



To enrich lives through effective and caring service



August 28, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ACCEPT DONATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR REPAIRS TO THE
WHALE-WATCHING SITE ON ZUMA BEACH
(THIRD DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Director of the Department of Beaches and Harbors (Department) to accept the donation of \$17,500 from the Zuma Bay Villas Homeowners Association (Association) for the repair of the whale-watching site and send a letter of appreciation to the Association for the donation.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

In 1977, the developer of Zuma Bay Villas installed, landscaped, and completed a whale-watching facility and conveyed an easement to the County for the use and benefit of the public. Because of its age, the facility fell into a state of disrepair and was closed to the public in the spring of 2002 due to safety concerns. Because of the Association's desire that the whale-watching site reopen, it offered a donation to provide for the facility's repair and renovation. To restore the facility, the project consisted of the removal and replacement of the existing steps, fencing, and lower handrail posts and repainting of the hand railing. These renovations will ensure that the facility remains in a safe and useable condition for years to come.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Acceptance of this donation helps to promote Service Excellence of the County's Strategic Plan Goals by reopening a public facility that was closed due to disrepair, as well as Fiscal Responsibility, both due to the employment of at-risk youth to work on the project, who were able to perform the work more economically, and by obtaining complete reimbursement for these repair services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no cost to the County for repairing the whale-watching site, as the Association will be fully reimbursing the County for project costs. The Department will be responsible for the continued maintenance of the facility.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On September 17, 2002, your Board approved an agreement with the California Conservation Corps (Corps) to employ at-risk youth to carry out projects that include repair and maintenance activities that benefit the public's use and enjoyment of beach facilities. To this end, the Director exercised his delegated authority to enter into a project agreement with the Corps to perform the repairs to the whale-watching site.

The Corps has already carried out the repair activities. The Zuma Bay Villas Homeowners Association shall donate to the County the sum of \$17,500 to cover complete costs for the project repairs.

The Beach Commission has approved this donation.

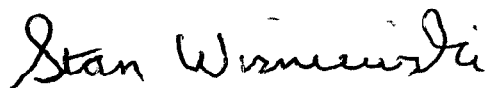
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Prior to entering into the project agreement with the Corps, the Director determined that the repairs to the whale-watching site were exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15302 and Class 2(a) of your Board's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval, please return a copy of this Board letter to the Department of Beaches and Harbors.

Respectfully submitted,



Stan Wisniewski, Director

SW:KG:DWS:kg

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel