requested that the State Lands Commission review and, where appropriate, accept OTDs of lateral access easements involving sandy beach areas lying adjacent to tidelands managed by the Commission. State Lands staff is involved in an ongoing process with the Coastal Commission to analyze the OTDs and determine which offers the Commission should accept.

The Commission has already authorized the acceptance of more than 250 OTDs along the coast of California between April 2, 1991, and August 14, 2012, the majority of which are located in the Malibu area of Los Angeles County.

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

OTDs generally 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 reviewed the offer and the property on the attached Exhibit B and recommends approval.

**OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

1. The Coastal Development Permit (No. 4-01-166) that required the OTD at 20900 Pacific Coast Hwy. as a condition was approved on July 11, 2002 by the California Coastal Commission. Mr. Bonann recorded the Irrevocable Offer to Dedicate Public Access Easement and Declaration of Restrictions on July 29, 2003, as Document No. 03-2165342, Official Records of Los Angeles County. The OTD expires on July 29, 2024.

2. The staff recommends that the Commission find that the subject acceptance of an offer of dedication does not have a potential for resulting in either a direct or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and is, therefore, not a project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

   Authority: Public Resources Code section 21065 and California Code of Regulations,Title 14, sections 15060, subdivision (c)(3), and 15378.

**EXHIBITS:**

A. Location Map
B. Property Information

