



Scenic Pacifica  
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

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**CITY OF PACIFICA**  
**Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission**  
1810 Francisco Avenue • Pacifica, California 94044-2506  
[www.cityofpacifica.org](http://www.cityofpacifica.org)

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**MAYOR**  
Deirdre Martin

**MAYOR PRO TEM**  
Sue Beckmeyer

**COUNCIL**  
Sue Vaterlaus  
Mary Bier  
Mike O'Neill

Wednesday, August 26, 2020  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97268446462>

**CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) NOTICE**

THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20 AND N-29-20 WHICH SUSPEND CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT AND PURSUANT TO THE ORDERS OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF SAN MATEO COUNTY DATED MARCH 16, 2020, MARCH 31, 2020, APRIL 29, 2020 AND MAY 15, 2020. THIS MEETING IS NECESSARY SO THAT THE CITY CAN CONDUCT NECESSARY BUSINESS AND IS PERMITTED UNDER THE ORDER AS AN ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTION.

Consistent with the above-referenced Orders, this City Committee Meeting will not be physically open to the public and Committee Members and staff will be video/teleconferencing into the meeting.

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe and participate in the meeting as detailed below.

- To Observe the Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97268446462>
- To access the meeting by computer/smartphone, go to:
- To dial-in via phone +1 (669) 900-6833

Then webinar ID: 97268446462

**How to Submit Public Comments:**

- **During the Meeting:** Live verbal public comments may be made by members of the public joining the meeting via Zoom (computer, smartphone/tablet app, or phone). Zoom access information is provided above. Use the "raise hand" feature (for those joining by phone, press \*9 to "raise hand") during the public comment period for the agenda item you wish to address. City staff will call on people to speak by name provided or last 4 digits of phone number for dial-in attendees. Please clearly state your full name for the record at the start of your public comment. You will have 3 minutes to speak unless modified by the meeting chair.
- **Before the Meeting:** Written public comments for the record may be submitted in advance by 4:00 p.m. on the meeting date by email to: [phippsb@ci.pacificaca.us](mailto:phippsb@ci.pacificaca.us) and will be made part of the written record but will not be read verbally at the meeting. Written public comments submitted by email should adhere to the following:
  - Clearly indicate the Agenda Item No. or topic, or specify "Oral Communications" in the Subject Line for items not on the agenda
  - Include the submitter's full name.

Note: The format of this meeting may be altered or the meeting may be cancelled, if needed. You may check on the status of the meeting by visiting the City's website at [www.cityofpacifica.org](http://www.cityofpacifica.org) for any updates.

## STUDY SESSION

### AGENDA

***WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2020 – 6:00 PM***

#### Items to be discussed:

Pacifica Bike Park

The purpose of a study session is to offer the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission an opportunity for discussion of items and concerns in an informal setting. No action or decision may be taken. Any statements made by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission at a study session are informal only and are not to be considered commitments or guarantees of any kind.

**The City of Pacifica will provide special assistance for disabled citizens upon at least 24-hour advance notice to the City Manager's office (738-7301). If you need sign language assistance or written material printed in a larger font or taped, advance notice is necessary. All meeting rooms are accessible to the disabled.**

## **AGENDA**

### **CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM REGULAR MEETING**

- I PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II ROLL CALL**
- III APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Regular Meeting 7/22/20
- IV ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- V SPECIAL PRESENTATION**  
None
- VI ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**  
This is the time set aside for the public to address the Commission on items not appearing on the agenda, public input will be considered for items at this time. Please state your name for the record when addressing the Commission. Statements will be limited to three (3) minutes.
- VII ITEMS FOR CONSENT**  
None
- VIII ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**  
A) Pacifica State Beach Surf Camp/School Permitting
- IX REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDANCE FROM COMMISSIONERS**
- X REPORTS FROM STAFF**  
A) Director Perez
- XI ADJOURNMENT**

**Next Study Session:** TBD

**Next Regular Meeting** September 23, 2020

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**Minutes  
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission  
City of Pacifica**

**REGULAR MEETING – 7 PM**

Wednesday July 22, 2020  
City Council Chambers  
2212 Beach Blvd.  
Pacifica, CA 94044

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Poblitz called the meeting to order at 7:14 PM.

**I PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Commissioner Gail Benton Shoemaker.**

**II ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Poblitz, Abbott, Kellogg, Benton Shoemaker,  
Heywood, Lusson, Chair Knowles

Commissioners Absent: None

Commissioners Excused: None

Staff Present: Director Michael Perez, Recreation Assistant Supervisor Beth Phipps

**III APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chair Knowles called for a motion to approve the minutes of the 2/26/20 meeting. **Motion was made by Commissioner Abbott, seconded by Commissioner Poblitz, motion carried 7-0.**

**IV ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

Chair Knowles called for a motion to adopt the agenda. **Motion was made by Commissioner Kellogg, seconded by Commissioner Lusson, motion carried 7-0.**

**V SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

**None**

**VI ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Marion Adeney addressed the Commission on the subject of surf equity and stated that she was glad the Commission was looking into the Surf Camp Policy.

**VII ITEMS FOR CONSENT:**

**Chair Knowles** called for a motion to approve the Items for Consent. **Commissioner Abbott made a motion to approve the Items for Consent, seconded by Commissioner Benton Shoemaker, motion carried 7-0.**

**Commissioner Benton Shoemaker** stated that the reports were impressive.

## VIII ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

### A) **Public Plaza along Beach Boulevard Project conceptual design presentation.**

Melanie O'Brian from Gates and Associates gave a power point presentation on Beach Boulevard Public Plaza, pinpointing information that was gathered from two different pop up events as well as an online survey. Proposal B was the overwhelming favorite and is the one the consultant is proposing.

**Commissioner Heywood:** stated that he was excited about the beach volleyball section.

**Commissioner Abbott:** stated that it was decided to move the larger fitness court that was originally planned for this area to Frontierland Park due to the problem with rust in the elements. She is concerned about the maintenance of the fitness pieces in the plan. She stated that there are a lot of problems with the existing light fixtures in this location. Another concern she has is with the Volleyball court and its proximity to the foot path and the street.

**Commissioner Benton Shoemaker:** stated that she was also concerned with the fitness pieces and feels that whatever is put in needs to last a long time.

**Commissioner Kellogg:** thanked Gates and Associates for their presentation.

**Commissioner Poblitz:** asked if there were any concerns about the sand issues at the park.

**Commissioner Heywood:** stated that he moved up from Venice and Santa Monica and there was never any problem with fitness equipment or volleyball there.

**Melanie O'Brian** stated that they would be working closely with Public Works to make sure that whatever was used would be best for the area.

**Commissioner Kellogg:** stated that maintenance is key on the coast.

**Commissioner Benton Shoemaker:** is worried about overtaxing the city's Public Works Dept. both maintenance and budget.

