April 26, 2012

TO: Shoreline Preservation Working Group

FROM: Shelby Tucker, Associate General Counsel

SUBJECT: Cancellation of the May 3, 2012, Shoreline Preservation Working Group Meeting

The Shoreline Preservation Working Group meeting, originally scheduled for Thursday, May 3, 2012, has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting date is Thursday, June 7, 2012, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the 7th Floor Conference Room.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (619) 699-1916, or via e-mail at Shelby.Tucker@sandag.org.

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April 26, 2012

TO: Shoreline Preservation Working Group and Interested Parties

FROM: Shelby Tucker, SANDAG Staff

SUBJECT: Regional Beach Sand Project Construction Status Update

As mentioned at the March 1, 2012 meeting, SANDAG has contracted with Great Lakes Dredge and Dock Company (GLDD) for the construction of the Regional Beach Sand Project (RBSP). The pre-construction meeting was held on April 3, 2012, along with the issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

The GLDD has been diligently working to provide project deliverables as required under their contract. As previously noted to the Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG), these deliverables are necessary for SANDAG to complete the project Monitoring Plan and ultimately receive final permits. SANDAG staff will continue to meet with the resource agency staff to finalize the Monitoring Plan with the goal of receiving final permits by June 1, 2012.

SANDAG staff has finalized one deliverable with GLDD, and at this time I would like to share that the RBSP schedule is ready for distribution. As mentioned at the March SPWG meeting, GLDD is planning to mobilize their equipment in July, with active dredging currently scheduled to begin August 6, 2012. The order of placement is provided below with approximate dates. These dates are estimates for sand placement only; mobilization and demobilization of equipment will occur prior to and immediately following placement. Construction will occur 24 hours per day, seven days per week, with final demobilization of equipment likely to occur by November 15, 2012. Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

- Imperial Beach – August 6 – September 3
- North Carlsbad Beach – September 3 - 15
- Cardiff State Park – September 15 - 20
- Solana Beach – September 20 - 26
- Batiquitos Beach – September 26 – October 2
- South Carlsbad Beach – October 2 - 11
- Moonlight Beach – October 11 - 16
- Oceanside Beach – October 16 – November 3
In preparing the schedule, SANDAG staff and the consultant team have been working with GLDD to balance the environmental and permitting constraints with the practical implementation of the project given the contractor’s available equipment. We believe this schedule strikes that balance and are ready to move forward toward construction.

With regard to funding, SANDAG staff continues to work to secure all funding sources. The SANDAG Overall Work Program and Budget will be amended, and SANDAG staff will work with the cities of Carlsbad, Encinitas, and Solana Beach to amend the funding Memorandum of Understanding to include the additional funds each city has agreed to provide. Additionally, SANDAG staff continues to work with the California Department of Boating and Waterways to secure additional funds. The SPWG will be kept up to date on the progress.

Additionally, SANDAG staff is working on marketing and public outreach materials associated with the project. The project fact sheet, Frequently Asked Questions, and postcard are attached for your information. These documents have been prepared with the goal of keeping interested parties informed and up to date on project construction. Each will be updated as new information becomes available. Please contact me if you are interested in receiving copies for distribution.

As seen in the attached cancellation notice, the May 3, 2012, SPWG meeting has been cancelled to enable staff time to review the project deliverables and work with resource agency staff. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 7, 2012, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the SANDAG 7th Floor Conference Room. The agenda will be distributed one week prior to the meeting.

Please feel free to contact me at (619) 699-1916, or Shelby.Tucker@sandag.org with any questions or concerns.

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Enclosures:  1. RBSP Fact Sheet
            2. RBSP Frequently Asked Questions
            3. RBSP Postcard
Environment

SAN DIEGO REGIONAL BEACH SAND PROJECT
FACT SHEET

Restoring a priceless resource
Sun, sand, and surf are images San Diegans and people around the world think of when they hear names like Oceanside, Carlsbad, Moonlight Beach, Fletcher Cove, Torrey Pines, and Imperial Beach. But the image quickly fades when residents and visitors alike discover that sand is missing from many of the region’s beaches.

That’s one of the reasons why residents and community leaders from coastal areas and inland neighborhoods are again making a concerted effort to place sand onto the critically eroded beaches along the region’s shoreline.

In 2001, the SANDAG Regional Beach Sand Project (RBSP) dredged 2.1 million cubic yards of clean, beach quality sand from offshore and placed it on 12 eroded beaches from Imperial Beach to Oceanside.

In summer 2012, the second RBSP will again widen beaches from Imperial Beach to Oceanside by adding over a million cubic yards of clean sand to eroded shorelines. It is the second major public works effort being coordinated by local governments, working together through SANDAG.

