Sea Level Rise & Economy in Encinitas

Kellie Shay Hinze
Councilmember, City of Encinitas
Our local economy:

- Centers on Hwy 101 (coastal access road + business district)
- small family-owned businesses
- serving locals and visitors
- shore-focused (seafood restaurants, surf, active sports)
- auto-serving from 20th century to people-serving in 21st
Folks come for the beach, stay for the food, fun and festivities.

Highway 101 is the ‘town square’ and the most important resource complimenting our ocean and beaches.

Highway 101 is the lifeblood to coastal access in Encinitas.

Art by Artie Mattson
A recent study by USGS warns between 33-66% of southern California’s beaches will be gone by 2100. This will mostly affect armored, bluff-backed, narrow beaches—the majority of Encinitas beaches.
Leucadia beaches are vulnerable: Sea level rise means fewer opportunities to recreate, exercise and interact with this precious and threatened habitat of sandy beach ecosystem. (Sand Pipers are here this year!)

Cardiff Living Shoreline:
Engineered dunes are a strategy to address vulnerabilities and offer multi-benefits:
- Infrastructure protection
- Replacement of historic ecosystems
- Improved coastal access with a pedestrian walkway adjacent.
How can we as local government plan, act + react?

King tides mimicking sea level rise scenarios show us we will experience future increased losses in:
- service at State Parks parking lots,
- loss of beaches,
- loss of beach access.

Photos by Larry Giles & Karen Legato

Coastal Flooding 11/26
Flooding shows us where loss of service to roads, parks, businesses and residences will occur.
Coastal erosion on Encinitas beaches

Discrete episode 12/1/19

Continuous/slumping erosion

Catastrophic Failure

WARNING
ACTIVE LANDSLIDE
BLUFF & TRAIL
UNSTABLE
USE AT YOUR OWN RISK
Jayme Timberlake  
Coastal Zone Program Administrator, City of Encinitas  
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- Coastal Zone Management Program
- Small Nourishment Projects
  - SCOUPLarge Nourishment Projects
  - Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project
- Ongoing Research
  - Informs decision making now and assists in planning for future adaptation

1) Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project
This proposed project plans to place 340,000 cubic yards of sand initially and 220,000 cubic yards every five years after that for 50 years from approximately Beacons Beach to Boneyards. The public can reach out to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers directly or their local representatives in the state and federal governments, and ask them to request the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to allocate Pre-construction, Engineering and Design (PED) funds towards our Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Project.
Mitigate: Achieve our Climate Action Plan Goals
Adapt: Seek stakeholder input and interagency collaboration to maintain and IMPROVE access.
Prepare: Build resiliency into our capital improvement projects
Instead of trading in my car we purchased an electric bike from @thehatch.101 and we are really starting to log some miles!

If you don’t build it, they will come (in cars). If you build it, they will buy bikes (from local businesses,) and bring their families to the beach!

Photos courtesy of Heidi Ledger (left) and Erin Kennedy (right)
Livable Coastal access corridors are:

- Town squares,
- Malls,
- Flea markets,
- Farmers Markets,
- Community Centers,
- Safe routes to school
- Senior centers,
- Gyms,
- Botanic Gardens,
- Watering Holes, and MORE!
How our legislators can assist:

- Funds for vulnerable infrastructure, Caltrans Prioritization of regionally vulnerable infrastructure (San Elijo Lagoon Inlet Bridge)

- Eliminate barriers to beach access. E.g. Railroad tracks, no longer likely to permit at-grade crossings (CPUC)

- Fund collaboration by state agencies/universities to support, communicate and involve stakeholders with local government in proactive planning for sea level rise,

- Sediment management assistance and clarity on state-sponsored efforts for regional sediment management. Matching funds for cities to leverage Army Corps federal $ for sediment projects. Contacts below:

  The Office of Management and Budget  
  Russell Vought, Acting Director  
  725 17th Street, NW  
  Washington, DC 20503

  U.S. Army for Civil Works  
  The Honorable R.D. James  
  Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works  
  108 Army Pentagon  
  Washington, DC 20310
Please take a moment to interact with our local beaches and then spend your hard-earned money here in our beautiful city!

Let me know if you would like a restaurant recommendation.

THANK YOU!

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