**Commissioner Kellogg:** asked about natural play structures.

**Commissioner Abbott:** stated that she comes from southern California and things rust much quicker up here. She noted that we are adding something which is wonderful but we need to be cautious about adding something that needs more upkeep because of the conditions they are in.

**Commissioner Lusson:** asked if there had been any discussions with other volleyball communities about placing a volleyball court in this area.

**Chair Knowles:** asked if pack it in & pack it out stations with bags for people to use who are visiting had been thought of in addition to the waste receptacles. She wanted to know if the public art installations and the concrete structures were the same and if maintenance costs were figured into the project especially as erosion continues.

**Director Perez** stated that reduced maintenance was the main idea.

**Lawrence Henriquez** from engineering stated that the use of concrete structures will reduce the maintenance costs by reducing the amount of sand in the area. There has also been talk about installing better drainage as well.

**Melanie O'Brian:** stated that the goal is to minimize maintenance not get rid of it.

**Chair Knowles:** stated that she is not in favor of building sea walls but that Mr. Henriquez and Ms. O'Brian's responses help but that time will tell how well this works.

**Commissioner Abbott:** wanted to know about the phasing and if project would be phased into two time frames

**Lawrence Henriquez:** informed the Commission that this is a possibility and that this would be decided after the presentation to City Council.

**Commissioner Poblitz:** pointed out that the bike parking area was very small and wanted to know how many bikes it would hold.

**Melanie O'Brian:** stated that it would hold 2-4 bikes depending on the number of circles and that there were more than one location in the park.

**Commissioner Benton Shoemaker:** stated that she was concerned with the seawall being connected to this project.

**Melanie O'Brian:** assured the Commission that these were two separate projects and are not connected.

**Lawrence Henriquez:** stated that he was only asking for recommendation to send concept B to council for approval.

**Commissioner Poblitz:** is concerned with the one barbecue area and wanted to know if it could be a permitted space.

**Director Perez:** stated that there is only one permitted barbecue area in the City at this time and it is located at Frontierland Park. There are several small barbecues in this park that are first come first serve.

**Commissioner Kellogg:** asked if the fitness structures could be replaced with something else.

**Melanie O'Brian:** stated that they could just be taken out.

**Commissioner Abbott moved to approve the design concept with the exception of the metal fitness pieces, Commissioner Benton Shoemaker seconded. Motion failed 3-4**

**Commissioner Kellogg moved to approve the design as is, Commissioner Poblitz seconded. Motion carried 6-1**

## **IX REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDANCE FROM COMMISSIONERS**

**Commissioner Benton Shoemaker:** stated that she has hiked almost every trail in Pacifica since the shutdown.

**Commissioner Kellogg:** is very excited about the upcoming bike park study session. He stated that he recently visited the bike park in Truckee and it was really popular. He believes this something that would work really well in Pacifica

**Commissioner Benton Shoemaker:** asked if area behind Sanchez Library was the location that was being looked at for the park

**Commissioner Heywood:** Clarified that they are looking at lower Frontierland Park.

**Commissioner Poblitz:** Stated that he has also walked most of the trails with his boys. He encourages any recreation as a way to combat depression during these times.

**Commissioner Heywood:** seconded Commissioner Poblitz. He was very happy that the beach had not been shut down because it is one of the healthiest physically distancing sport that can be done during the pandemic. He was disappointed that he missed the bike park trip to Truckee.

**Commissioner Abbott:** stated that a population that is largely impacted by COVID is the seniors and that the Community Center staff have done a great job keeping programming going as much as possible. She let the Commission know that the art center helped out by doing an earth day activity kit. One hundred packages were distributed to Meals on Wheels clients. One hundred additional flower packages for the grab and go lunch program. The art center also printed post cards of Pacifica with inspirational sayings which were also dropped off at the Community Center for senior clients. She let

the Commission know that the Library Advisory Committee has been on hold for the past several months but should resume meetings in the next couple of months. She also informed the Commission that the Beautification Sub-Committee on art and murals has still been working and another community mural is still in the works.

**Chair Knowles:** informed the Commission that the City has been getting a lot of compliments on the ongoing programs for the seniors during this time and the seniors are very grateful and more volunteers are needed. She let the Commission know that there have been no clean ups since February and she encourages anyone to participate in the state wide coastal cleanup days scheduled for each weekend in Sept. Activities can be found on the Coastal Commission website.

## **XI REPORTS FROM STAFF**

### **Director Perez reported on the following:**

Appreciated the compliments on the quarterly reports.

The Director let the Commission know that COVID has consumed a large part of all of staff's days since March.

The Director informed the Commission that the City has been working on a Restoration of Operations (ROOP) plan. As part of the ROOP the department has been working on site plans for each division within the department. He also highlighted some additional programs, aside from seniors which never shut down, that have been activated:

- Child Care – running with cohorts of twelve and two instructors for 3 week sessions
- Adventure Camp – cohorts of twelve with two instructors for three week sessions relocated to the Community Center since the space is not being used at present.
- Aquatics – Went over the procedure for this program. He explained to the Commission that the need to raise the price for usage at this time was to help cover the costs since the program is very restrictive in usage; 1 person per lane. The department has been able to offer a 50% discount for seniors using the Sirkka Niukkanen trust.

Director Perez reported that due to Pacifica School District looking at being 100% virtual in the fall that child care is looking at full day child care with virtual learning.

He explained some of the difficulties operating the office during COVID.

There will be a Bike Park study session before the next meeting on 8/26/20 at 6:00 pm

Director Perez notified the Commission that Linda Hanssen has resigned and that the department is doing some hiring during the pandemic for Community Services Coordinator (formally Meals on Wheels Coordinator) and Recreation Specialist

He also applauded Pacifica's Care. They have given to the department in many ways during the COVID time.

**Commission Benton-Shoemaker:** Asked if the School District decision was 6 weeks or longer. Director Perez responded that he was told it was 12 weeks to begin with, but they were going to be taking a look at it about every 6 weeks.

**Commissioner Kellogg:** Stated that he appreciated all the work the department has done.

**Commissioner Heywood:** Was surprised by the District's decision.

**Commissioner Abbott:** Commented on how well the pool has been working. She stated that she has only heard good things. She also congratulated the department for figuring out how to run some Adventure Camps amid the stringent requirements outlined by the state.

**Director Perez:** informed the Commissioners that this has been a big job due to

changes happening sometimes daily. He let the Commissioners know that we have just changed our mask policy due to changes.

**Commissioner Poblitz:** appreciates everything that the department has done for the seniors during this time. He asked if the CaRs program had been renewed. Director Perez responded that it had been renewed but there has been a down tick in ridership due to COVID.

**Chair Knowles:** thanked Director Perez and the department for all of the work that they are doing right now.

**Director Perez:** Thanked the Commissioners as well as his staff for all of their hard work during this time. He stated that it is great to see people who are very grateful for the programs that we are able to offer.

