

June 26, 2024

California Ocean Protection Council SB1 Grant Administrators

Dear Ocean Protection Council & SB1 Grant Administrators,

I write with full support and to request your consideration of Save Oceanside Sand's application to the California Ocean Protection Council SB1 Funds for Track 1 'Community Visioning.' Save Oceanside Sand, and their partners on this application are seeking support for a project titled, 'Our Coast: Oceanside's SLR Adaptation & Coastal Resilience Community Vision.' The funding requested would be used to conduct a comprehensive, community-led visioning process for a resilient and adaptive coast in Oceanside, California.

This project combines community-based organizations, local governments, educational institutions, and citizen scientists to come together and generate a plan and online resource envisioning Oceanside's coast in 2055. By enabling this process to be community-led and co-created among various stakeholder groups, the City of Oceanside will use this resource to inform and steer its SLR plan and Local Coastal Plan (LCP) updates, among other planning documents.

Save Oceanside Sand is exactly the right organization to lead this type of project. SOS knows the community and is led by a passionate, dedicated, and professional community board who sets goals and gets things done. For the past five years, Save Oceanside Sand has advocated for sustainable beaches and coastal management. Through their efforts, the City hired its first Coastal Zone Administrator, invested in and undertook an international design competition to generate novel concepts for sand retention, and secured funding for coastal projects from the City's general budget. This project takes a regional approach with weekly community education and outreach opportunities, as well as several gatherings among stakeholder groups from Oceanside and inland communities.

It is anticipated that the project and work will create the 'glue' between community needs, stewarding an adaptive and resilient coastline that can respond to future SLR and climate change impacts, while cultivating a greater enabling environment for project implementation in the City of Oceanside.

Save Oceanside Sand has made efforts to include many partners and stakeholders in this project, including environmental justice organizations and American Indian Tribes, whose expertise in stewarding the coastline is critical for the success of this work.

I appreciate your full and fair consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

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John B. Franklin Mayor City of Vista