

The Peninsula Pelican

The official newsletter of the Peninsula Beach Preservation Group

"Serving the Peninsula community since 1966"



Dear Peninsula Neighbors,

I hope you are all enjoying your summer. It is going by so quickly. Summertime on the peninsula is such a wonderful experience. The sail boats on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the kite boarders, the band concerts, the Junior Lifeguards, the children playing on the bay, the walkers on the Boardwalk are but some of the delightful experiences we enjoy.

The 4th of July is always a fun and challenging time. I have had various reports – some good and some less than good. Your Board will be following up with the Fire and Police Departments to assess the level of service this year. If you have any comments you would like considered, please email to PBPGcontact@AOL.com

The band concerts are in full swing and we are all enjoying them. Stevie Anderson works year after year getting the bands, making arrangements with the City and ABYC. Thank you so much Stevie for all

the hard work that goes into these events. The t-shirts are almost gone, so hurry to get yours if you do not have one.

We have met with City representatives on the parking across your own driveway topic. That initiative is moving forward on a city-wide basis in all impacted parking areas.

Security at 72nd Place continues to be an issue. Board representatives continue to work with residents and City so that we can speak with one voice regarding possible solutions.

Beach erosion, the breakwater, beach maintenance and the median continue to be items with which the Board is involved.

As always, please contact me with any issues and concerns you may have.

Jeanne Muench
President
PBPGcontact@aol.com



3rd District Council Office update from Councilman Gary DeLong

Infrastructure Bond: As of this writing, all of the details of the Infrastructure Bond are not clear. However, the question is “are Long Beach residents interested in assessing themselves a tax to fix all of the streets, sidewalks, alleys, storm drains, police stations, fire stations, etc. that need fixing?”

I have not taken a position on this issue yet, and won't until more details are finalized and I have much more input from the community, but I think it is a question well worth debating. City staff has made significant progress in the last couple of years attempting to focus on infrastructure needs. The good news is that the City is doing more than ever before, the bad news is it is unlikely we will never catch up unless a new revenue source is identified.

Proposition 11 – California Voters First Act (Redistricting): The current redistricting process provides for “safe” seats for both Democrats and Republicans at the State and Federal level. As a result, the “far left” and the “far right” often win elections because they only need to cater to their political party rather than constituents all along the political spectrum, thus creating partisan gridlock. This gridlock can prevent our elected officials from effectively addressing issues such as the state budget, health care and education. The current redistricting reform proposal is Proposition 11. Many believe the current process allows politicians to choose their voters by drawing district lines almost guaranteed to preserve the jobs of incumbents. Proposition 11 is an effort to create a system where the voters would choose the politicians.

If this proposition passes, the “map-drawing” authority will move from the state legislature to a 14 member Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Upcoming Events:

AUGUST 3rd

Flight

(this is not the same band as Flight 6875. We have had this band before!)

AUGUST 24th

Big Box of Men

(everyone wanted this band back for this year!)

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Donna Hilbert has lived in our neighborhood here on the Peninsula for many years. A graduate from California State University at Long Beach, she has published several books of poetry and collections of stories. They include *Transforming Matter*, *Feathers and Dust*, *Deep Red and Mansions*. Her most recent book is *Traveler in Paradise: New and Selected Poems*, a collection of poetry from Pearl Editions. In 1994 she won the Staple First Edition writing award for publications she had done in England where she frequently travels. She is currently at work on a novel and is also collaborating with filmmaker Christine Fugate on a trilogy of films of which the first is *Grief Becomes Me*, which is based on her poems.

A collection of Donna's Poems dedicated to our life here on the Peninsula:



PENINSULA, LONG BEACH

On this beach the days are mild, evenings cool.
 Wind kicks up at three, unvaried as bread
 sliced from a single loaf. I read
 the seasons by the setting sun: summer's spool
 hidden by high rise, and then, the slow pull
 toward Catalina. By fall, the sun beds
 down in open ocean, un-obscured
 except by cruise and cargo ships schooled
 before the port. Neighbors say Upton Sinclair
 left Pasadena to summer on this beach.
 I wonder how he conjured slaughter
 houses—the severed flesh, the stench—in air
 so sweet? Did suffering stay within his reach
 While dolphins leapt and sun melted to water?



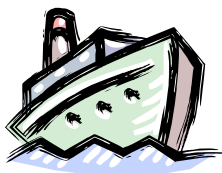
FOG IN MORNING

She says, lone pelican in the sea,
 the sea that looks like air.
 He says, I see a trace
 of breakwater's eastern shore.
 No, she says, it's more
 romantic to see one pelican.



SALT

Sun comes out
 in time to set
 along our coast in spring.
 Sand sea sky
 edges fray in fog
 at night our dreams
 The color of salt.



SOUTH FACING BEACH

In the silver light of winter
 cargo ships and sail boats
 shadow Catalina
 and in the foreground
 a pod of pewter dolphin slice
 the water heading west.
 If I were a painter I would call this day
Study in Silver and Blue.



BEACH AFTER RAIN

A Royal Palm still green
 with life, reclining goddess
 festooned in bamboo
 washed from the riverbed,
 now lies amid garlands of seaweed
 pulled from the deep.
 And, laced in fronds and spears,
 the jetsam of human use:
 tennis balls, oil cans, cans, sandals,
 and Styrofoam
 intermittent like melting snow.

