San Mateo County Harbor District

Memo

To: Timi Vann

NOAA West Coordinator

From: Peter Grenet

General Manager

CC: Pietro Parravano, Harbor Commissioner

Robert Johnson, Harbor Master

Date: 9/3/2010

Re: Information regarding SMCHD proposed multi-agency, multi-use

development at Pillar Point Harbor, Perched Beach Site

Timi,

I much appreciated meeting you and discussing, however briefly, our plans at Pillar Point Harbor. To follow up, as per our discussion following the "Building Relationships" Decision Support Workshop at SFO last Tuesday, August 31st, attached is information concerning the Harbor District's planning effort to diversify the harbor's economic base and respond positively to participate in federal and state ocean conservation, planning, research, and information dissemination activities. The Harbor Commission has designated this effort as a top priority for the District.

Attached are the following:

- 1. A regional photo-map showing Pillar Point and Long Beach, CA, to assist you in geographic orientation.
- 2. A map locating Pillar Point Harbor (just next to Half Moon Bay Airport) relative to San Francisco and SFO.
- 3. A map locating the Harbor and the development site relative to the City of Half Moon Bay and neighboring communities.

- 4. An aerial photo of Pillar Point Harbor (PPH) showing the development site, which is visible as the unimproved area just beyond the pier and paved parking lots.
- 5. A map of the inner harbor showing the Perched Beach site, our recommended route to San Mateo County for Coastal Trail improvements, and an approximate location for the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary's San Mateo Coast Visitor Center. The Sanctuary's working group identified the Harbor as the preferred site for the center after a one-year planning effort. (See attached concept plan for the visitor center.)
- 6. Same map identifying the overall Perched Beach development site.
- 7. A colored site plan and possible building and parking layout. NOTE: This is NOT necessarily a preferred or final layout. This was done to identify potential building footprint area (County zoning provides for a 28 ft. height limit, enabling two-story construction), and to determine that adequate parking area would be possible given County parking requirements (it is adequate). NOTE ON USES: Regarding the Sanctuary Visitor Center, we are actively working with the Sanctuary to bring this project to fruition. The <u>Harbor District</u> site is area that would accommodate the District's relocated Administration Office. It is now in rented quarters in South San Francisco. Relocation to District property will eliminate rental expenses and facility District administration. This office could be accommodated in a two-story structure, thus providing for more building area for other uses. Potential tenant rental space is an initial minimum estimate of potentially available space for development, for NWS, other NOAA activities, State collaborative fisheries research organization, and similar possibilities. That area could accommodate two story construction, the boat haul-out, if not implemented, could provide more (see next), and the Harbor office could have a smaller footprint as mentioned above. The boat haul-out, for which area is shown, is by no means a final designated use. An economic feasibility study commissioned by the District concluded that such a facility is not feasible economically at Pillar Point. If in fact a haul-out is not placed there, that area could be available for additional other development. The kayak access area will accept an existing kayak rental business now located at the other end of the site, and which will be relocated to the area shown.
 - 8. Another map of the Perched Beach site showing the protective bulkhead and public access path in a bit more detail. Engineering plans for the bulkhead, which takes into account current projections for sea level rise as used by the State Lands Commission and the Coastal Commission, are well underway. (The dock Lands Commission are a possible long term improvement that is not currently and berths shown are a possible long term improvement that is not currently contemplated, but will await changes in the economy and boating market.) The bulkhead improvements are being designed for the District by Winzler & Kelly Engineers of San Francisco.

- The Sanctuary Visitor Center Concept Plan. While substantial, it does show the extent of the Sanctuary's effort on a project that is ready for implementation.
- 10. Regarding the visitor center, we have been in contact with Sanctuary Supt. Maria Brown, Dy. Supt. Brian Johnson, Education Coordinator Carol Preston, and Rosita Adams of NOAA/Seattle. Re: National Weather Service, our contact is Dave Reynolds, NWS Director in Monterey. We've also been in touch with Becky Smyth, NOAA West Coast Regional Division Chief. Re: the State Ocean Smyth, NOAA West Coast Regional Division Chief. Re: the State Ocean Protection Council-funded new collaborative fisheries research organization, we are in contact with Neal Fishman and Cina Loarie at OPC, and new CFRO director Pete Nelson.
 - 11. To further facilitate the planning effort, we have contacted the State Coastal Conservancy regarding project implementation funding assistance. The Conservancy has indicated their interest in project implementation. We have identified our Perched Beach development as a top priority for the District.
 - 12. We have also been in touch with the Coastal Commission regarding environmental assessment questions. We are now considering moving to undertake a program EIR (an EIS/EIR if needed) to get a handle on overall project area environmental concerns. While the bulkhead design is well along as a project component, other elements are obviously not as well defined; hence a program EIR could provide a useful umbrella that would enable progress but provide for flexibility in dealing with later components.
 - 13. We have brought the Perched Beach development to the attention of our Congressional Representative, Anna Eshoo, and have toured the site with her Washington and District staff.
 - 14. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this effort further with you and show you the site, if you are in the area. Also, we understand that NWS and Sanctuary, and Ms. Smyth are likely to be conferring on it as well in the near future. We are ready to work with you on this, and provide more information as you may desire.
 - 15. Lastly, as I mentioned, I'll be moderating a panel at the Working Waterfronts Symposium in Portland, Maine, during Sept. 27-30th. I hope to obtain much information from others active in sustaining and development their working waterfronts, that could be of use in our Pillar Point endeavor.

