

Public Comments Oral Communications

Additional Public Comments Received After 4:00 p.m.



*June 8, 2020
City Council Meeting*

From: Chris Redfield [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 5:58 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Oral Comm ,PPD and all Law Enforcement

[CAUTION: External Email]

I want to commend, not only PPD, but all Law Enforcement for showing up. You never know what the next response call may be. You take that call no matter what. You have an amazing commitment to Public Safety and civil order. Your literal life is on the line just taking the oath. Every Officer chose this endeavor. 99.9% will do this with honor. Good luck finding that level of commitment in a career outside of Public Safety. I, and the VAST majority have your back. I will support that "Thin Blue Line" at every turn as will anyone with common sense. I must say I find great humor in those that have no clue what they are looking at, or how to research, a City budget and only look at generalities. In my years, I have had MANY encounters with, not only PPD, but other agencies. My youth, ignorance and arrogance were a significant factor in many of those encounters. Some of those were undeserved, most were my own doing. I have had justified grievance, but I'll say it again, walk a mile in their shoes. It is a "Thin Blue Line", Pacifica will hold that line. THANK YOU BLUE.

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From: Chris Redfield [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 6:30 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Calera Creek WWTP

[CAUTION: External Email]

I wish to adamantly support upgrades to solar improvement, and enhancement to, any and all proposals to this end. Pacifica has cards to play in regard to the economic benefits to progress on upgraded and enhanced solar output to benefit, not only the ratepayers, the environment, but the very viable future of the facility. It is unimaginable that the CCC will oppose this sustainable upgrade. Please support ALL effort to realize this benefit on the Coast.

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From: Keala Kennelly [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 6:35 PM
To: Public Comment
Subject: Pacifica

[CAUTION: External Email]

"Dear Honorable Members of Pacifica City Council,

As a surfer I am outraged to learn that the current surf camp permitting system at Pacifica State Beach / Lindamar prohibits nonprofit groups like Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project (which primarily serve communities of black, indigenous, & people of color) from access to the beach.

Now more than ever surfers including black, indigenous, & people of color need systems that not only allow access to the beach, but invest in and provide resources to ensure they thrive. I can't imagine a greater opportunity for the city of Pacifica to take a stance against racism than in surfing.

I strongly support taking measures to make Pacifica's beaches more equitable. This includes reforming the permitting system so that non-profit groups can apply for permits to operate regular surf programming, and that a racial equity lens is considered when evaluating measures that impact beach access.

Thank you.

Keala Kennelly

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From: Jason Cayabyab [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 7:06 PM
To: _City Council Group; Public Comment
Subject: IMPORTANT: Let non profit groups apply for permits to run programs.

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Honorable Members of the Pacifica City Council,

I am a frequent surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I was deeply upset to learn that the current permitting system for surf camps at Lindamar makes it impossible for nonprofit groups like Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and other to apply for a permit to run programs. This has serious implications for racial equity in beach access at Pacifica State Beach. These groups serve mostly Black and Brown communities who, for reasons of structural racism in our society, have faced greater barriers to accessing the beach and the sport of surfing.

I strongly support taking measures to make Pacifica's beach more equitable. This includes reforming the permitting system so that non-profit groups can apply for permits to operate regular surf programming, and that a racial equity lens is considered when considering measures that impact beach access. As a person of color and fellow volunteer of the City Surf Project organization, I highly support making these permit changes to include other great non-profit organizations for not only the benefit of the Pacifica community but for the sport of surfing. Let's be more inclusive because everyone should have an opportunity to enjoy the amazing thrill and feeling of surfing.

Thank you very much,
Jason Cayabyab
[REDACTED]

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From: Sara Kahanamoku [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 7:11 PM
To: _City Council Group; Public Comment
Subject: Public comment: Pacifica access for Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project

[CAUTION: External Email]

To whom it may concern,

I write to you as a surfer who enjoys spending time at Pacifica to ask that the city council reconsider their permitting decision with regards to two local nonprofits, Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project. These are, to my knowledge, some of the only surf nonprofits explicitly dedicated to advancing the access and representation of Black and Brown people in the sport of surfing. Despite being founded by the Indigenous people of the Hawaiian islands, and brought to the western world by Duke Kahanamoku (my great-uncle), modern surfing is dominated by white people, often to the exclusion of Black and Brown people around the world. As residents of an oceanside town, I am sure that you on the city council understand the extremely important role that the ocean can play in fostering joy and healing. I urge you to reconsider your decision to deny Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project permits to hold events at Pacifica. In light of the recent American reckoning with the pervasiveness of anti-Black racism in our society, there has never been a more urgent need for the Black and Brown community to have equal access to our ocean.

Me ke aloha,
Sara Kahanamoku

--

S. Kahanamoku (she/they)
PhD Candidate, Department of Integrative Biology
NSF GRFP + Chancellor's Fellow
University of California, Berkeley
[REDACTED]

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From: Ian Long [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 7:14 PM
To: Public Comment; _City Council Group
Subject: Surf School Permits for Non-profits

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Honorable Members of the Pacifica City Council,

I am a frequent surfer at Pacifica State Beach and an attorney who represents cities and public entities throughout the Bay Area. I learned that non-profits encouraging underrepresented youths to surf--including Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project---cannot apply for surf school permits at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I understand the desire to control the crowds of beginner surfers, but it is imperative to allow non-profit groups---and especially those that encourage diversity in what is a predominantly white sport in the mainland USA---a fair shot at getting permits to teach surfers at Lindamar. The potential cost of having a few more people in the water is entirely worth the benefit of having a more diverse and inclusive lineup.