Peninsula Improvement:

UNDERGROUND UTILITY CAMPAIGN:

The Petition signature effort is in the final phase and success is within reach. If any Owner would like to sign who has not had the opportunity to do so please e-mail: WDMLSM@HOTMAIL.COM and you will be contacted. Please leave a name, phone number and address where you can be reached.

Code Violation Issues for the Peninsula:

GARAGE PARKING:

Primary use of residential garages in parking impacted areas is for parking automobiles. Using garages for other primary purposes other than parking automobiles is a code violation in the City of Long Beach and open to fines.

HOME BUSINESS OPERATION:

No one other than a resident of a dwelling can conduct business in that dwelling and no more than two residents of that dwelling can be employed or otherwise engaged in the business. No blocking of residential use parking spaces can be blocked by business vehicles nor residential parking spaces blocked by business storage. Non compliance is a Code Violation of the City of Long Beach and is open to fines.

BEACH AND SIDEWALK CLEANING:

Sidewalks will only be cleaned on Tuesdays this summer due to budget cuts!

Beaches will be cleaned only on Tuesdays and Thursdays this summer due to budget cuts!

*If tents, toys, boats, etc. are blocking the cleaning process the one driver will not be moving or removing them to clean the beach so please take your toys and tents down after use so the rest of the Peninsula can get

On Water Quality

The best way to monitor current ratings for water quality in Alamitos Bay and the Ocean side is through the Long Beach City web site. Simply logon to: www.longbeach.gov > then to the Health tab > then to Services > to Recreational Water Monitoring > Water Quality Program. From here current sampling results are available; and there is a web link to Heal the Bay website for a very illustrative graphic depicting the current health status on all Southern California beaches. Unfortunately, as of this writing, due to a one time vandalism act at Marine Stadium there were several beach closure warnings in effect for various beaches in Alamitos Bay. However, this should not be an ongoing issue.

Security:

Crime statistics for the most recent reporting period (March 2008) show zero crimes on the Peninsula. However, in the section of Belmont Shore adjacent to us 1 rape, 1 robbery, 2 auto burglaries, 3 petty thefts and 2 auto thefts were reported. Naples also had bike and petty thefts plus a robbery and a burglary. However, this week just after the 4th of July weekend, there have been six bike thefts reported by residents. Among the many visitors to the Peninsula over the weekend, some may have noted unsecured bicycles and returned to steal them. Curfew violations (minors on the street after 10PM) have also been reported on the Peninsula which may contribute to some of the thefts. Unfortunately, we need to take more precautions and make sure that valuables in and out of our houses/garages are secured against theft. The Police Department is very responsive but we need to call and report each problem, including curfew violations.

For those of you concerned about speeding on Ocean Blvd., we have implemented the only solution which was approved by the Peninsula Survey and that is signs with 25MPH placed on the street. For those of you that refuse to slow down, please drive on the inner (next to the median) lane so at least you can see and be seen by those attempting to cross the street or exiting from a side street or an alley. The City is looking at a modification to an existing ordinance which covers the issuing of permits to allow legal parking in our own driveways. The ordinance will cover a long strip of Long Beach from the east end to downtown and extending several blocks inland and therefore, requires considerable coordination among the many residential and business groups affected. Again, we are using the results of the 2008 Survey to provide input from the Peninsula. Remember, WE are responsible for the security of our neighborhood. The PD will respond but we need to notify them of real or potential problems that we see. Call 435-6711 for non-emergency occurrences and, of course, 911 for emergencies.

If you would like to participate on the Security Committee, please contact me or the Peninsula e-mail address, PBPGcontact@aol.com. Peter Hogenson Security Chairman, 439-3361

Peninsula Pelican Delivery

To enhance our circulation of the Pelican to all our residents the Board has approved, on a trial basis, to send this Pelican by mail. To do this we were assisted in this process by Barbara Jones, Peninsula Realtor with Coldwell Banker. By this way it is hoped we can get better circulation, and less loss of Pelican Newsletters by wind, rain, etc. If you have comments plus or minus, we'd like to hear from you. Please email these to PBPGcontact@aol.com
Pelican Editor: Phil Osterlind

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**

The most recent comprehensive report on the results of a >7.2 earthquake on the San Andreas fault that recently was published said that, among other major problems, we could be without a source of water for up to six months and that major roads within and leading out of the LA basin could be blocked. We probably need to rethink our current plan of having a 3-5 day supply of water, food, medicines, etc.

The Peninsula CERT is still working with LBFD CERT and the Fire Fighters Union on organizing a pancake breakfast in the Fall to demonstrate the need for and equipment/supplies required for emergency preparedness. We are continuing our Tuesday night (7:30) radio check-in to help maintain our communication skills and to determine limitations of the FRS radios that we use. We need more trained neighbors to help residents of the Peninsula in an emergency so please contact either of the following leaders by way of the Peninsula e-mail at PBPGcontact@aol.com if you are willing to join us.

Christie Peck, PBPG CERT Director

Peter Hogenson, Peninsula CERT

KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING; final concert schedule !!!

- ▶ AUGUST 3rd Concert with Flight (this is not the same band as Flight 6875. We have had this band before!)
- ▶ AUGUST 24th Concert with Big Box of Men (everyone wanted this band back for this year!)

I would like to thank everyone who has sent in donations for our concerts. Without your support the Peninsula would not be able to have these special events. I hope you will continue to support this unique Summer tradition. To send donations mail to PBPG at PO Box 3535, Long Beach CA 90803

Thank You: Stevie Anderson, Concert Chairperson

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Newsletter

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