## **XII ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Poblitz asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Commissioner Heywood made the motion to adjourn, Commissioner Kellogg seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0** and the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Next Study Session: August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00

Next Regular Meeting: August 26, 2020

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Phipps  
Recreation Assistant Supervisor

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Parks, Beaches and Recreation  
Cynthia Knowles, Chair





# Staff Report

Item VIII. A)

Date: August 26, 2020  
To: Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission  
From: Michael Perez, Director  
Subject: Pacifica State Beach Surf Camp/School Permitting

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve the recommended changes to the surf camp/school policy creating a six-month pilot program to include a Community Access Partner (CAP) permit to be held jointly by Brown Girls Surf and City Surf Project.

To place the Surf Camp/School Permit Policy on the Commissions work plan in order to more thoroughly study this issue, collect and analyze information and make appropriate recommended changes.

## **STAFF CONTACT:**

Michael Perez, Director, Parks, Beaches and Recreation  
(650) 738-7381, [perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us](mailto:perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us)

## **BACKGROUND:**

In 2003, the City's Public Works Department developed a Master Plan for Public Improvements at Pacifica State Beach. To address beach related issues during the implementation of these improvements, a Beach Subcommittee was formed on April 15, 2004. The subcommittee's work consisted of making recommendations and developing guidelines for the elimination of fires, beach hours of operations, ideas for the creation of a parking program, and recommendations for signage.

At the time, concerns were raised about beach usage, water safety and congestion due to lack of regulation relating to surf camps/schools. The subcommittee spent considerable time on the topic of surf camps/schools at Pacifica State Beach. After many public forums, the subcommittee put forth a recommendation to limit surf camps to a maximum number of three, to be regulated by the Parks Beaches and Recreation Department.

This direction is addressed in Ordinance No. 692-C.S., Section 4-10.116, *"The Director may promulgate rules and regulations for the reservation, rental, and use of exclusive use facilities in all beaches, and parks. The Director may also impose reasonable time, place, and manner conditions in writing to ensure that public health, safety and welfare are protected during the use of exclusive use facilities. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate such rules, regulations or conditions."*

The Parks, Beaches, and Recreation (PB&R) Commission, after conducting a study session, concurred with staff and the subcommittee to recommend the limitation of surf camps and develop rules/guidelines for them. On April 25, 2005, the recommendations were on the agenda of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Council approved the implementation of a

policy to support the Ordinance listed above and directed staff to come back to the following meeting with some changes and clarifications to the guidelines, specifically allowing that:

- Local surf shops, who hold a Pacifica business licenses and carry liability and workers compensation insurance, may continue the practice of employees teaching individual and small group lessons with a maximum of 5 students in keeping with the ratio of five (5) students per instructor (minimum safety requirement).

At the May 9, 2005 regular City Council meeting, council directed staff to proceed with implementation of the Pacifica State Beach Surf Camp/School Policy Guidelines.

On November 28, 2012 and January 9, 2013, the PB&R Commission held study sessions to discuss and review the surf camp/school policy as well as to consider increasing the amount of permit holders. Representatives from each surf school and the owner of Nor Cal Surf shop attended the November 28 meeting, and each surf school was represented at the January 9 meeting.

At the January 23, 2013 meeting, the PB&R Commission adopted changes to the Surf Camp/School Policy (attached) that included allowing one local surf shop to apply annually for a permit to increase the number of students that were currently allowed (for surf shops) from 5 to 12 at the small surf camp rate.

## **DISCUSSION**

At the June 8, 2020 City Council meeting approximately 30 emails/letters and 13 speakers addressed concern over the surf camp permitting process. In particular, many wrote or stated that they were concerned about racial equity relating to beach access, and that the permitting process makes it difficult for non-profits, like Brown Girls Surf (BGS) and City Surf Project (CSP) to apply for a surf camp permit;

In addition, several commenters shared personal anecdotes relating to the importance of equitable beach access, their experiences at the beach and surfing, as well as volunteering with non-profits that work with diverse communities. Many of the speakers advocated reforming the surf camp permitting process.

The 2020 price for an annual permit is \$1,060 for small camps and \$1,280 for large camps. Currently there are four permitted surf camps, two large – Adventure Out and Surf Camp Pacifica, one small – University of Surfing and one local shop – Nor Cal Surf Shop. These camps have been permitted to operate for many years. When an inquiry is received, groups are added to a list and told they will be contacted should a spot open up. Since the policy limits the number of permitted camps, and each year the camps have chosen to renew their permits, new camp operators, whether non-profits or not, have not been able to operate.

At the June 22, 2020 City Council meeting, Council referred this work item to the PB&R Commission to evaluate the Pacifica Surf Camp/School Policy to determine if/how the program could be amended to allow more surf camps to operate, or to revise the permit renewal process in order to support non-profits that work with diverse communities.

On July 22 and August 5, 2020, the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission held study sessions to discuss the Surf Camp/School Policy. Mira Manickham-Shirley, executive director of BGS and Johnny Irwin, executive director of CSP, participated in both meetings. They each shared information and background on their organizations, who they serve and how they operate. Information on their organizations was also shared with Commissioners prior to the first study session.

Also in attendance at one or both sessions, were representatives from all the current surf camp permits holders. In addition, several members of the public attended both meetings, speaking in

in support of the two non-profits and their mission. Leading up to the meetings, several emails were also sent, which were provided to Commissioners and will be included as attachments to this report.

Staff had the opportunity to have several conversations with both executive directors who sent a letter to the Commission, along with a proposal for a Community Access Partner (CAP) permit prior to the first study session (attached). This proposal included a draft criteria for the types of groups that would be eligible for a CAP permit as well as a set of key features seen as necessary for creating an equitable permitting system.

Mira Manickham-Shirley spoke of the desire for equitable access to surfing for all people and shared that there are factors, which keep this from happening. She spoke of the frustration of not being able to obtain a permit and asked for reform that allows other permits to be issued. Her comments were echoed by Johnny Irwin, and they both stated they would like to see a CAP permit that would allow others to apply.

At the July 22 meeting, a few members of the public spoke in favor of the proposal, supported diversity and equitable access, advocated for youth, especially those disenfranchised and they shared their experiences with surfing and the non-profits. At the August 5 meeting, several members of the public spoke, all in favor of the proposal, complementing the Commission for their efforts working on this issue.

In addition to equitable beach access and non-profit organizations, the study session also included discussion on the following surf camp topics:

- Safety
- Space
- Number of participants at any given time
- Scheduling
- Permit application process,
- Review of existing permits

In order to get a better picture of how the current and potentially new surf camp groups utilize the beach for lessons, staff suggested doing a survey to obtain scheduling information. Information is currently being collected and will be shared with Commission as available in the near future.

Commissioners were interested in implementing a pilot program with a CAP permit for either the remainder of the year or 6-months. However, during that time, there is a desire to work on the overall permit policy with an overall inclusive and equitable surf camp policy as a goal. Commissioners agreed they would like to see this task on their work plan.