Why beach nourishment?
The region’s beaches have been steadily eroding for the past 20 years. Sand that once flowed down rivers to preserve our beaches is no longer making that trip because of the development throughout the region, and water supply and flood control projects needed to support that development.

Some beaches are stripped of sand and during the next few decades, most of our beaches will be too narrow to enjoy unless positive action is taken, starting now.

The RBSP will benefit the region’s environment and economy and, most of all, its overall quality of life. As the beaches continue to erode and become increasingly narrow, recreational opportunities are restricted. A unique and highly valued environment disappears. The important visitor industry component of the local, state, and national economies is constrained. In addition, infrastructure is subject to increased damage from storms.

There are choices when it comes to protecting and restoring the region’s coastline. Should we enhance the shoreline by restoring and maintaining wide sandy beaches, or armor it with heavy duty steel, rock, and concrete seawalls, or sacrifice it to the destructive forces of storm waves, flooding, and erosion?

The RBSP is based upon the conclusion that beach sand restoration is the best
strategy to pursue. Putting sand onto the region’s beaches will provide environmental, economic, and recreational benefits for the region’s residents and visitors.

But what happens to the sand after it is placed, won’t it continue to erode? The answer is yes, the sand will eventually spread out over the region’s entire 60-mile coastline. The San Diego coastline loses sand to various places including offshore to deeper water and inside the harbors and lagoons. These losses are not adequately offset by input from rivers, bluffs, and nourishment. So the losses exceed the gains each year and the sand volume is decreasing. The good news is that beach width gains from the 2001 RBSP sustained for about four years on average and volumes sustained for about six years. And, as of 2010, there still appeared to be sand from the 2001 RBSP in the system and this material will serve as a foundation for the 2012 RBSP.

How are beaches restored?
The RBSP places sand on many of the region’s beaches. The beach quality sand is dredged from large deposits of sand located in 30 to 100 feet of water found within two miles of the shoreline.

Dredging sand from nearshore sources and pumping it to beaches is a technology that has proven reliable and effective all over the world. The nearshore sand sources must be tested to prove they will provide a quality source of material for the region’s beaches that is compatible, such as similar size, texture, and color. The most cost-effective, highest-quality, and environmentally-suitable sources of sand will be used.

Beach building technology must be adapted to the specific geological and environmental challenges presented by our shoreline. The RBSP takes into consideration all of the unique features of our region’s coastline and will avoid sensitive reef habitats in the nearshore and make every effort to minimize impacts to our coastal environment.

What’s next?
SANDAG is moving the project forward to construction in summer 2012. Construction updates will be posted to www.sandag.org/beachsand as they become available. Beaches scheduled for replenishment include those in the cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach, and Imperial Beach.

If you would like more details about the 2012 RBSP or would like to receive project updates, including construction notifications, please contact SANDAG at (619) 699-0640, beachesand@sandag.org or visit www.sandag.org/beachsand to request that your name be added to our e-mail distribution list.
The 2012 Regional Beach Sand Project is scheduled to take place August – October 2012. Construction updates will be posted to www.sandag.org/beachsand as they become available. If you would like to receive periodic updates regarding this project, including construction notifications, please contact beachesand@sandag.org to request that your name be added to our e-mail distribution list. Construction updates also will be available through our project hotline at (619) 699-0640.

What is the purpose of the 2012 Regional Beach Sand Project? Why are we placing sand on the region’s beaches?

The San Diego region has an erosional coastline. Sand that once flowed down rivers to restore our beaches is no longer making that trip due to regional development, and water supply and flood control projects needed to support that development. There also have been modifications made to our coastline, such as harbors and jetties that stifle sand movement. To address these issues, the San Diego region has adopted a planning framework that emphasizes beach nourishment as a way to maintain and restore the coastline. The goals associated with sand placement are to restore and maintain coastal beaches, sustain recreation and tourism, enhance public safety, restore coastal sandy habitats, and reduce the proliferation of protective shoreline structures (e.g., harbors and jetties).

Which beaches will be receiving sand?

Beach nourishment will take place in the cities of Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, Solana Beach, and Imperial Beach.

South Oceanside: Work will take place at the beach by the Oceanside Boulevard access point. Sand will be spread to the north and south.

North Carlsbad: Work will take place near Buena Vista Lagoon. Sand will be spread south from the lagoon mouth to approximately Carlsbad Village Drive.

South Carlsbad: Work will take place south of Palomar Airport Road. Sand will be spread south and end before Coast Highway.

