



July 21, 2016

Ursula Luna-Reynosa, Director  
Community Development Department  
City of Dana Point  
33841 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, CA 92629

**Re: Local Coastal Program Amendment LCPA16-0001 and Zone Test Amendment ZTA16-0001,  
July 25, 2016 Agenda Item 4**

Dear Ms. Luna-Reynosa;

On behalf of the Strand Homeowners Association, I have had an opportunity to review the referenced Draft LCPA which accompanied the Notice of Availability dated July 5, 2016. Although the use of gates on trails throughout the Headlands project, including the Mid-Strand Access and Central Strand Access, were authorized in the HDCP as originally approved and similar gates are utilized daily at the Headlands Conservation Park without issue, the proposed Amendment text adds language to the Local Coastal Program to clarify that gates would be utilized to enforce the approved hours of operation for the Mid-Strand Access and Central Strand Access, as required in the Settlement Agreement between the City of Dana Point and the California Coastal Commission.

The use of gates to control after-hours access is appropriate and strongly supported by Strand residents and the Homeowners Association. As it is now, without gates, there are typically 8-15 people trespassing during the non-operational hours each night and we continue to deal with reports of vandalism, graffiti, theft and similar crimes. Trespassers were recently cited by a sheriff deputy for climbing over a fence into a construction site at 10:45 PM (Incident Report 16-158363) and were apprehended before any vandalism or theft occurred.

I've also attached letters citing significant crimes which have occurred on the beach and on community property including drug smuggling operations, human smuggling operations, and felony vandalism. We concur with the staff recommendation and request the Commission approve the LCPA and ZTA. Thank you for your consideration.

Strand Homeowners Association

Kevin Darnall, President

Attachments

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Keystone Pacific Property Management, Inc.

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## THE STRAND

AT HEADLANDS

October 28, 2015

Mayor Olvera and City Council  
City of Dana Point  
33282 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, CA 92629

**Re: CDP15-0021**

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers;

We received the public notice of the hearing to consider the hours of operation for the coastal access trails serving Strand Beach, including the Mid-Strand Access. In prior correspondence and commentary, Coastal Commission staff and others have questioned the need for lockable gates at the trailheads to control after-hours access. They have also suggested such access should remain open at all times. What they may not know, and what we would like to bring to your attention, is that within the past five years there have been two separate smuggling boats that have anchored on Strand Beach. This presents a serious public safety issue for Strand residents, as well as for other Dana Point citizens. We have attached newspaper articles and photos that detail these events.

In 2011, a boat carrying 740 pounds of marijuana landed on the Strand Beach, directly below the Strand Beach Club at approximately 5:00-6:30 am. Federal, State and local authorities searched the Strand community for several hours looking for the drug smugglers. The smugglers apparently climbed over the fence to escape, and hid in the homes that were under construction. Later, three smugglers were apprehended in the Strand Vista Park public restrooms.

A second incident involved an illegal alien smuggling operation. The boat was smuggling some 17 illegal aliens, and landed at the south end of Strand Beach at approximately 1:00 am. The aliens ran up the South Strand stairway and into a van that was waiting at the top of the stairs. Fortunately, the Border Patrol had the van under surveillance and apprehended the aliens and the smugglers on Selva Road.

As the attached articles indicate, such smuggling operations present significant safety issues for the coast of Southern California, in general, and the beaches of Dana Point, in particular. As such, we strongly urge the City Council to incorporate gates, similar to those recently approved by the Coastal Commission in Malibu, into the Mid-Strand access path.

Sincerely,

Headlands Reserve LLC

Sanford Edward



## Boat with 740 pounds of pot washes ashore

By SEAN EMERY

2011-04-04 18:09:08

DANA POINT – Authorities discovered 740 pounds of marijuana on a boat that ran ashore in Dana Point on Monday morning but are searching for the people involved in the smuggling operation, Border Patrol officials said.