### **RELATION TO CITY COUNCIL GOALS AND WORK PLAN:**

This action helps to support youth services, which is a component of **A Healthy and Compassionate Community**. It also promotes **An Engaged Community**, taking actions to restore trust in city government, expanding communication and building community.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Prorated cost of surf camp permit for 6 months would be \$530 for a small camp and \$640 for a large camp in revenue. Additional staff time would have no significant impact on the budget; however, the continued work on the permit policy will be a new work item not currently on the

Commission's work plan, and therefore will divert staff resources normally focused on already approved priority actions and on-going programs.

**ATTACHMENT LIST:**

Surf Camp/School Policy for Pacifica State Beach – redline version

Community Access Partner letter and proposal

Letters to Commission/Department (sent prior to both study sessions)

## **Pacifica Parks, Beaches and Recreation Department Surf Camp/School Policy for Pacifica State Beach**

### **Applicant Qualifications:**

- Pacifica business license
- Facility Use (permit) form via PB&R
- Price list of camp fees and program structure/basic curriculum and schedule - curriculum should also include discussion of surf citizenship/etiquette, appropriate to the length of the session
- Copy of Certificate of Insurance for \$3 million dollar (\$3,000,000) liability insurance for current year
- Proof of Workers' Compensation policy of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) if you have employees
- Safety plan and business plan submitted with application
- Proof of current WSI (water safety) and CPR certification on file for each employee
- All applicants must have proper equipment in good condition
- Applicant and all staff must be proficient in surfing

### **Guidelines and Rules:**

- Two surf schools/surf camps with a limit of 25 students per class
- One surf school/surf camp with a limit of 12 students per class
- **One Community Access Partnership (CAP)\* camp with a limit of (25) students per class added as part of a 6 month pilot program to begin Sept/Oct 2020.**
- The ratio of five (5) students per instructor (minimum requirement)
- All instructors under the age of 18 must be supervised if working with minors
- Students surfing outside the impact zone (beyond the breakwaters) and/or independently, must wear leashes
- Instructors to be identified by colored jersey with "Surf Instructor" on back (preferably red)
- Students to also wear a different colored jersey for identification and wetsuits for protection
- Individual surfing by instructors should be for demonstration and instructional purposes only
- Camp hours on weekends: 8 AM to 12 Noon
- 10 or fewer students per camp between 12 Noon and sunset
- Area of operations is restricted to the area between the north restrooms and the San Pedro Creek
- Camps/lessons will need to be canceled if water is too crowded, conditions unsafe or if only one wave break is surf-able
  
- Local Surf Shops who hold a Pacifica Business License, carry Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance, may continue the practice of employees teaching individual and small group lessons with a maximum of 5 students in keeping with the ratio of five (5) students per Instructor (minimum safety requirement)

- One local surf shop may apply annually for a permit to increase the number of students (up to 12) at the small surf camp rate

Day passes may be issued for other groups/events at the Directors discretion and in keeping with preserving the safety and minimizing the density of use.

\*Community Access Partnership (CAP) Permit Applicant Additional Criteria

- a. The organization is exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; (is a 501(c) (3) themselves or is a fiscally sponsored project of a 501(c)(3))
- b. The organization is in compliance with the Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act (Article 7 (commencing with Section 12580) of Chapter 6 of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code);
- c. The organization has expertise in providing surf programming to low income or underrepresented groups who face obstacles, such as, but not limited to, transportation, cost, and disenfranchisement, to general public access and/or surfing at the beach;
- d. The organization delivers services consistent with the purpose and resource values of the park facilities granted;
- e. The organization has developed interpretive, educational and/or recreational programming to outdoor spaces with demonstrated results;
- f. The organization provides programming that is free or significantly subsidized for participants with low incomes
- g. The organization has instructors with specific training to the programming and cultural competencies to address the needs of participants served.

Access and use of beach/park facilities by eligible entities shall enhance beach/park access for disadvantaged and/or underrepresented groups who face obstacles to general public access or surf-related use of the beach/park.

Adopted by the PB&R Commission 1/23/13

Redline version for 8/26/2020 PB&R Commission Meeting

July 21, 2020

Dear Honorable Commissioners of the Pacifica Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Committee,

We are writing as advocates of equitable access to the sport of surfing. Our organizations, Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project, both focus, as a key part of our missions, on making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. Brown Girl Surf hosts community clinics and camps that specifically address the barriers that have prevented girls and women of color from connecting to the ocean, which include but are not limited to: a lack of visible women of color role models in surfing, false narratives about “who surfs,” a lack of culturally competent surf programming, and territorialism and localism. Due to our country’s history of economic inequality across race, these barriers also may include lack of access to transportation, and the cost of traditional surf lessons. City Surf Project runs programs in partnership with Title 1 San Francisco Public Schools, and provides access to surfing for students who otherwise might not have access. Most of these students are low income youth of color.

Since the time we started offering surf programs to our communities, BGS in 2014 and CSP in 2013, we have not been able to apply for a permit to operate surf clinics or camps at Pacifica State Beach. The city website explains that 4 surf schools hold all available permits. It does not provide any method for other organizations to apply. When we have called the Department of Parks Beaches and Recreation, we have been told that there is not a way for new groups to apply for a permit. This was the case in 2014, and was still the case in 2019.

This – clearly – creates inequity. While coastal access is a right for all Californians, there are many communities in the Bay Area who have historically had less access to the beach and the sport of surfing, and rely on organizations like ours to facilitate this access. Under the current system, organizations that provide access to the beach have no way to get a permit, and if there is unwillingness to share the space with such organizations, then the communities who have historically faced barriers to inclusion at the beach and in surfing will continue to be excluded.

We propose creating a new type of permit, which we have termed a “Community Access Partnership” (CAP) permit, specifically focused on creating equitable access for underrepresented groups at Pacifica State Beach. We suggest that this CAP permit system be separate from the current system that grants permits to traditional surf camps, under which multiple businesses currently hold permits. While it could be argued that the current system for granting permits to traditional surf schools in Pacifica could benefit from reform, we are not trying to address that right now. We are focused on providing a method that allows groups

with a central focus of creating equitable coastal access by providing underrepresented communities with surf programs to have access to operate at Pacifica beach. **We are attaching a draft criteria for the types of groups eligible for a CAP permit. We are also attaching a set of key features that we see as necessary for creating an equitable permitting system.**

We recognize that creating more space for underrepresented groups at Pacifica state beach will either mean that there is more surf school presence on Pacifica beach OR that the existing traditional surf school permit holders may have to share some of this space with new groups. We recognize that this may be challenging. We are ready to work together to figure out how to minimize the economic impact to current traditional surf school permit holders, while making room for groups who have been historically excluded to have a space at the beach.

