

December 17, 2014

To: Long Beach City Council

Re: Bluff Park Erosion Control Project – Bluff Restoration

From: Joe Geever

The photos below are taken at the **Redondo Beach Bluff Restoration Project**. Links to more information about the project can be seen at:

<http://www.urbanwildlands.org/bbrp.html> and

<http://www.usc.edu/org/cosee-west/Feb262011/Beach%20bluff%20restoration%20sum.pdf>

This project is at Avenue H and Esplanade, south of the Redondo Pier. The person I have spoken with is Ann Dalkey who was involved in the planning and implementation of the project. She is now working at the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. See:

<http://www.pvplc.org/about/contact.asp>

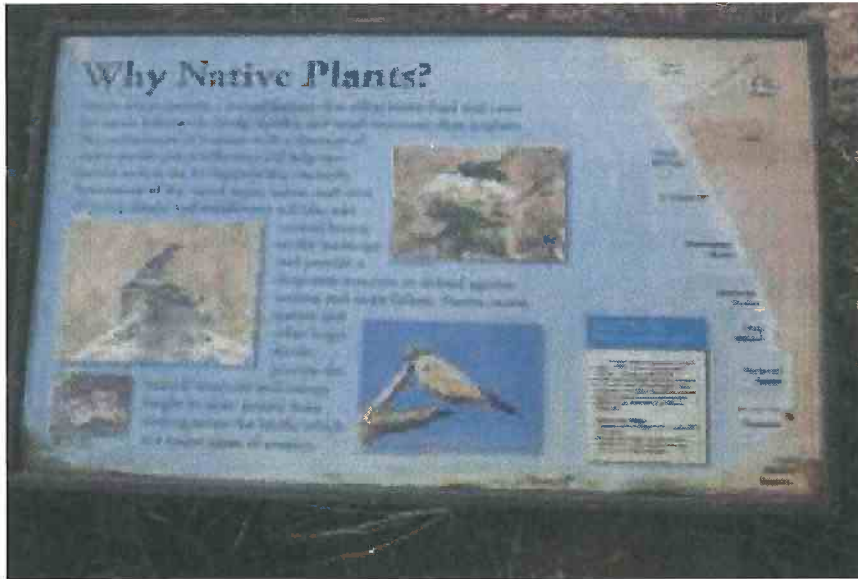
Ann can provide answers to many questions about re-grading and re-vegetation of the beach bluffs at Bluff Park – including costs and benefits.

1. The vegetation is looking pretty tired after this long historic drought. But after the recent rain, it's already starting to come out of dormancy – an incredible natural adaptation to the harsh climate and beach environment. **It certainly shows that, the bluffs are not naturally bare. And if you plant vegetation that is native to these bluffs it will survive, stabilize the bluff and provide the habitat and natural processes protected by State and City law.**
2. You can also see fencing to keep people from climbing. You'll see that the stairways are much farther apart there – creating more of a problem. But **the fence in mid-bluff has eliminated the climbing problem.** (The fence could be made more attractive).



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3. They have added five important interpretive signs about the bluffs. **I'm including a photo of one that summarizes the reason behind the laws adopted 40 years ago to preserve natural beach bluffs (both State law and the Long Beach Local Coastal Plan). It's a nice summary of the unique and threatened natural processes, habitat and wildlife.** And I'm adding one of some birds we saw feeding at the toe of the bluff yesterday – really cool shore birds.



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4. These are a couple photos of the shotcrete at Pleasure Point in Santa Cruz – the only project in the State with “planter pockets” on a beach bluff. **The planter pockets did not work and no landscaping has survived after 5 years.** These planters are 6-7 feet long and roughly 2 feet at the widest point. You’ll also see why that project was finally approved: the bluff is nearly vertical and exposed to wave erosion – causing imminent threat to water, sewer and electrical services and a street within a few feet of the bluff top. **That is NOT the circumstances here in Bluff Park.**



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