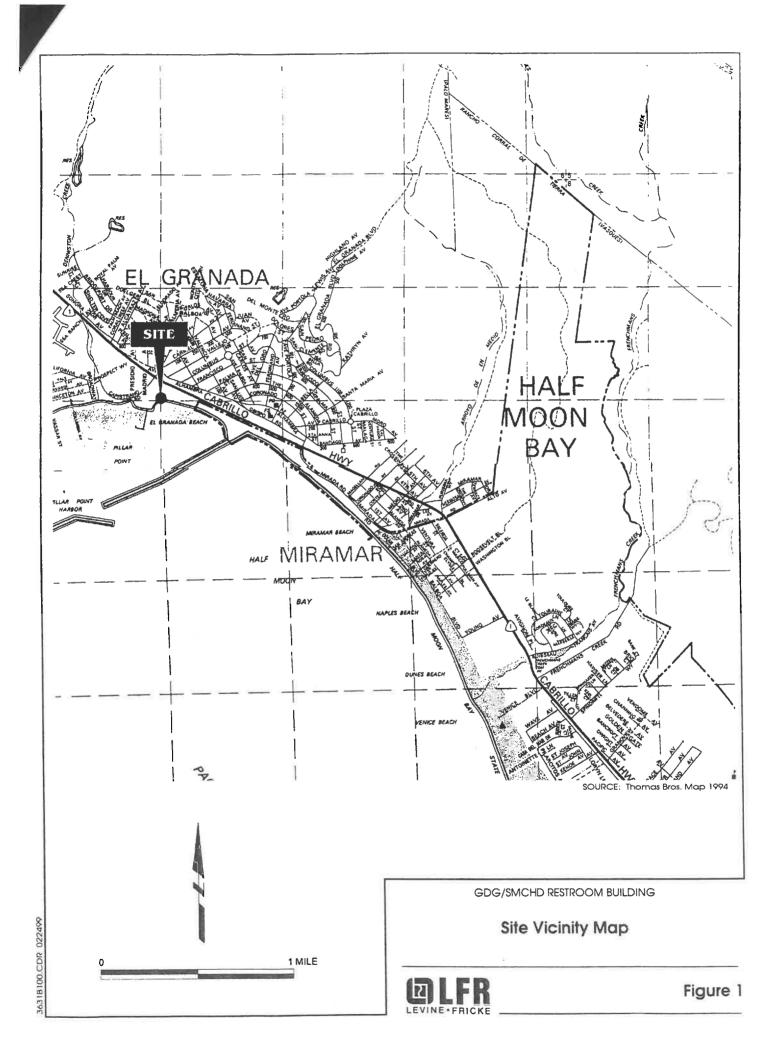


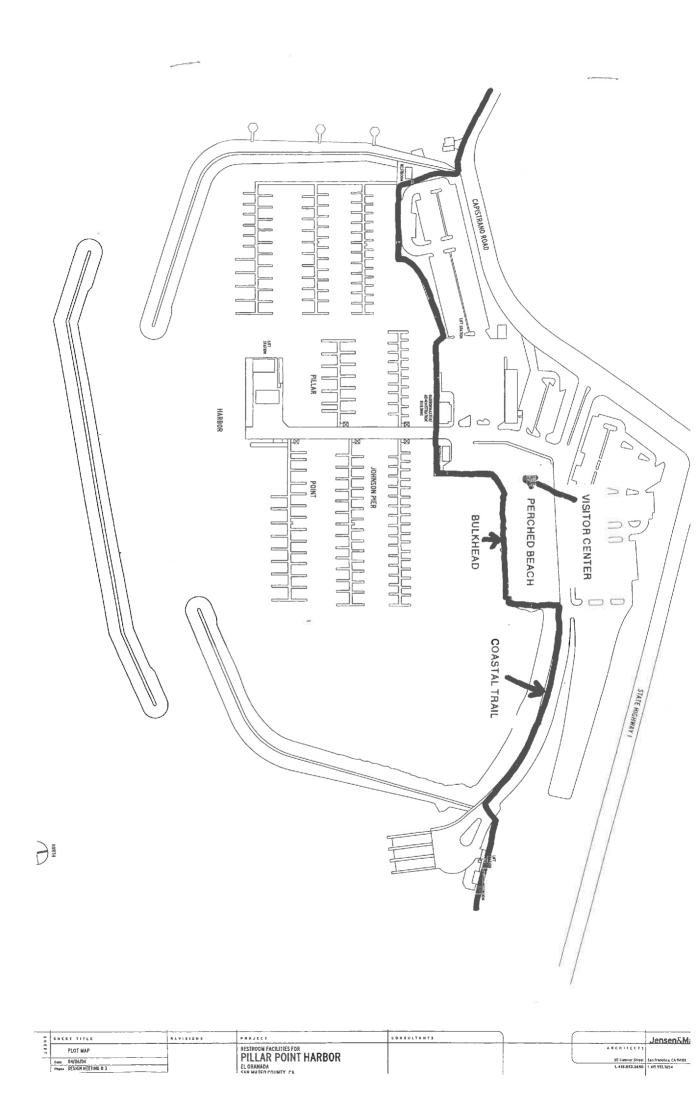


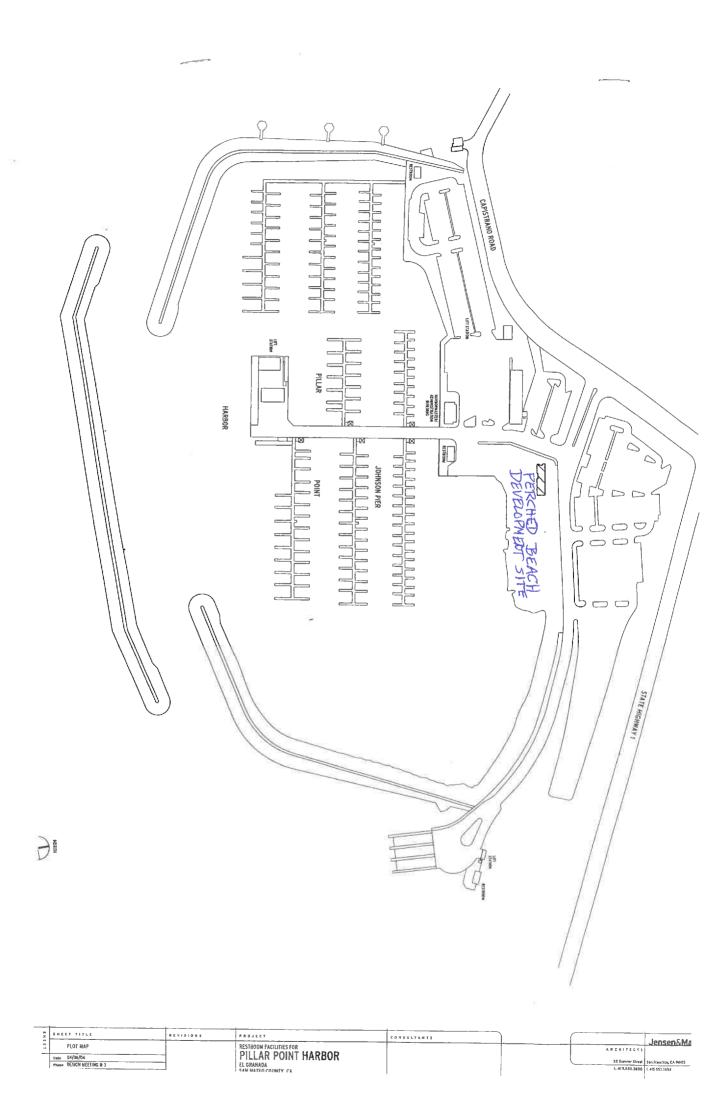
