

## **Ocean Boulevard Blufftop Committee**

## MEMO to: Newport Beach Planning Commission Re: PA 2021-091, 3309 Ocean Blvd

On behalf of the Corona del Mar Residents Association, we request that you move this item from the consent items so that there can be a discussion. We feel that the existing landscaping does not conform to the L-6 general policy for the R/W that should be reserved for public use or open space.

We would like you to be aware of our Citizen driven effort for a Master Vision Plan for the upgrading of future improvements. The City Council has requested the PB&R Commission to review this at their next regular meeting. Some of our goals are:

- 1. Enhance the three existing "vista points" for a better viewer experience. Enhance the viewing areas, provide more formal and informal seating the softscape areas.
- 2. Develop new Vista Points to take advantage of the Ocean view.
- 3. Improve the walkway links between the vista points, place a higher emphasis on the pedestrian environment than the street.
- 4. Review the City encroachment agreements and analyze areas within the 50' R/W that could be re-configured to provide more public benefit, while still providing access and security to the bluff residences.



We are concerned that waiving the Council Policy L-6 for this project could jeopardize the future of this pedestrian scenic corridor. We want the corridor to be more like a park than just a sidewalk. However, we support this waiver request for the "hardscape" with the condition that a landscape plan be submitted for approval by the PB&R Commission. It is important that the 3309 right of way can be redesigned with landscape to better suit the scenic walkway.