**It is recommended that the Commission:**

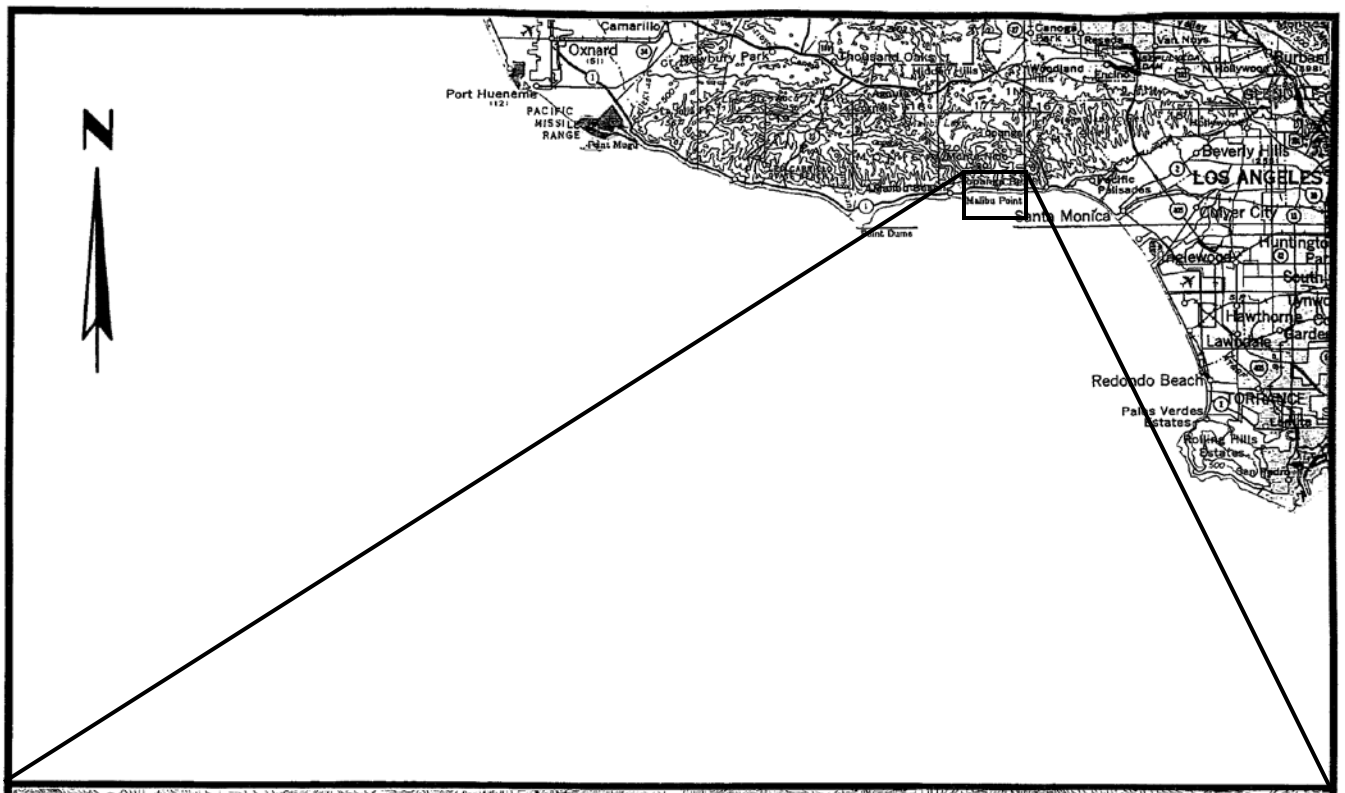
**CEQA FINDING:**

Find that the subject acceptance of an offer of dedication is not subject to the requirements of CEQA pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15060, subdivision (c)(3), because the subject activity is not a project as defined by Public Resources Code section 21065 and California Code of Regulations, Title 14, section 15378.

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Approve and authorize the acceptance of the Irrevocable Offer to Dedicate Public Access Easement recorded on July 29, 2003 as Document No. 03-2165342, Official Records of Los Angeles County.

Authorize the execution, acknowledgment, and recordation of the acceptance and consent to record on behalf of the California State Lands Commission, in substantially the form of the copy of such document on file in the Sacramento office of the Commission.



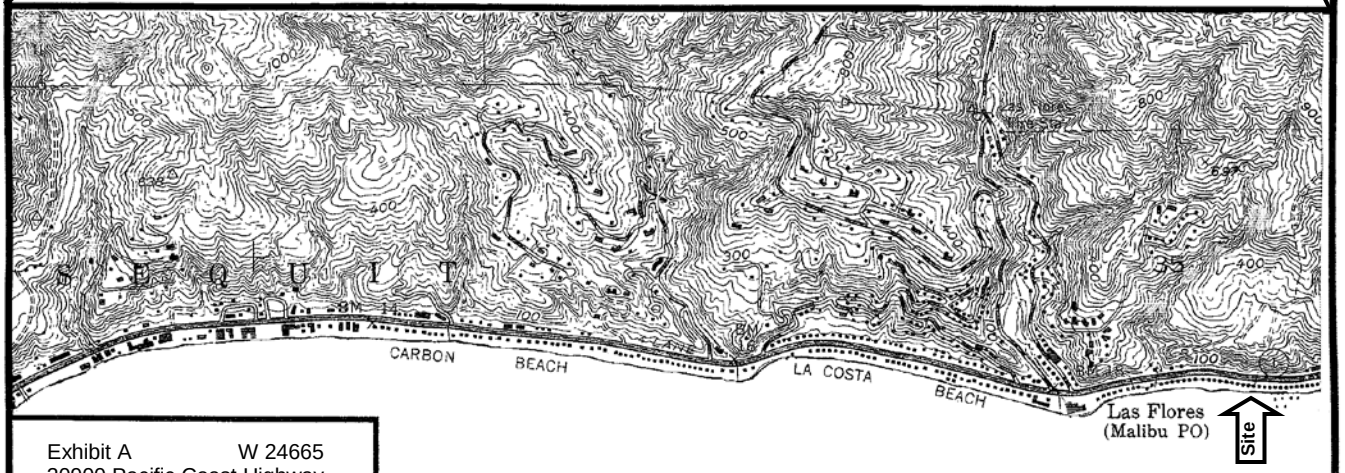




Exhibit A W 24665
20900 Pacific Coast Highway

SN 01-02

*Pacific*

*Ocean*

This exhibit is solely for the purpose of generally defining the location of the subject property, is based on unverified information, and is not intended to be, nor shall it be construed as a waiver of limitation of any state interest in the subject or any other property.

Map Source: USGS

**EXHIBIT B**

| ADDRESS | OWNER AT TIME OF OFFER | CURRENT OWNER | ASSESSOR PARCEL # | OTD EXPIRATION DATE | OTD RECORDING DATA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20900 Pacific Coast Hwy. | Gregory J. Bonann, Trustee of the Gregory J. Bonann Trust of 1995 | Gregory J. Bonann | 4450-008-049<br><br>Los Angeles County | July 29, 2024 | Document No.<br><br>03-2165342 |