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SeaWorld San Diego Advances Drone Show Proposal as Part of Ongoing Community Collaboration

San Diego, CA – SeaWorld San Diego is seeking California Coastal Commission approval to introduce drone light shows at its Mission Bay Park location, as part of its continued focus on evolving the guest experience through innovation and thoughtful collaboration with the local community.

If approved, drone shows would become a featured nighttime offering, expanding the park’s entertainment portfolio with a new, visually dynamic format that complements its existing seasonal experiences.

“SeaWorld has always focused on creating memorable moments for our guests, and we’re excited about the possibilities that drone technology brings to nighttime entertainment,” said **Tyler Carter, SeaWorld San Diego Park President.** **“This is a natural evolution for us as we continue to innovate and elevate the guest experience.”**

The proposal reflects ongoing conversations between SeaWorld and local stakeholders, including San Diego City Council President Joe LaCava, around the future of evening entertainment in Mission Bay. Through that dialogue, SeaWorld has explored opportunities to incorporate new technologies that align with both guest expectations and the broader community vision for the area.

“SeaWorld has been a long-standing partner in Mission Bay, and we appreciate their willingness to engage in thoughtful discussions about how the park continues to evolve,” said **LaCava.** **“Exploring new entertainment options like drone shows reflects a shared commitment to enhancing the experience for residents and visitors alike.”**

SeaWorld has been developing and testing drone-based entertainment across its broader portfolio, where guest response has been strong. The proposed Mission Bay program builds on those insights and represents the next step in bringing innovative experiences to San Diego.

SeaWorld's application requests approval to conduct drone light shows with up to 1,000 drones over Mission Bay and the SeaWorld leasehold for a one-year period at 500 SeaWorld Drive. The California Coastal Commission is scheduled to consider the permit application at its [meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, beginning at 9 a.m.](#)

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Council President Joe LaCava represents San Diego's First Council District, which includes the communities of La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and a portion of University City west of the 1-5.