North Encinitas: Work will take place at Batiquitos Beach, just south of the Batiquitos Lagoon mouth, and extend south to a bluff-backed area of the beach. Work also will take place at Moonlight Beach, which can be accessed at the foot of Encinitas Boulevard; here, sand will be spread just to the north and south.

South Encinitas: Work will take place at Cardiff Beach. The beach fill will extend from the Chart House in Restaurant Row and move south down the beach.

Solana Beach: Work will take place at Fletcher Cove. Sand will be spread from the north end of Fletcher Cove toward the south, a portion of the way down through the Solana Beach boundary along the bluff.

Imperial Beach: Work will take place from the south end of the City of Imperial Beach where the revetment or rock wall ends, and move north toward the pier, ending at approximately Elkwood Avenue.

What is the 2012 Regional Beach Sand Project’s timeline?

This 24 hours a day, seven days a week operation is scheduled to begin in August 2012 and will likely continue through October 2012. Beach access will be preserved to the maximum extent possible and once a segment of beach is completed, larger beach widths will be available for all to enjoy.
Will I still be able to use the area of the beach being replenished?

Yes! The beaches will be nourished in approximately 100-foot segments that shift along the fill site until each beach is completed. For the public’s safety, the construction area will be clearly marked and will not be accessible. However, the public will be allowed to access all other areas of the beach.

How long will construction at each beach take?

Construction time varies from approximately one week to over a month depending on the amount of sand that is expected to be placed at each individual beach and whether or not a work stoppage occurs. A work stoppage can occur for several reasons including severe weather events and environmental considerations, such as extreme grunion runs.

What are the economic benefits of the 2012 Regional Beach Sand Project?

The economic benefits accrued from the project include increased tourism dollars spent and taxes collected by recreational users. Additional economic benefits can be realized through the reduction in damage to both property and infrastructure, and emergency costs associated with bluff failures.

Is this effort different from the 2001 Regional Beach Sand Project?

The 2012 nourishment effort is very similar to the first project completed in 2001. The main differences are that the Oceanside and Imperial Beach receiver sites have been shifted slightly to the north; grain size is planned to be larger for the cities of Solana Beach and Encinitas; and the receiver sites in the cities of Del Mar and San Diego will not receive sand.

Where did the sand from the 2001 Regional Beach Sand Project go? And, won’t the new sand just wash away?

Beach sand naturally moves on and off the coastlines with the waves. In the winter, when there is a stronger wave climate, sand moves off the beach with the majority remaining just off the coast within the nearshore system. In the summer, this sand returns to create wider beaches for residents and tourists to enjoy. In some cases, like with larger storm events, the sand will move beyond the nearshore and out into the deeper water or into harbors and lagoons where it cannot be recovered naturally. The beach width gains from the 2001 beach nourishment project sustained for a minimum of four years on average and volumes sustained for about six years on average. As of 2010, there still appeared to be sand from the first project in the system and this material will serve as a foundation for the 2012 project.

What will the beach look like after the sand is added?

The beaches will be wider through the placement of clean beach quality material. The sand may look slightly different in color and texture, but it meets all conditions associated with compatibility.

Where does the sand come from?

The sand is dredged from designated offshore areas within two miles of the shoreline, located in 30 to 100 feet of water depth. The offshore borrow sites are thoroughly researched and evaluated to be clean beach quality sand that has a similar color, texture, and size as the sand that currently exists on the beach where it will be placed. The goal is to find material that is coarser because the coarse grained sand will remain on the beaches for a longer period of time. The borrow sites chosen for this nourishment project are optimum for placement on San Diego region’s beaches.

For more information on this project visit www.sandag.org/beachsand.
Regional Beach Sand Project

Beginning this summer, the San Diego Regional Beach Sand Project will widen beaches from Imperial Beach to Oceanside by adding more than a million cubic yards of clean, high quality sand to our eroded shoreline.

Estimated Replenishment Timeline

The following beaches will receive sand this August – October (listed north to south):
- Oceanside
- North Carlsbad
- South Carlsbad
- Batiquitos Beach
- Moonlight Beach
- Cardiff
- Solana Beach
- Imperial Beach

Stay Informed!

Visit www.sandag.org/beachsand for up-to-the-minute replenishment timeline updates

Project Hotline: (619) 699-0640

Subscribe: e-mail beachesand@sandag.org to subscribe to our construction notification list

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for continuous project updates

This replenishment project is made possible through funding from the cities of Carlsbad, Encinitas, Imperial Beach, Oceanside, and Solana Beach, and the California Department of Boating and Waterways. The Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company, CALTROP, Moffat & Nichol, Coastal Frontiers Corp., and Merkel & Association Inc. also participated on this project. A portion of the land required for the 2012 Regional Beach Sand Project was contributed by the California State Lands Commission.