

From: Andrea Schlageter, Chair Ocean Beach Planning Board  
Subject: Ocean Beach Planning Board's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Requests  
To: Councilmember Campbell  
Cc: Kevin Faulconer, Anthony George, Seamus Kennedy  
Date: Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Councilmember Campbell,

Prior to budget discussions, the Ocean Beach Planning Board saw it prudent to detail what we believe to be necessary expenditures in the upcoming fiscal year.

We have sorted our requests into four categories and listed them in order of importance:

1. Coastal Access
2. Trash
3. Pedestrian Safety
4. Maintenance and enhancement of public spaces

## **2. Coastal Access**

As a popular beachside community it is important that coastal access ways be maintained. Not only is this a requirement of the California Coastal Commission, it is also a public safety issue. Community members will continue to use known coastal access points, whether or not the City upkeeps the infrastructure.

Access Points that still need funding:

- Bermuda Ave. Stairs (If leftover funds from Ladera St. stairs are not enough)
- Orchard Ave. Stairs
- Niagara St. Stairs that access the tide pools
- Sea wall along Santa Cruz Ave.

## **2. Trash**

With the increase in tourist accommodations and transient occupancy in public space the amount of litter has jumped significantly.

**Transient occupancy in public space has especially resulted in human waste and drug paraphernalia being improperly disposed of. It is pertinent that the city finds a way to safely and effectively dispose of this type of waste. As the build up of this type of waste can lead to a public health crisis e.g. the Hep A outbreak last year.**

Keeping San Diego streets clean should be a top priority for this Councilmember's office. We ask that more money be made available for frequent trash collection, more trash cans in public areas, and safe disposal sites for drug paraphernalia.

## **3. Pedestrian/Bike Safety**

Foot, bike, and scooter traffic must be protected with adequate infrastructure. Increasing safe facilities for these modes of transportation will also support the City's climate action goals. Many improvements are on the Unfunded Needs list, we ask that they become a priority this budget cycle.

- Flashing Beacon crosswalk at Voltaire St. and Froude St. (Unfunded Needs list)

- Pedestrian Crosswalk at Niagara and Sunset Cliffs (Unfunded Needs list)
- Requested improvements to Bacon St. Bike Boulevard (previous letter attached)
- Paving of dirt alley between Bermuda St. and Point Loma Blvd.
- Safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists where Sunset Cliffs Ave., Nimitz Blvd., and I-8 meet.
- Better Way Finding signs for cyclists and scooters coming into OB
- Phase 3 of the OB entryway
- Repave the bike path from Robb Field to Dog Beach
- Protected pedestrian access to the bus stop at West Point Loma Blvd. and Cable St.

#### **4. Maintenance and Enhancement of Public Spaces**

Recent events have made it clear that the city is severely underfunding the maintenance of public spaces. This is causing many problems and is substantially contributing to the overabundance of waste on our streets.

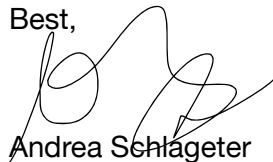
Unkept public space become encampments for the transient population. This of course leads to more trash. One less obvious externality is the fire hazard. Pair under maintained public space with the poorly assembled electrical equipment used by transient populations and the damage and liability that it can cause to the city could be immense.

Additionally we ask that more attention should be paid to beautifying these spaces. Public art installations will encourage the space to be utilized more frequently by the community. These spaces are developed so that the community and tourists have areas to gather and appreciate what Ocean Beach has to offer. With more public usage, transients will have less ease turning these spaces into encampments. As well as supporting local artist and adding to our vibrant local culture.

**We ask that more money in the budget be made available to maintain overgrowth, plant more trees, and allow for money be made available for community groups to install and maintain public art installations.**

We thank the Councilmember for their consideration. The Ocean beach Planning Board looks forward to working with your office to keep San Diego America's Finest City.

Best,



Andrea Schlageter  
Chair Ocean beach Planning Board