

To: Dana Point City Council and City Manager

From: Toni Nelson, Capo Cares

Re: Agenda Item #16 - Long Term Financial Plan / Budget Priorities – Unfunded Capital Improvement And Facilities Projects

I am unable to attend the Council meeting this evening but would like to weigh in on Agenda Item 16. There are a number of unfunded projects that I believe should be top priorities in Dana Point:

**Pines Park Bowl resurrection:** The Pines Park "Bowl" was a beautiful, accessible viewing area with a gazebo and gardens that was neglected by the County and eventually destroyed in the 1960s. Since then it has become a "dust bowl", home to rodents and occasional trespassing kids who love to launch bikes (quite dangerously, actually) off the 1920s footing at the top of the park or run remote control cars over small hills and gullies. This is a large, *incredibly valuable* public lot with priceless panoramic views. Can you imagine two tiers of fireworks' viewing, two tiers of access for public events like Easter Egg Hunts, Christmas parties or Veterans' Day ceremonies, plus two tiers of public access for picnics, walking and recreation *every day*? Restoring public access to this iconic area would benefit the entire city and add significant new park space to our town. It's time!

**Infrastructure Improvements along PCH:** Capistrano Beach is the only area in the City that lacks sidewalks along a major thoroughfare. This is a basic improvement that should be a top priority, especially since the renovated Seaside Inn will soon be completed. I believe this improvement would encourage development along the rest of the PCH corridor in Capo Beach which will benefit the entire city. I would love to see medians similar to those in Monarch Beach along this thoroughfare. It would tie both ends of the city together with one cohesive theme and would significantly calm traffic along this corridor.

**General Beautification of public medians and right of ways:** Dana Point is known for its amazingly beautiful coastal views. I think we can also be known for our well-kept, beautiful public thoroughfares, parks, medians and right of ways. I'm always impressed with the beautiful landscaping throughout the City of Mission Viejo. They have consistently high standards for beautification of public roadways and streets throughout the city. I think Dana Point can have the double blessing of gorgeous views and landscaping. Let's start by hiring a full time employee who is a landscape architect or at least a master gardener with public experience, or perhaps purchase such services through an annual consulting contract. We have so many areas that could be improved with mulch, better drainage and/or sprinkler systems and better choices of drought tolerant, site appropriate plantings. I think we would actually save money long term on this investment in expertise by simply planting the right things in the right places and taking care of them with mulch, fertilizer and the right sprinkler systems. There is a huge disparity between some areas of the city that are beautiful (entrances along Golden Lantern, PCH in Monarch Beach, Del Prado area) and others that simply don't meet the same standards but where small improvements would make a huge difference. I'd love to see a more consistent, high standard throughout the city and I think a good start would be to hire a person or consultant who can give advice and help set priorities for such improvements.

Thank you to the Sub Committee for considering these suggestions.

Best regards, Toni Nelson

Agenda Item No. 16  
11/15/22

## Shayna Sharke

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**From:** Jane Horlings <janehorlings@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2022 9:51 AM  
**To:** Comment  
**Subject:** Use of Pines Park "Dust Bowl"

Hello;

I join Capo Cares/Toni Nelson and likely many other residents to encourage you to do something beautiful, functional and significant with the Pines Park "Dust Bowl." Just the other day I walked by it with a friend from out of town and she was struck by the stark contrast between our beautiful and useful park and this useless and rather ugly "bowl."

I am the person who leads the "Gazebo Gardeners"-- Capo Beach residents who gather monthly to work on the Palisades Gazebo rose garden. We trim, fertilize, weed and prune the roses so they look nice year round. Our Capo Beach residents enjoy our roses, our gardeners love helping to beautify our neighborhood and our iconic Gazebo. Every day when I walk by the Gazebo, I see residents young and old enjoying the view. Bikes are parked, conversations are sparked and the roses, the view and sunset are appreciated.

The Gazebo is a meeting place... like Pines Park. We should invest in the future of our neighborhood and do SOMETHING to change this desolate Pines Park "bowl" into something useful, beautiful, and iconic-- matching our wonderful neighborhood!

Jane Horlings  
34640 Camino Capistrano  
Capistrano Beach CA  
9499-322-8282

Agenda Item No. 10  
11/15/22

## Shayna Sharke

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**From:** Tammy Layton <Keltner116@cox.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2022 1:52 PM  
**To:** Comment  
**Subject:** 10 million \$ wish list

Please do something with the Gazebo over by the Blue Lantern bed and breakfast. It has been behind a fence for a few years now.

Consider putting a better parking garage downtown. Put a parking garage over next to the Marine Institute and then put an elevator in that goes from Blue Lantern down to the harbor

Or.... in some way put an elevator or escalator from Heritage Park or blue lantern down to the harbor making it easier access

Please fix the curving road I believe it's called Cove Road from Chart House going down to the harbor. It needs to have a place for walkers or bicyclists. People are always walking on that road and there isn't enough room for cars to go by. It's only going to get busier and it's just not accommodating to walking or bicycling.

Thank you,

Tammy Layton

Agenda Item No. 10  
11/15/22

**Shayna Sharke**

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**From:** Jeremy Birkinshaw <gbirk101@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2022 9:11 PM  
**To:** Comment  
**Subject:** \$10 million surplus

Please fix the blight that is the pines park dust bowl. Invest in this beautiful property.

Sent from my iPhone

Agenda Item No. 16  
11/15/22



## TIMOTHY MOORE

DEAR JOHN,  
WHAT TO DO WITH DP'S \$10MM  
SURPLUS??

1. BURY ANY STILL ABOVE GROUND  
POWER LINES. START ON  
CHULA VISTA.
2. MAKE SEVERAL LARGE SIGNS FOR  
WALKWAYS AT THE STRAND, THE  
HARBOR AND CREEKSIDE PARK.  
"NO EBIKES ALLOWED. VIOLATORS  
WILL BE PROSECUTED."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE, MILITARY AND  
MUNICIPAL.

Tim Moore