**We hope you will adopt the creation of a CAP permitting system that adheres to the principles of equity that we have laid out in the attachments.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Mira Manickam

Executive Director and Co-Founder, Brown Girl Surf

Johnny Irwin

Executive Director and Co-Founder, City Surf Project



Draft eligibility criteria for organizations wishing to apply for a **community access partnership (CAP) permit** to run on-going surf programming at Pacifica State Beach (this would be IN ADDITION TO the existing Surf Camp requirements):

Community Access Partnership Permit Criteria (CAP Criteria)

- a. The organization is exempt from taxation pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; (is a 501(c)(3) themselves or is a fiscally sponsored project of a 501(c)(3))
- b. The organization is in compliance with the Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act (Article 7 (commencing with Section 12580) of Chapter 6 of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code);
- c. The organization has expertise in providing surf programming to low income or underrepresented groups who face obstacles, such as, but not limited to, transportation, cost, and disenfranchisement, to general public access and/or surfing at the beach;
- d. The organization has robust safety policies and staff receive regular trainings to ensure the safety of participants, and other users of the beach.
- e. The organization delivers services consistent with the purpose and resource values of the park facilities granted;
- f. The organization has developed interpretive, educational and/or recreational programming to outdoor spaces with demonstrated results;
- g. The organization provides programming that is free or significantly subsidized for participants with low incomes
- h. The organization has instructors with specific training to the programming and cultural competencies to address the needs of participants served.  
*(the items below are based on current Pacific Surf Permit Holder criteria)*
- i. *Copy of Certificate of Insurance for \$3 million dollar (\$3,000,000) liability insurance for current year*
- j. *Proof of Workers' Compensation policy of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) if you have employees*

Access and use of park facilities by eligible entities shall enhance park access for disadvantaged and/or underrepresented groups who face obstacles to general public access or surf-related uses of the park.

Key features of an equitable permitting system:

1. CAP organizations should be part of the process of designing the permitting system to ensure that this new process addresses the equity concerns raised.
2. There is a clearly defined and clearly advertised (on the City's website) process for CAP eligible organizations to apply for permits to operate ongoing surf programs. There should be a clearly spelled out method for applying for and receiving permits, including a framework for how decisions are made, who makes these decisions, clear deadlines for application, and an opportunity to apply every year. This permit system should allow CAP organizations who may want to operate surf programs at Pacifica in the future (not limited to Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project) to apply for permits to do so.
3. There should be transparency throughout the process of evaluating applications. Decisions should be made according to publicly available criteria, and groups denied permits should be told the reason why.
4. There should be equal slots accessible to students of CAP organizations as there are for students of traditional surf school permit holders.
5. There should be regular evaluation of the permitting system through an equity lens.

# "CORRESPONDENCE TO DEPARTMENT/COMMISSION"

**From:** [Andrew Rubenstein](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** Oral Communications 1  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 11:25:56 AM

---

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a San Bruno resident, former Pacifica resident, and frequent surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

Access to the beach is incredibly important for the health and wellness of many young Bay Area residents. The Bay Area is unique in that a major urban area is situated so close to an accessible coastline that offers many opportunities for recreation. Despite this proximity, many minority children living in the San Francisco metropolitan area seldom go to the beach. Organizations like Brown Girl Surf are working to change that, and the effects of their work on these children are boundless. As someone who greatly enjoys the recreation offered by the Bay Area coastline, I find it imperative that the permitting system encourage equity in every respect, especially in regards to beach access. Others, regardless of their race, gender, or ethnicity, should be able to enjoy Lindamar beach just like I have.

Thank you for your consideration,

Andrew Rubenstein

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**From:** [William J Mccarthy](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 2  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:01:15 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a frequent Surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

Equity is very important to myself and the surf community. I myself am part of a non profit called The Veteran Surf Alliance and understand the difficulty that surf access creates and how it divides people. Specifically why a permitting system is so important and needs to make space for groups who are creating more equity in surfing, since access to surfing has been so inequitable historically.

Thank you for your consideration,

Will McCarthy

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**From:** [Meghan Hanebutt](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 3  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:22:23 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a frequent surfer at Pacifica and the Operations Manager with City Surf Project. I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

Access to surfing on the California coast has been historically inequitable, as is evidenced by the prevailing image of a California surfer as a white male, despite the incredible ethnic diversity of our state. If we do not take active measures to address inequities in access to surfing, these inequities will persist. As a woman of color, I can speak to the importance of having diverse representation reflected in the surfing lineup, which requires beach towns like Linda Mar to allow equitable permitting processes to be implemented so that children and adults from diverse communities are welcome on the shores. Thus it is necessary to create systems like a Community Access Partner permitting system to make space for communities who have been historically excluded from our state's official sport.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Meghan Hanebutt

--  
Meghan Hanebutt

Operations Manager  
City Surf Project  
[www.citysurfproject.com](http://www.citysurfproject.com)

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**open attachments or reply.**

**From:** [MIKE MCLOONE](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 4- For 7/22/2020 Meeting of the Pacifica Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:38:59 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Honorable Members of the Pacifica, Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission,

I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport.

I am a frequent surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar and a former surf instructor at Surf Camp Pacifica. I learned how to surf at Lindamar and I went on to become a surf instructor and worked at Surf Camp Pacifica.

I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

I am a straight white male that has benefited from many of the privileges that still exist in America today, inherently disadvantaging women, people of color and people of non-conforming gender and sexual orientation. I am eager to make our systems more fair. A system that produces equitable outcomes is better for everyone.

I also work in local government. As a fellow bureaucrat, I implore you to recognize the unique power that local governments hold. Localities can make choices to change systems that produce unfair impacts. We need to actively participate in changing these systems if we want to eliminate disparities. And the time for action is now.

While Linda Mar may not be a world-class surf break, it is the Bay Area's most beginner-friendly beach for surfing. Ignoring this problem will send a message that surfing is yet another American pursuit that is primarily for white men, and keep a barrier blocking entry firmly in place, like an invisible confederate statue.

I am grateful for the leadership of Brown Girl Surf and the City Surf Project for exposing this hidden barrier and taking the time to initiate change, and I hope you are, too.

Please take on this request to make it more feasible for Black and Brown women and men to have the opportunity to experience the glory of surfing.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Mike McLoone

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**From:** [Natalie Small LMFT](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 5  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:49:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [surftherapy\\_permits \(3\).pdf](#)

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a licensed therapist providing non-profit surf therapy programs for self-identifying women looking to heal from physical, sexual, relational, and cultural trauma. We are based in San Diego but have partnership programs in the Bay Area with DV centers, Women Vets who have experienced abuse centers, transitional housing, addiction recovery centers, and safe houses for women in recovery from trafficking. Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar is the most accessible access point for the diverse community of women that seek our therapy programs. And lack of permit access to the Pacifica has created a huge barrier to program access.

I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

We are currently working with Carlsbad County official Cori Shumaker and county officials in the San Diego area to create a similar permitting system at the city and state level. The need to open access for programs that welcome diversity into parks and beaches is an essential mental health need. It is exciting to see the commissioner taking steps to use their governing power to change systems that have been creating barriers to access.