The panga-style boat washed up on the beach about 6 a.m., an hour after it was first seen traveling northbound in the ocean off San Clemente, Border Patrol agent Jerry Conlin said.

No one was on the boat when authorities arrived, Conlin said, but several bundles of marijuana were left behind.

The 740.69 pounds of marijuana is estimated to have a street value of about \$444,000, Conlin said.

Authorities are searching for the boat's occupants, Conlin said, as well as anyone else involved in the smuggling operation.

The U.S. Border Patrol in recent months has increased its presence in Orange County in order to combat a rise in the smuggling of people and drugs by sea. Authorities believe that tighter scrutiny at the border has led to a rise in the ocean routes.

**Contact the writer:** 714-796-7939 or [semery@ocregister.com](mailto:semery@ocregister.com)

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THE ORANGE COUNTY BETA  
**REGISTER**

## 17 immigrants from boat taken into custody

By SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

2010-06-10 09:57:03

DANA POINT – Seventeen people have been taken into custody by the Border Patrol after authorities spotted them disembarking from a panga boat that had run ashore and getting into a van, authorities said.

Officials from the Border Patrol's Coastal Border Enforcement team first spotted a suspicious van in the area at about 1 a.m. and began following it, said Daryl Reed, spokesman for the agency.

Agents saw the van head toward the beach at Pacific Coast Highway and Selva Road, and that's when they saw the panga – a speedy, lightweight, flat-bottomed boat popularized in Baja California – heading toward the shore, Reed said.

More than a dozen people climbed aboard the van before Border Patrol agents stopped it within a mile from the beach, Reed said.

Officials have taken 17 people into custody and officials were checking their immigration status as of Thursday afternoon, he said.

At 4:30 a.m., Border Patrol officials requested the help of the sheriff's Harbor Patrol to take the boat from shore, said Lt. Jim England of the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

**Contact the writer:** [shernandez@ocregister.com](mailto:shernandez@ocregister.com) 949-454-7361

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November 3, 2015

Mayor Olvera and City Council  
City of Dana Point  
33282 Golden Lantern  
Dana Point, CA 92629

**Re: CDP15-0021; Agenda Item 11**

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers;

In his letter of October 30, 2015, Karl Schwing of the California Coastal Commission questions the use of gates to control after-hours pedestrian access through the Strand residential neighborhood. He also states that the proposed hours of operation for the Mid-Strand and Central Strand access (one-hour before sunrise to one-hour after sunset) are unjustified.

One example why gates are necessary to control access is to prevent property crime, including vandalism. We have had several dozen instances of graffiti tagging and other vandalism on the public trails system within and outside the Strand residential neighborhood. These crimes have been reported and documented with the OC Sheriff. I'd like to focus on a couple of instances (the most recent being within the last 48 hours) where the damages were in excess of a thousand dollars.

As shown on the attached photos, a perimeter gate/wall that surrounds the South Strand residential neighborhood, was tagged by vandals going off-trail from the Hilltop Park. We have the damage is estimated to be in excess of \$1,200. A police report (#15-246920) was filed today with the Orange County Sheriff.

Similarly, back in November 2010, the perimeter wall for the North Strand residential neighborhood was also extensively tagged as shown in the second set of photos. This wall was accessed by vandals leaving the South Strand Beach Access trail. Sandblasting was necessary to eradicate the graffiti from this location, and with the repainting, the total repair cost was \$1,340.

Currently, both the Hilltop Park trail and the South Strand Beach access trails are closed after sunset. However, neither trail has gates to prevent after-hours access at night. Thus, there was an opportunity for the vandalism to occur as noted above.

To minimize the potential for graffiti, vandalism and other property crimes from occurring in and around the Strand homes within the residential neighborhoods, the Mid-Strand and Central Strand Beach access trails require the access to be closed at night and the use of gates, as has been previously authorized in the Headlands Development and Conservation Plan as well as the Master CDP approved for the project.

