



REPORT

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO THE PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

DATE ISSUED: September 7, 2021

REPORT NO: 103

ATTENTION: Park and Recreation Board
Agenda of September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Overnight Parking Lot Closures for Shoreline and Mission Bay Park

SUMMARY

Issue – The Parks and Recreation Department will bring an action in the form of a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) forward to the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to obtain permission to install and operate nighttime gates and signage for parking lots along the Shoreline Parks and Beaches and Mission Bay Park.

Department Recommendation – Recommend approval in the interest of reducing crime and improving the quality of life for residents and visitors within beach communities.

Fiscal Impact – An annual cost increase of approximately \$6,000 per parking lot for security contractor to open and close gates. Final overall cost will be determined on the number of parking lots approved by CCC within the CDP.

Water and Energy Conservation Status – Not Applicable.

Environmental – This action, Requesting a Recommendation to the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department to submit an application to the California Coastal Commission (CCC) for a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for future Overnight Parking Lot Closures for Shoreline and Mission Bay Parks is not a “project” because it only involves an administrative activity of government which on its own accord will not cause a significant environmental impact, and does not constitute approval of a “project” as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15378. Approval of a future project will occur once the list of parking lots with associated overnight gate closures and signage has been further defined for inclusion in a future CCC CDP application package, and only after environmental review has been conducted and completed in accordance with the provisions of CEQA Sections 15004 which provides direction to lead agencies on the appropriate timing for

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environmental review, CEQA Section 15352(a) (Approval), and the City's Land Development Code (LDC). As such, the request for a recommendation is not subject to CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c)(2). This action will not foreclose review of alternatives or mitigation measures by the public as part of any future CEQA process.

BACKGROUND

The City of San Diego has historically had overnight gate closures and signage for overnight parking restrictions for the past 20 years at multiple locations. This includes parking lots in coastal parks (Sunset Cliffs, Ocean Beach, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, and La Jolla) and several in Mission Bay Park that routinely attract large numbers of illegal campers, gang activity and parties.

In the spring of 2021, the Parks and Recreation Department was notified by the California Coastal Commission (CCC) of the need to renew expired Coastal Development Permits (CDP) for various parking lot locations. All overnight gate closures and parking restrictions require CCC approve when within a coastal zone. It was also requested that the Department determine if public interest remains for securing overnight parking lots located along the shoreline and in Mission Bay Park.

The Department has actively conducted outreach with various community organizations since June 2021. This outreach will conclude in mid-October with a CDP submittal to CCC in November, after completion of environmental review in accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

DISCUSSION

The Department desires to address the problems associated with gang activity, overnight parties and illegal camping in and around parking lots in the shoreline and Mission Bay Park. To meet the desired outcome, the Department purposes to regulating parking lots with gates and/or signage for overnight closure.

The proposed hours of closure would be from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. or midnight to 6 a.m. with gates to be closed by security service nightly. Installation of gates at any location is contingent upon availability of funding to install gates. The key desired outcomes would include:

- Reduction in service calls and crime
- Deterrence of gang activity, overnight parties, and illegal campers
- Greater safety for park patrons and nearby residence

Existing signed locations for overnight gate closures and parking restrictions (from

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north to south):

- La Jolla Shores Kellogg Park – gate closure nightly
- Tourmaline Surfing Park – signed no parking nightly
- Belmont Park/Mission Beach South – signed no parking nightly
- South Mission Beach –signed no parking and gate closure nightly
- Ocean Beach Dog Beach Lot – Restricted Hours: No Parking 2am-4am
- Ocean Beach Santa Monica Lot – signed no parking nightly
- Ocean Beach Newport-Pier Lot – signed no parking nightly
- Sunset Cliffs Natural Park/Linear Park – signed no parking nightly
- Sunset Cliffs Natural Park/Ladera Street Parking Lot – signed no parking nightly
- South Jetty/ Mission Point – Gate closed daily by contractor
- Crown Point – gate closure nightly
- Fiesta Island – gate closure nightly
- Fanuel Park – gate closure nightly

Based on recent observations of after-hours activity and requests made to secure those areas at night, the City is considering additional locations for consideration for overnight closure as follows (from north to south):

- Torrey Pines City Park and Gliderport – proposed gate closure nightly
- Belmont Park/Mission Beach South – proposed gate installation closure nightly
- Ocean Beach Dog Beach – proposed to be signed no parking nightly
- Ocean Beach Santa Monica Avenue Parking Lot – proposed to be signed no parking nightly
- Ocean Beach Newport Avenue and Ocean Beach Pier Parking Lot – proposed to be signed no parking nightly
- Sunset Cliffs Natural Park/Linear Park – proposed to be signed no parking nightly
- Sunset Cliffs Natural Park/Ladera Street Parking Lot – proposed gate closure nightly
- East Bonita Cove – proposed gate closure nightly
- Ventura Cove – proposed gate closure nightly
- Bahia Point – proposed gate closure nightly
- Windansea – proposed to be signed no parking nightly

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Respectfully submitted,

Michael Tully

Deputy Director

Attachments: A. Proposed Overnight Parking Lot Closures and Strategic
 Management Plan
 B. Coast and Mission Bay Parking Lot Overnight Gate Closures
 Outreach and Communication Plan
 C. PowerPoint Presentation

cc: Council District 1 Office