

## Princeton Harbor Coastal Trail Exploration – May 24, 2009

### Princeton Harbor Coastal Trail Exploratory Walk, Part 2 – May 24, 2009

Walkers: Len Erickson, Sandy Emerson, Lisa Ketcham, Leonard Woren, Sabrina Brennan, Fran Pollard, Yuri Daher, and Michelle Daher

#### Harbor 3 – Parking/Dock Restroom

The walkers started in the smaller Harbor Parking Lot at the road to the small boat launch, noting that the trail (an unpaved path) past the kayak rental area leads naturally to the outer edge of the smaller parking lot. Up to 8 spaces could be removed from this smaller lot to accommodate the Trail.

**Action** – talk to Pete Grenell about re-striping the smaller lot

Sabrina noted that the sidewalk that crosses the access to the docks is limited by 2 stair steps on each side – this could be eased by installing a ramp, although (in Sandy’s opinion) this might prove highly attractive to skaters. The picnic tables behind the Harbormaster’s office are along the trail alignment.

#### Harbor 4 – Docks/Commercial/Parking

The Trail continues on a paved sidewalk along the outer edge of the parking lot.

#### Princeton 1 – Barbara’s/Brewery/Capistrano Beach

As before, the trail alignment seems clear until you get to Barbara’s Fishtrap. At Barbara’s beach (Capistrano beach) we spent a fair amount of time discussing the various options:

- Huge bridge and boardwalk across the whole span of the beach, with the exit at the vacant lot
- Or, put the Trail on the beach and improve beach access at both ends – this option avoids the crowded sidewalk past Barbara’s

**Action** – consider drafting a grant to the Coastal Conservancy to improve beach access to Capistrano Beach

#### Princeton 2 – Capistrano/Prospect Intersection

From Capistrano Beach to the vacant lot, it would be good to get an easement to include the well-used trail that cuts a diagonal path across the lot. This lot is owned by Keet Nerhan, and we believe it is now leased to the Mendoncas, who run Half Moon Bay Brewery.

**Action** – contact Keet Nerhan about Coastal Trail plans and request his support for the easement across the vacant lot.

Options re: the vacant lot include

- Having the Trail go around the outside edge, with perhaps a bridge over the riprap at the foot of Broadway.
- **Action** – find the proposal for beach access at the foot of Broadway.
- Cutting across the lot to the sidewalk along Prospect Ave.
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#### Princeton 3 – Prospect/Broadway Intersection

- Notes: Prospect is a narrow and heavily used street, with a 5 ½ foot sidewalk. There are cutouts for parking along the sidewalk. At the corner of Prospect and Broadway, the sidewalk ends – there is an approximately 8 ½ foot distance between the property line fence and the roadway at the corner.
- There would need to be a guardrail of some sort at this corner to protect pedestrians

#### Princeton 4 – Princeton Avenue

- There was discussion of having the trail alignment along the beach or along the crumbling bluffs above the beach. It was noted that getting easements from the private property owners would be a challenge, in addition to the fact that the beach and bluffs are subject to erosion.
- Along Princeton Avenue, there is no sidewalk, and many cars park on the shoulder. The Trail alignment would necessitate cleaning up the shoulder and maybe paving or striping it.
- The Trail alignment along Princeton would be more beautiful if there were plantings and general cleanup along its length. Princeton is a functional roadway that has not been “fixed up”.

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- However, we believe there is a plan to widen Princeton and repave it, and install swale gutters in the same style as neighboring Harvard Ave. **Action:** if this re-paving occurs, could we get striping for a bicycle lane/ped lane/ or permeable material for the gutters.
- Note: there is a proposal before Planning (?status- approved 9/18. currently being appealed?) to build three more Fred Herring buildings along Princeton Ave. These buildings would be fully 36' in height and would completely block sunlight to the Daher's house. They are in the same controversial style as the other Herring buildings in the Harbor; in this location they would strongly affect the viewshed and general neighborhood ambience of the Harbor. Although they are nominally designed for a "marine-related use" they will primarily function as condos. **Action:** determine status of this proposal and find Lennie Roberts' letter on this matter.

### Princeton 5 – West Point Ave.

At the foot of West Point Ave. the options are to cut across the beach or to turn right and follow West Point Avenue. Beach access is often limited by gullies cut by runoff and seasonal creeks, so the Trail alignment would be varying and temporary.

### Pillar Pt. Marsh 1

Along West Point Ave., there were concerns about how to separate pedestrians from the traffic – the road (built along a dam constructed by the Air Force) is constricted by willows and other vegetation, and there is a steep dropoff to either side.

### Pillar Pt Marsh 2

There are dangerous blind curves. **Action:** recommend striping and bush clearing. ?and guardrails?

It might be possible to build a boardwalk across the marsh just past Driftwood Lumber – but this is an expensive and long-term project, given the environmental sensitivity of the marsh.

### Pillar Pt. Parking.

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