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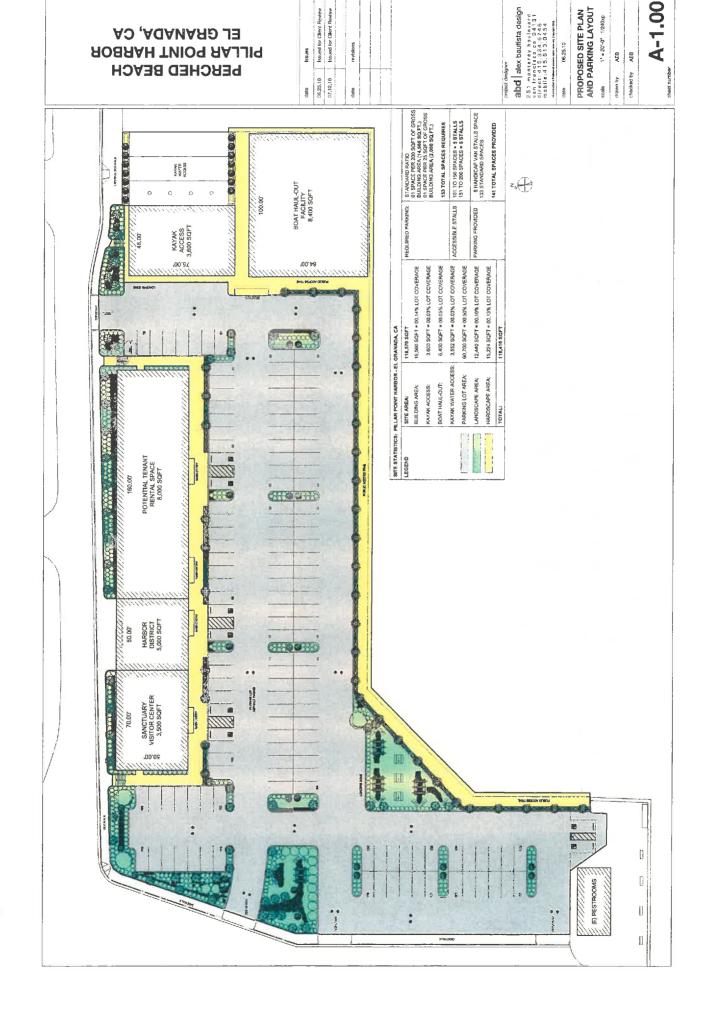


