



**November 12, 2018**

*Re: Los Angeles beach access restriction from midnight to 5 am*

California Coastal Commission  
Dayna Bochco, Chair  
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Bochco,

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), representing 15 Neighborhood and Community Councils across LA City's Westside, supports the Coastal Development Permit which would continue to implement LAMC 66.34 B 14(b), restricting access to beaches from 12 midnight to 5 am. Our Councils have taken this position to each of their boards who have determined the continuation of the Coastal Development Permit to be in the interest of public safety of both beach users and nearby residents. It provides an important mechanism to protect the fragile beach environment as well as the quality of life of those residential neighborhoods along the shore.

We understand that the City of Los Angeles also supports the restriction to beach access from 12 midnight to 5 am. It is of great concern to us that the CA Coastal Commission may dismiss these restrictions, creating corridors of access 24/7 to the water's edge. Not only is this a concern for residents in the coastal communities, but abandonment of this policy is opposed by those responsible for maintaining and securing the beaches including the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles County Beaches & Harbors Department.

We are alarmed to learn that the protection of the shoreline is at risk, and are concerned that the State encroachment on the determinations made by City stakeholders and elected officials to maintain a long-standing restriction to beaches from midnight to 5 am, is inappropriate.

We point to the CA Coastal Act Sections 30004, 30210 and 30214 to demonstrate a stated policy of deferring to local government in implementing public access policies, which are responsive to local conditions and consistent with public safety needs to protect public rights, rights of private property owners and natural resource over-use. These sections, in aggregate,

Member Councils: Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, Brentwood Community Council, Del Rey Neighborhood Council, Mar Vista Community Council, Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa, Pacific Palisades Community Council, Palms Neighborhood Council, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council, Venice Neighborhood Council, West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council, Westside Neighborhood Council, Westwood Community Council, Westwood Neighborhood Council

clearly demonstrate a desire by the Coastal Act to implement public access policies in keeping with facts and circumstances that present themselves on a case by case basis. In this case, the local neighborhoods and the Los Angeles City and County regulating agencies have made clear they wish for beach access to remain restricted from midnight to 5 am.

We urge you to maintain this curfew for the benefit of the communities that utilize the beach, that act as its guardian and caretaker, and who look to our government agencies to preserve the safety and cleanliness of this natural resource along the beautiful Southern California shoreline.

On behalf of all the constituents represented by our Councils, we urge you to uphold the Coastal Development Permit that limits hours of overnight access to our local beaches.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maryam Zar  
WRAC Chair

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