

The Peninsula Pelican

The Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Beach Preservation Group
"Serving the Peninsula Community since 1966"



President's Message

March 2010

Our Spring Community Meeting is coming up on Thursday, April 22. The social will be at 6:30 and meeting starts at 7:00 pm at the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club at the east end of the peninsula. We'll have a report from our Councilman on things of interest to Peninsula. We'll hear from our new Long Beach Chief of Police as well as get an update on CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). We are also planning information relative to the Army Corps of Engineers consideration of the recently completed breakwater study.

We've had some rain recently, but while it has been raining, we're planning for summer. We've got a great lineup of summer concerts planned. Check elsewhere in this newsletter for the dates. We're trying something new this year. One of our concerts will be on a Thursday Evening. This has worked well for some neighboring associations as we are finding dates difficult to book with ABYC (who supplies power and setup) for Sundays. We'll see how

this works for one concert this year, with all the rest being on Sundays.

Your PBPG Board of 13 volunteers give countless hours of service to this community. Your Board welcomes any help and participation from the neighborhood. Contact the committee chairs or me, and I will put you in contact with the appropriate board member. Please look at all the Director's reports in the newsletter as well as their areas of responsibility – and become an active contributor.

Our 2010 membership drive is underway. At \$25 per year, membership is an incredible value. We work hard, but we need your support to do the many things that help make this neighborhood extra special. If you have not yet renewed your membership, you can send your membership fee to the address below.

Feel free to write or email to the address below with any questions, comments, concerns or compliment and visit our website, "<http://www.lbpeninsula.org>", where you can also keep up on all Peninsula activities!

Rick Turrentine, President
pbpgcontact@aol.com
PO BOX 3535
Long Beach CA, 90803-0535

Upcoming Events:

Spring Residents Meeting
April 22, 2010
6:30PM Social
7:00PM Meeting
@ABYC

PBPG Board of Directors (2010)

President

Rick Turrentine

PBPGcontact@aol.com

Vice President

Phil Osterlind

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Secretary/Historian

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Directors

Stevie Angerson

Rob Bellevue

Rick Brizendine

Lynne Driscoll

Peter Hogenson

Randy Peck

Linda McCullough

Christie Peck

PBPG

PO Box 3535

Long Beach, CA 90803

www.lbpeninsula.org

PBPGcontact@aol.com

SPECIAL COMMUNITY MEETING

All Residents of the Peninsula are welcome and encouraged to attend our special Spring Meeting on April 22 at 7:00PM. Guest Speakers will include:

- ➔ Council Representative for the 3rd District -- **Gary DeLong**
- ➔ New Police Chief for the City of Long Beach -- **Jim McDonnell**
- ➔ Army Corp of Engineers Officer in Charge for the Continuing Breakwater Studies -- **Colonel Thomas Magness IV**

In the meeting these gentlemen will presents current state of affairs for items affecting the Peninsula. There will also be a question and answer period.

3rd District Council Office Update

Environmental Initiatives

Over the past several years the City of Long Beach has made significant progress in improving the environmental sustainability of our City.

When I became your Council representative 3 ½ years ago, the water quality in Alamitos Bay was regularly rated “D” and “F” by the Heal the Bay organization. Currently the bay receives ratings of mostly “A’s” and “B’s”. This improvement came about as a result of partnering with Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe and obtaining the funding to divert over 1,000,000 gallons of monthly urban runoff into the sanitation system, instead of being pumped into Alamitos Bay.

While much of the Tidelands fund is used for beach operations, this past year we made environmental goals a priority. Working with City Manager Pat West and Director of Parks, Rec and Marine Phil Hester, we developed a plan to clean every single storm drain that leads to our beaches. Specifically, funding was allocated for the 151 storm drains that feed into the 5 outfalls between 9th Place and the Belmont Pier. Each storm drain was equipped with devices to capture any debris that entered the storm drain, as well as pollution absorbing sponges to remove the bacteria from the water.

Additionally, \$10 million of Federal funds were secured to begin retrofitting storm drains up and down the Los Angeles River.

During the last year we also worked hard and obtained several million dollars of Federal and State funding to apply towards improving the cleanliness of the Colorado Lagoon. This project will include dredging the toxic sediment out of the Lagoon as well as removing storm drains that currently route urban runoff into the Lagoon.

Budget Initiatives

The City budget will continue to be a challenge. The City’s Financial Management team is in the process of updating 2011 forecasts and it appears the City will once again have to solve a \$20 million shortfall. Over the past 10 years, the City’s labor costs have grown by 50% (from \$200 million to \$300 million) which all other costs have actually declined.

Additionally, approximately half of the additional labor cost is due to pension cost increases. The City will never be in a position to properly provide the services that residents need (and deserve) if the pension costs are not reduced.

Gary DeLong -- 3rd District, Long Beach City Council

COMMUNITY INTEREST & IMPROVEMENT:

MEDIANS:

A palm tree was sheared off near the ground near 59th Place. People have asked that the robellini palms at the end sections where people turn into their streets be thinned and trimmed. These and other issues are being reported to the City Parks, Rec. and Marine Dept. for work to be done.

UNDERGROUND UTILITIES:

The Committee will resume meeting on March 23rd. If you have particular items you would like addressed please e-mail me at WDMLSM@Hotmail.com. A 7.5 hr. and a

1.5 hr. outage are proof of some of the reason we still need to underground for both safety and reliability. Not to mention the obvious that the view of our community will improve significantly.