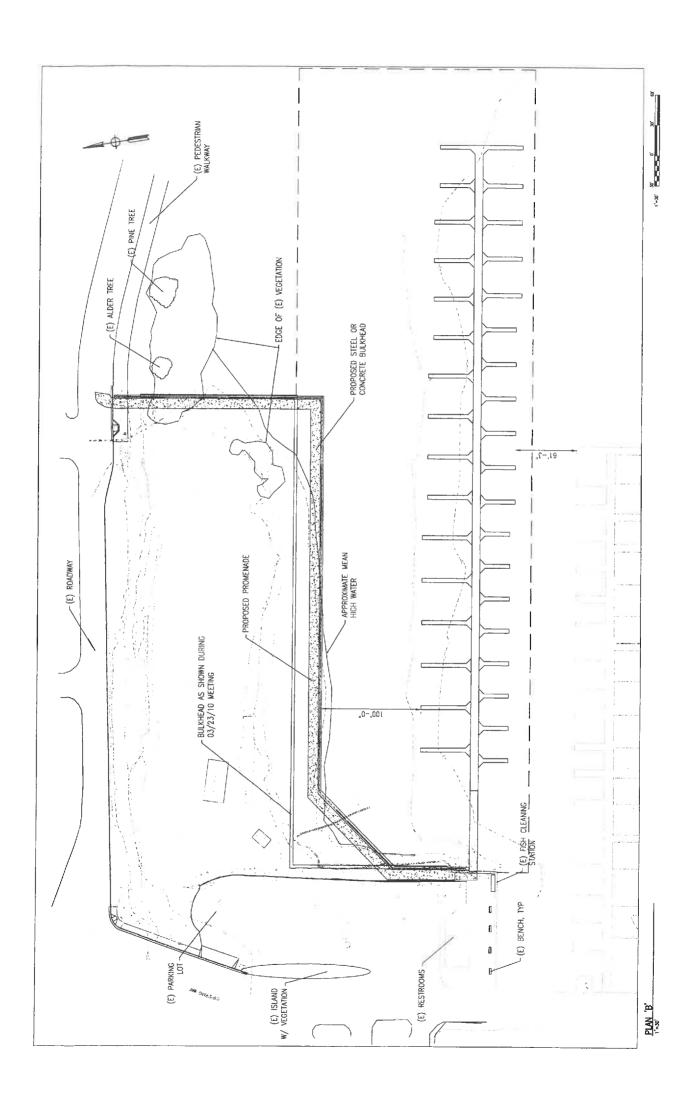












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