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Mayor and City Council  
November 3, 2015  
Page 2

Should someone wish to access Strand Beach when the Mid-Strand and Central Strand trail are closed, the North and South Beach access trails are not gated, and both have ample public parking, beach showers and beach restrooms as public amenities.

Sincerely;  
The Strand Homeowner Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Darnall', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kevin Darnall, Secretary

Attachments

1. COPIES TO:  
Dana Point

2. CASE NO. 15-246920

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
ORANGE COUNTY  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

SANDRA HUTCHENS, SHERIFF-CORONER

REPORT CONTINUATION

On 11-03-15, at about 1530 hours, I was dispatched to Shoreline Drive and Seabreeze Terrace reference a report of vandalism. I arrived at the location and made contact with Kevin Darnall [REDACTED] who is a representative of the property owner Headlands Reserve LLC. Kevin told me the following:

Between 11-01-15 and 11-03-15 at 0900 hours, an unknown suspect(s) spray painted graffiti on Headlands Reserve LLC property. The graffiti was mostly in blue and black spray paint and covered the property exterior wall and wooden gate near the intersection of Shoreline Drive and Seabreeze Terrace. Kevin estimated the graffiti caused \$1200.00 in damage and told me Headlands Reserve LLC desires prosecution for vandalism.

I took ten photographs of the graffiti located on the wall and gate. The wooden gate is about seven feet tall and ten feet high. Kevin also told me about other graffiti located in the area of Scenic Drive and Green Lantern which I also photographed. I placed these images onto a compact disk and booked it into evidence at the Aliso Viejo Sub-Station.

33. INVESTIGATING OFFICERS	REPORT BY C. Eiben #5095	DATE OF REPORT 11/3/15	APPROVED SGT. M. DANCULESCU 12085
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SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
ORANGE COUNTY  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

SANDRA HUTCHENS, SHERIFF-CORONER

REPORT CONTINUATION

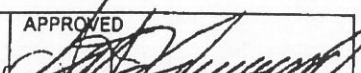
**Details:**

On Saturday 11/27/10, at approximately 1300 hours, I was working my assigned uniformed patrol position in the city of Dana Point. I responded to the guard kiosk at the Strands at Headlands Development at Ocean Front Drive and Selva Road regarding vandalism. I spoke to the security guard, Sean Mark Payan (8/20/91). Payan told me an unknown citizen approached the kiosk this morning at about 0900 hours and reported graffiti on the brick wall next to the vacant homesite (Homesite #1), facing the South Strand Trail. Payan said he was on duty until 2000 hours last night and did not see any graffiti in the community.

I drove into the development and jumped over the wall to see the graffiti. The graffiti was written in orange, red and green spray paint. The graffiti included the following words, symbols and monikers: "T4H", "SOC", "DP", "OC", "949", "SERK", "SUMB", "DANA POINT", and "CAPS."

I took seven digital photographs of the graffiti and later submitted the disc to Sheriff's Identification at the Aliso Viejo Sub-Station.

I notified Kevin Darnell at the Headlands, LLC and forwarded him the photographs of the graffiti. I also notified Dana Point City Engineer Matt Sinacori and Code Enforcement Officer Sandra Fiebing since the graffiti was visible from the South Strand Trail.

33. INVESTIGATING OFFICERS	REPORT BY Deputy D. Cappel #3851	DATE OF REPORT 11/27/10	APPROVED 
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WALL

SOCIAL  
WALL

WALL



Handwritten text in Devanagari script, likely a religious or philosophical passage. The text is written in red ink on a light-colored background. The script is highly stylized and appears to be a form of shorthand or a specific dialect. The text is arranged in several lines, with some characters being larger and more prominent than others. The overall appearance is that of a handwritten manuscript or a page from a book.

Handwritten text in Devanagari script, likely a religious or philosophical passage. The text is written in green ink on a light-colored background. The script is highly stylized and appears to be a form of shorthand or a specific dialect. The text is arranged in several lines, with some characters being larger and more prominent than others. The overall appearance is that of a handwritten manuscript or a page from a book.