BIKE BOX NEWS:

The green bike boxes at some intersections where you could have gotten a ticket if you stopped in it are being re-evaluated, and in many cases reduced!

Linda McCullough

Director, Peninsula Maintenance and Improvement

CERT (COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM)

A suggestion made on the recent PBPG survey was to provide a brochure for all residents of the Peninsula on what to do in an emergency. Your CERT organization will do that and will include information specifically aimed at earthquakes, tsunamis as well as terrorist attacks. We are also planning a CERT drill for the summer to which all residents will be invited to observe or participate. We still need more active and trained CERT members. Full CERT certification is available through the LB Fire Department,

however, your local Peninsula CERT members can provide training in first aid, first responder and radio communications to point where you would be useful and helpful in an emergency. The Peninsula CERT radio net was activated during the recent tsunami alert and the net continues a drill call-in every Tuesday night at 7:30. If you are interested in joining Peninsula CERT, please call 562-439-3361 or contact one of the persons below. Peter Hogenson and Christie Peck – Peninsula CERT

The Peninsula Pelican

KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING >>>>

This year there will be some exciting changes to our Summer Concert Series schedule and format.

First, the opening concert will be on June 13th. This is a week later than in the past and hopefully the weather will be better by then.

Second, our barbecue with the Long Beach Firefighters has changed from the first concert to the last concert on August 29th. The weather will be great and our band will be even better.

Third, and our biggest change, we are going to try a THURSDAY evening concert. The concert time, **this one time only**, will be 6:00PM to 8:00PM on June 24th. The nights are longer and the evenings are warmer by this time. It will be a great concert and a pleasant way to start the weekend. Mark the date and time down on your calendars. Again this year, we will have seven (7) outstanding concerts. I will be introducing one or two new bands, and bring back some of your favorites.

Concert Dates	
Date	Time
Sunday June 13	5:30 to 7:30PM
Thursday June 24	6:00 to 8:00PM
Sunday July 18	5:30 to 7:30PM
Sunday July 25	5:30 to 7:30PM
Sunday August 08	5:30 to 7:30PM
Sunday August 22	5:30 to 7:30PM
Sunday August 29 BBQ	4:30 to 7:00PM

Thank you all for your support last year and please don't forget to support and donate this year. It is because of your tax deductible donations that make our Summer Concerts possible.

Thank you all again! Stevie - PBPG Concert Chair

BREAKWATER UPDATE

As your neighborhood representative PBPG is tracking this issue closely. We want to ensure that the voices of the Peninsula residents are heard and concerns are registered throughout the study process. Historically, the jurisdiction of the Breakwater rests with the Army Corp of Engineers [ACOE]. Because there is high city wide interest in this issue, in July 2007 LB City Council commissioned a consultant to produce a Reconnaissance Study and outline various options which might be considered. Moffatt and Nichols, Coastal Engineers, were commissioned to produce that study. The report was issued to the City in July 2008. According to ACOE guidelines the term recreation, or other terms, as a basis for study could not be used. Ecosystem, however, could be used, and thus the title of "East San Pedro Ecosystem Restoration Study" was adopted.

Following the completion of this study, the ACOE, if authorized by the Congress, would either continue the study or drop it on the basis of "determination of Federal Interest". The ACOE did receive a limited appropriation to make the determination of Federal Interest, yes or no. This process has very recently started.

Throughout this process **the PBPG Board has taken an active role to ensure Peninsula resident voices are heard**. This began with the filing of a Report authored by the PBPG Board expressing concerns around 7 major issues which could come into play regarding Peninsula concerns. This report was received by the City of Long Beach and was entered

into the Moffatt and & Nichols report mentioned earlier.

The seven points were:

1. Environmental
2. Economic and Recreational
3. Sand and Beach replenishment
4. Shoreline property protection
5. Effects of rising tides and how global warming might relate
6. Benefits vs. Cost
7. Qualifications of parties contributing to and producing the study

PBPG is listed as a stakeholder in this entire process. The detailed report is posted on the Peninsula Website and also in City of Long Beach documents.

The ACOE is projecting that their Federal Interest report will be complete in the next few months. If ACOE concludes that there is Federal Interest, then a further exhaustive study will be commissioned. This study will require significant funds and will take 4 years to complete. In addition the LB City Council must decide whether the City will become the local sponsor of this larger study. This will occur before the end of June 2010.

How to Provide Input

The ACOE have the City's Study, which includes a summary of all the public comments the City received while conducting the study including those of the PBPG. The PBPG will continue to ensure that Peninsula concerns are expressed. The PBPG Board wants to hear your voice. Please contact any Board member direct with your opinions, or by email at PGPGcontact@aol.com, or by mail either dropped at the PBPG Laundromat box, or post at Box 3535, Long Beach, 90803.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2010

ALL PENINSULA RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE PBPG FOR ONLY \$25 PER PERSON A YEAR. THE PENINSULA BEACH PRESERVATION GROUP IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PRESERVING THE PENINSULA'S UNIQUE QUALITY OF LIFE BY SPONSORING LOCAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS REPRESENTING THE PENINSULA BEFORE THE CITY ON MATTERS WHICH AFFECT OUR COMMUNITY.

PBPG
P.O. BOX 3535, LONG BEACH, CA 90803-0535
2010 MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE ENCLOSE THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO PBPG MEMBERSHIP AND MAIL TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS. DUES \$25 PER PERSON.

NAME _____ NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE _____
E-MAIL _____

THANK YOU, LYNNE DRISCOLL, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

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