



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center & Gardens

570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100

Los Angeles, California 90065

Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

September 4, 2013

Ms. Elizabeth Shavelson
Public Works Department
City of Malibu
23825 Stuart Ranch Road
Malibu, California 90265

Comments on the City of Malibu Pacific Coast Highway Safety Study

Dear Ms. Shavelson:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) opposes adjusting the cost up for on-street parking areas along the Pacific Coast Highway, as recommended in the Draft Alternatives Analysis Report of the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) Safety Study currently being conducted by the City of Malibu, in collaboration with the Southern California Association of Governments. The MRCA is concerned that the increased costs of on-street parking will discourage the public from accessing beaches along the coast, particularly at our existing and proposed public accessways.

One of the goals of the California Coastal Act of 1976 is to maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the coastal zone. Pursuant to this goal and as one of the objectives of the MRCA to provide recreational resources for the public benefit, we encourage the public to enjoy the beaches along the Malibu coastline through our public accessways. However, our public accessways are typically located in areas where off-street parking is not available, or are not feasible to develop. In order to utilize these accessways free of charge, visitors often park along the PCH where parking is permitted. Putting a price on this free parking is an indirect cost to using such accessways that have historically been free for public use, and will negatively affect the enjoyment of recreational resources currently available to the public.

Should the City pursue the option of paid parking along the PCH, the MRCA highly recommends that the City conduct an environmental review regarding the potentially significant adverse effects to recreational resources, in light of existing and known proposed beach accessways. The City should also assess existing encroachments along the PCH, and analyze how such encroachments are affecting the current safety situation.

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We appreciate your consideration in our concerns. If you have any questions, please contact Judi Tamasi of our staff by phone at (31) 589-3230, ext. 121, or by email at judi.tamasi@mrca.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

George Lange
Chairperson