I have attached the proposal we are working with in the San Diego area to start the process of building a permit that breaks down the barriers that current permitting policies maintain. It would be powerful to see the Pacifica commission lead the way in making these essential system changes. If there is any mental health backing and support we can provide in answering questions and curiosities around this essential need I am happy and honored to make myself available.

Thank you for your consideration,

--

Natalie Small

Founder & Executive Director  
**Groundswell Community Project**  
Non-profit ID# 81-3150889  
310-749-6289  
LMFT 92747

Website: [groundswellcommunity.org](http://groundswellcommunity.org)  
Instagram: @groundswellcommunityproject  
Facebook: [Groundswell Community Project](#)  
[DONATE](#) to support women and waves!

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**From:** [Heather Tahl](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 6  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:55:52 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Members of the Pacifica Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

I am a frequent surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

Access to surfing on the California coast has been historically inequitable, as is evidenced by the prevailing image of a California surfer as a white male, despite the incredible ethnic diversity of our state. If we do not take active measures to address inequities in access to surfing, these inequities will persist. Thus it is necessary to create systems like a Community Access Partner permitting system to make space for communities who have been historically excluded from our state's official sport.

Thank you for your consideration,

Heather Tahl

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**From:** [Marion Adeney](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 7  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:01:56 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I was very pleased to hear that the Pacifica, Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission is holding a study session too consider the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. As a local resident of Montara, and a former resident of Pacifica, I recognize that many barriers to access exist on our public beaches. I strongly believe that as residents of the coast, we have a responsibility to steward our beaches and make them accessible for all. This issue is a perfect example of an opportunity that we have to do this. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,

Marion Adeney

--  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Marion Adeney  
email: [marion.adeney@gmail.com](mailto:marion.adeney@gmail.com)  
cell: 919-638-0376  
\*\*\*\*\*

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**From:** [Delia Bense-Kang](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Cc:** [SanFrancisco Chair](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 8 - Community Access Permit System  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:04:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [Surfrider Letter to PBRC - Recommendations for Community Access Permit System \(2\).pdf](#)

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners of the Pacifica Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Committee,

The Surfrider Foundation and Surfrider Foundation San Francisco Chapter support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. Please see our letter of support attached to this email.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Delia Bense-Kang & Holden Hardcastle

--

Delia Bense-Kang | Northern and Central CA Regional Coordinator | Surfrider Foundation  
Pronouns: She/her/hers [what's this?](#)  
t: 707.497.8866. | [dbense-kang@surfrider.org](mailto:dbense-kang@surfrider.org)

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**From:** [Small, Mary@SCC](mailto:Small, Mary@SCC)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 9  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:13:27 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Honorable Members of the Pacifica Parks, Beach and Recreation Commission,

I am writing to express the strongest support for the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and others to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the Commission. These equity centered programs should be permitted separately from commercial surf schools.

Coastal access is one of the core values of the State Coastal Conservancy. In the past decade, we have expanded the focus of our coastal access work to look at the non-physical barriers that prevent some Californian's from enjoying their coast. The Conservancy has long supported Brown Girls Surf and City Surf Project because these organizations (and others like them that focus on equity) play a critical role in directly combating these non-physical barriers by offering culturally competent programming, women of color role models, and instructors who have shared experiences with the participants. These programs meaningfully expand access. It is not enough to create public spaces along the coast, we must all work to ensure that those spaces are used by all.

I want to congratulate Pacifica for considering this proposal and encourage your Commission to demonstrate leadership on expanding access to the coast. We hope that the work we do today will build the next generation of surfers, ocean stewards, and civic leaders that represent the wonderful diversity of our state.

Sincerely,

Mary Small

~~~~~

Mary Small  
Chief Deputy Executive Officer  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay St. Suite 1000 Oakland, CA 94612

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**From:** [Amelia Waliany](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 10  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:57:05 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Honorable Members of the Pacifica, Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission,

*I am a frequent Surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar, and I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport.*

*I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.*

*As a brown female surfer, equity is important to me. For a long time, surfing did not seem like an activity that had room for me. Access to surfing on the California coast has been historically inequitable, as is evidenced by the prevailing image of a California surfer as a white male, despite the incredible ethnic diversity of our state. It was only through taking a leap with a local women's surfing collective that I finally felt empowered to actively pursue incorporating surfing into my life in California. I'm so grateful for that experience and want to support organizations that are furthering these efforts.*

*If we do not take active measures to address inequities in access to surfing, these inequities will persist. Thus it is necessary to create systems like a Community Access Partner permitting system, to make space for communities who have been historically excluded from our state's official sport.*

*Thank you for your consideration,  
Amelia Waliany*



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**From:** [Perez, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Parks, Beaches, & Recreation Commission 7/22: Surf School Permitting  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:58:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

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Another document for the record, to be sent with any others to PBRC for tonight;s meeting

Michael J. Perez, MPA  
Director - Parks, Beaches and Recreation Department  
City of Pacifica  
(650) 738-7381  
[perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us](mailto:perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us)



---

**From:** KoppmanNorton, Julia@Coastal <julia.koppmannorton@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 1:39 PM  
**To:** Perez, Michael <perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us>  
**Cc:** Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal <Stephanie.Rexing@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Parks, Beaches, & Recreation Commission 7/22: Surf School Permitting

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Hi Mike,

I hope you're doing well. We have the following comments regarding surf school permitting at Pacifica State Beach for tonight's PBRC meeting. Please pass this along to the PBRC for the record, and let me know if you have any questions.

Our understanding is that 4 surf schools hold all available surf school permits for Pacifica State Beach, and that there is no formal permitting system by which interested organizations can apply for such permits. Coastal Commission staff strongly supports the development of a formal permitting system for surf schools at Pacifica State Beach, which would align with public access, recreation, and

environmental justice policies in the City's certified LCP, the Coastal Act, the Coastal Commission's adopted Environmental Justice Policy, and the proposed draft LCLUP update, as submitted to the Coastal Commission for review and certification.

Specifically, the **City's certified LCLUP** references Coastal Act policies and provides that:

- Pg. C-60: "Each Local Coastal Program (LCP) is required to have a separate Access Component to assure that "maximum public access to the coast and the public recreation area is guaranteed." (Coastal Act Section 30500a)
- Pg. C-60: "3. Maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the Coastal Zone..." (Coastal Act Section 30001.5)
- Pg. C-60: "5. Encourage state and local initiative and cooperation in preparing procedures to implement coordinated planning and development for mutually beneficial uses, including educational uses, in the Coastal Zone." (Coastal Act Section 30001.5)
- Pg. C-61: "1. Maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse." (Coastal Act Section 30210)

The **Coastal Commission's adopted Environmental Justice policy** can be found [at this link](#) and provides that:

*"The California Coastal Commission's commitment to diversity, equality and environmental justice recognizes that equity is at the heart of the Coastal Act, a law designed to empower the public's full participation in the land-use decision-making process that protects California's coast and ocean commons for the benefit of all the people. In keeping with that visionary mandate, but recognizing that the agency has not always achieved this mission with respect to many marginalized communities throughout California's history, the Commission as an agency is committed to protecting coastal natural resources and providing public access and lower-cost recreation opportunities for everyone. The agency is committed to ensuring that those opportunities not be denied on the basis of background, culture, race, color, religion, national origin, income, ethnic group, age, disability status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Commission will use its legal authority to ensure equitable access to clean, healthy, and accessible coastal environments for communities that have been disproportionately overburdened by pollution or with natural resources that have been subjected to permanent damage for the benefit of wealthier communities. Coastal development should be inclusive for all who work, live, and recreate on California's coast and provide equitable benefits for communities that have historically been excluded, marginalized, or harmed by coastal development. The Commission recognizes that all aspects of our mission are best advanced with the participation and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, races, color, religions, national origin, ethnic groups, ages, income levels disability status, sexual orientation, and gender identity. The Commission is committed to compliance and enforcement of Government Code Section 11135, as well as consideration of environmental justice principles as defined in Government Code Section 65040.12, consistent with Coastal Act policies, during the planning, decision-making, and implementation of Commission actions, programs, policies, and activities. It is also the California*

*Coastal Commission's goal, consistent with Public Resources Code Section 300136 and Government Code Section 11135, to recruit, build, and maintain a highly qualified, professional staff that reflects our state's diversity. Further, the Commission is committed to compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its regulations."*

Policies in the **draft LCLUP update approved by the City Council and submitted to the Coastal Commission for review and certification** support maximizing coastal access and recreation opportunities as well as the Commission's EJ policy:

- **Chapter 3, Section 3.2 "Coastal Access," Policy PR-G-1 "Coastal Access and Recreation Opportunities."** Provide maximum coastal access and recreational opportunities for all people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse, including access at each point identified on Figure 3-1.
- **Chapter 3, Section 3.2 "Coastal Access," Policy PR-G-2, "Management of Public Access."** Regulate the time, place, and manner that public access is provided, based on such factors as topographic and site constraints; the fragility of natural resources; public safety; and the privacy of adjacent residential uses.
- **Chapter 3, Section 3.9 "Environmental Justice" Policy PR-G-28 "Environmental Justice."** Strive to implement processes and procedures that promote environmental justice in support of the Coastal Commission's environmental justice policy.
- **Chapter 3, Section 3.9 "Environmental Justice" Policy PR-I-81 "Inclusive engagement."** Expand notification efforts for major policy documents and projects within Pacifica's Coastal Zone to underrepresented communities outside of Pacifica.
- **Chapter 3, Section 3.9 "Environmental Justice" Policy PR-I-82 "Removal of barriers to public participation."** Implement efforts to remove barriers that may prevent underrepresented communities from public participation opportunities. Efforts should be made to provide a welcoming, understandable and respectful atmosphere, and to be considerate of the timing, location, and accessibility of any meeting to accommodate the underrepresented communities.

Please keep us informed as the City continues discussions on this topic. Thanks in advance!

Best,  
Julia

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Julia Koppman Norton  
Coastal Planner  
North Central Coast District  
California Coastal Commission  
(415) 904-5292



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**From:** [Sarah Nusser](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 12  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:56:10 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Honorable Members of the Pacifica, Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission,

I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport.

I am a Bay Area resident who loves to come down to Pacific to surf and watch others surf.

I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

As a fellow bureaucrat (I work for the City of SF), I implore you to recognize the unique power that local governments hold. Localities can make choices to change systems that produce unfair impacts. We need to actively participate in changing these systems if we want to eliminate disparities. And the time for action is now.

While Linda Mar may not be a world-class surf break, it is the Bay Area's most beginner-friendly beach for surfing. Ignoring this problem will send a message that surfing is yet another American pursuit that is primarily for white men, and keep a barrier blocking entry firmly in place, like an invisible confederate statue.

I am grateful for the leadership of Brown Girl Surf and the City Surf Project for exposing this hidden barrier and taking the time to initiate change, and I hope you are, too.

Please take on this request to make it more feasible for Black and Brown women and men to have the opportunity to experience the glory of surfing.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Sarah Nusser

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**From:** [Shalini Kannan](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 13  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:00:33 PM

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a frequent Surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar, who grew up in San Mateo County. I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. As a brown girl growing up in the Bay Area suburbs, just 25 minutes away from Lindamar, I never saw people like me on the coast and thought that surfing, let alone recreating at the beach, was for people like me. I'm grateful to have found so much joy and healing in the ocean and surfing as an adult and I now volunteer with Brown Girl Surf because I think it is so valuable for youth of color in CA to have a supported way to be at the beach and enjoy the magic of the coast. It isn't just recreation, but a way of creating community, a sense of belonging, improved health, and a strong resilient spirit.

I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission. Please find it in your hearts to welcome your neighboring communities of color to your beautiful beach.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Shalini Kannan

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**From:** [SanMateo Secretary](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Comments re. Surf Camp/School Permitting  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 3:58:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [PBR Commission Ltr\\_SMC Surfrider\\_200722.docx.pdf](#)

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**[CAUTION: External Email]**

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **SanMateo Secretary** <[secretary@smc.surfrider.org](mailto:secretary@smc.surfrider.org)>  
Date: Wed, Jul 22, 2020 at 3:52 PM  
Subject: Comments re. Surf Camp/School Permitting  
To: <[hippsb@ci.pacifica.ca.us](mailto:hippsb@ci.pacifica.ca.us)>  
Cc: SanMateo Chair <[chair@smc.surfrider.org](mailto:chair@smc.surfrider.org)>

Dear Pacifica Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commissioners,

The San Mateo County Chapter of Surfrider Foundation respectfully submits the following comments on the proposed changes to the Pacifica surf camp/school policy, written below and attached as a pdf.

Thank you,

Kimberly Williams  
Secretary  
San Mateo County Chapter  
Surfrider Foundation

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July 22, 2020

City of Pacifica  
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission  
1810 Francisco Avenue  
Pacifica, CA 94044-2506

Dear Pacifica Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commissioners,

The San Mateo County Chapter of Surfrider Foundation is writing to ask you to support and take action on the request by City Surf Project and Brown Girls Surf to revise and create a better surf school/camp permit policy that is inclusive, fair and equitable to everyone, and especially to those who promote diversity and inclusiveness in the sport of surfing. It is clear that there are barriers to access for minorities, people with disabilities, and people of color in surfing and also in terms of general beach access. Non-profit organizations like Brown Girls Surf and City Surf Project help facilitate beach access for underserved communities and also provide a safe and welcoming space for them to come to the beach



and to learn how to surf.

We support the proposal submitted by Brown Girls Surf and City Surf Project to create a new type of permit that is separate from the current permit allowance, and would specifically create equitable access for underrepresented groups at Pacifica State Beach. A “Community Access Partnership” (CAP) system would be a step in the right direction to help address the inequity and inequality that currently exists, and it would be a way for the City of Pacifica to further support diversity in beach access generally. Programs like this facilitate and enable beach access for communities that have historically been excluded and even at times discouraged from coming to the beach. Beach access has mostly favored those who have the resources and means to come to the beach on their own. That is why it is especially important for inner city youth and those who may rely on programming like that offered by these two organizations, to help them get to the beach.

Pacifica's current permit policy essentially supports four specific businesses and organizations and excludes all others, and has done so for many years. This isn't a permit system. It seeks to promote some businesses and organizations over others. A true permit system would provide continuity for businesses that need it, and offer opportunities for some allocation of time for all who meet basic safety and operation requirements.

San Mateo County Surfrider recognizes the challenges in managing the presence of surf camps and schools on the beach, and we believe that just as other coastal areas have found ways to do this, Pacifica can work together with all stakeholders to find ways to manage it to the benefit of everyone.

We ask you to adopt the proposed separate CAP permit system proposed by Brown Girls Surf and City Surf Project as a means to support diversity and inclusion in Pacifica and in the surfing community, and we ask that you take this opportunity to engage in a revision of the current permit policy to create a better system overall.

Sincerely,



Kari Mueller, Chair  
San Mateo County Chapter  
Surfrider Foundation

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**From:** [Perez, Michael](#)  
**To:** [Phipps, Beth](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Need your feedback on Pacifica Surfcamp Permit Policy  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:13:48 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Please include

Michael J. Perez, MPA  
Director - Parks, Beaches and Recreation Department  
City of Pacifica  
(650) 738-7381  
[perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us](mailto:perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us)



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**From:** Matt Cole <mcole@girlsms.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 2:59 PM  
**To:** Kimberly Williams <kimberly@smc.surfrider.org>  
**Cc:** Perez, Michael <perezm@ci.pacifica.ca.us>  
**Subject:** Re: Need your feedback on Pacifica Surfcamp Permit Policy

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Hi Kim, I Ccd Mike from the City of Pacifica as well  
Thanks  
Matt

Linda Mar Surf Camp Policy Meeting update 2020

University of Surfing has no problem with the City of Pacifica offering groups like “City Surf” and “Brown Girls Surf” day or even week-long permits to teach surfing. I’m not concerned that this will take away from my business at all and I’m all for getting more safe surfers into the water. We fully support more diversity and inclusion in surfing.

Issue #1. I will say I’m very concerned with the lack of lifeguards at Linda Mar. Every year it has become more and more crowded and we are having to do more and more rescues. We

even had a fatality there this year due to drowning.

If the city can't or will not have beach life guards then I strongly suggest buying at least one Emily Life Saving System. <https://www.emilyrobot.com>

Issue #2. Rentals are out of hand. The water is full of unsafe surfers on rentals with no instruction that put my students and instructors at risk, as well as members of our community and their families.

Thanks Kimberly, Surfrider, Mike and our Amazing City of Pacifica  
Matt

On Jul 21, 2020, at 12:59 PM, Kimberly Williams <[kimberly@smc.surfrider.org](mailto:kimberly@smc.surfrider.org)> wrote:

In typing too fast, I forgot the subject line...

On Tue, Jul 21, 2020 at 12:54 PM Kimberly Williams <[kimberly@smc.surfrider.org](mailto:kimberly@smc.surfrider.org)> wrote:

Hi Matt,

I am reaching out to you on behalf of San Mateo Chapter of Surfrider, to connect about the proposed changes to the Pacifica surfcamp and surf school permit policy in order to help foster more opportunity and equity for groups like City Surf Project who work to promote diversity and equity in surfing. Our Chapter is supportive of groups like City Surf, but we also want to make sure we support our local surf shops and schools as well. Our Chapter is drafting comments for the upcoming public meeting tomorrow, and I wanted to check with you to get your thoughts, ideas and input so that we know about any concerns that you might have, before we submit anything.

You can email me back, or you're also welcome to give me a call. If I don't pick up, leave me a message and I'll call you right back. You should be able to find the materials related to this issue on City of Pacifica's website from the meeting in June, but if not, I can also forward those to you as well. The Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission meeting is tomorrow at 6pm.

I hope you are doing well.

Thank you,  
-Kimberly Williams

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## Phipps, Beth

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**From:** Megan Bayley <m.n.bayley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 5:29 PM  
**To:** Phipps, Beth  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 14

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a frequent surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar, and a longtime parking pass holder. I am writing to show my support for the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport.

I hope you will work with BGS, CSP, and other stakeholders to create a fair permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission. To allow traditional for-profit surf schools to operate in exclusivity, and leave out these community focused organizations would be a disservice to the Bay Area and our values.

Access to surfing on the California coast has been historically inequitable, as is evidenced by the prevailing image of a California surfer as a white male, despite the incredible ethnic diversity of our state. If we do not take active measures to address inequities in access to surfing, this homogenous and often unwelcoming vision of our sport will persist. Thus it is necessary to create systems like a Community Access Partner permitting system to make space for communities who have been historically excluded from our state's official pastime. I urge you to seriously consider the consequences of localism so pervasive in our sport (and at Linda Mar), who that excludes, and who has the "right" to enjoy our beaches.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Megan Bayley

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Megan Bayley  
[www.meganbayleyphotography.com](http://www.meganbayleyphotography.com)  
916.532.1712

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## Phipps, Beth

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**From:** Dana Nielsen <danamarienielsen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 8:22 PM  
**To:** Phipps, Beth  
**Subject:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS 15

**[CAUTION: External Email]**

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am a frequent Surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar and I am writing to support the proposal put forth by Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project to create a Community Access Permit system for organizations dedicated to making surfing more accessible to those who have historically been excluded from the sport. I urge you to work with Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other stakeholders to create a permitting system with the key features of equity that these organizations have put forth in their letter to the commission.

I'm a psychotherapist for women, a surf therapist and board member of Groundswell Community Project, a surf therapy organization for women. I see the healing power of the ocean through my work every day, and I also see how communities of color are often not provided with the same access to surfing. It's time for this to change. Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project do incredible jobs bringing communities of color to the ocean and providing more access to people who would not usually have it (due to cultural limitations, racism/localism in the waves and transportation access, to name a few.) Please support these organizations in creating this Permit system.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dana Nielsen  
Dana Nielsen, LMFT #118278  
[www.wildwomantherapy.com](http://www.wildwomantherapy.com)

"You work that you may keep pace with the earth and the soul of the earth." -Kahlil Gibran

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community, and we ask that you take this opportunity to engage in a revision of the current permit policy to create a better system overall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kari R. Mueller", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Kari Mueller, Chair  
San Mateo County Chapter  
Surfrider Foundation