I strongly encourage you to reform the permitting process to give these organizations and others like them a meaningful opportunity to pull a surf school permit.

Sincerely,

Ian Long
[REDACTED]

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From: Nathan Randall [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 7:22 PM
To: Public Comment; _City Council Group
Subject: Comment on Pacifica beach permits

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear members of the Pacifica City Council,

I'm writing as a member of the Bay Area who has been surfing the beaches of Pacifica and San Francisco since first moving here in 2013.

Several times a week, I visit the beaches near my home to surf and find refuge, joy, connection to nature, and friendship. I cannot imagine my life without access to the ocean.

However, so many members of our community, a disproportionate number of them black and brown, will never experience those joys because of where they live.

Organizations such as Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project work to change this, but due to limited permitting in Pacifica, are unable to operate their programs at the one beach in the greater area -- Linda Mar -- that is capable of hosting novice surfers safely and enjoyably.

I urge the members of the council to revisit these permitting policies to ensure that everyone in the Bay Area, regardless of the community they grow up in or the color of their skin, has safe access to the ocean.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your leadership of our community.

Best regards,

Nathan Randall
[REDACTED]

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From: Caitlin Beyer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 8:06 PM
To: _City Council Group; Public Comment
Subject: Allow non-profits surf organizations to function out of Lindamar Beach

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Honorable Members of the Pacifica City Council,

I am a frequent Surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I was deeply disturbed (outraged, upset, etc) to learn that the current permitting system for surf camps at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar makes it impossible for nonprofit groups like Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and others to apply for a permit to run programs. This has serious implications for racial equity in beach access at Pacifica State Beach. These groups serve mostly Black and brown communities who for reasons of structural racism in our society have faced greater barriers to accessing the beach and the sport of surfing.

I strongly support taking measures to make Pacifica's beaches more equitable. This includes reforming the permitting system so that non-profit groups can apply for permits to operate regular surf programming, and that a racial equity lens is considered when considering measures that impact beach access.

Thank you for your consideration.
Caitlin

Caitlin Beyer | Photographer
[REDACTED]

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From: Emma Koko [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 8:29 PM
To: Public Comment; _City Council Group
Subject: Surf Camp Permits

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Deidre,

I write in this email in request of changing the 'surf camp permit' system currently in place at Linda Mar Beach in Pacifica.

What I ask is that you allow access for non-profit Organizations that work with marginalised peoples of color in the San Francisco Bay Area.

For example I believe that communities of color in the Oakland area would benefit such a change as they would gain access to a safe beginner beach that is in close proximity. Giving an opportunity that would not be otherwise available.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Kind Regards
Emma Koko

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From: Molly McCobb [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 8:47 PM
To: _City Council Group; Public Comment
Subject: ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Honorable Members of the Pacifica City Council,

My name is Molly McCobb and I am a resident of Pacifica and a frequent Surfer at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar. I was deeply disturbed to learn that the current permitting system for surf camps at Pacifica State Beach at Lindamar makes it impossible for nonprofit groups like Brown Girl Surf, City Surf Project, and others to apply for a permit to run programs. This has serious implications for racial equity in beach access at Pacifica State Beach. I strongly support the work of both City Surf Project, as well as Brown Girl Surf through volunteering as well as previously serving on the board of City Surf Project.

These groups serve mostly Black and brown communities who for reasons I am sure you are aware of, structural racism in our society have faced greater barriers to accessing the beach and the sport of surfing.

I strongly support taking measures to make Pacifica's beaches more equitable. This includes reforming the permitting system so that non-profit groups can apply for permits to operate regular surf programming, and that a racial equity lens is considered when considering measures that impact beach access.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Molly McCobb

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From: Alisa Serio [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:04 PM
To: _City Council Group; Public Comment
Subject: Pacifica State Beach Access - Brown Girl Surf

[CAUTION: External Email]

Hello,

I am a surf instructor for the non-profit Brown Girl Surf and I am writing on behalf of our organization to request better access to Pacifica beaches and a reformation of the Pacifica state beach permit granting procedures. I am also writing on behalf of another organization, City Surf Project, which brings the ocean to urban youth.

Brown Girl Surf gives girls and women of color access to the beach with surf instruction, while building a diverse female community. Our efforts are purposeful - to bring these joys and opportunities to a group of people that have consistently and disproportionately been excluded from beach access (e.g. by geographic proximity, by recent COVID-19 restrictions and by historical racial segregation).

I was dismayed to learn that we cannot teach surfing to our girls and women of color at the Pacifica state beach because we cannot get a permit. I was further dismayed to learn the reason why we cannot get a permit. Specifically, that four companies have held permanent permits, which blocks the opportunity for any other organization to apply and be successfully granted a permit.

The message that Pacifica state beach is thus sending to us and communities around the bay area is that our local brown and black communities, boys and girls of color and urban youth are not welcome at Pacifica.

I am sure that you and local leaders will agree with me - this is extremely troubling. I am writing to implore that you please consider revising this restrictive and biased approach at issuing beach access permits to community organizations. Further, that you also reconsider the prior COVID-19 related restrictions, which disproportionately excludes communities of color. And lastly, when restrictions are necessary to please reconsider the utilization of a police force to monitor beach presence but to instead use local community volunteers or beach employees.

Thank you for your consideration
Alisa Serio, Oakland, CA
Brown Girl Surf Volunteer Instructor

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From: Julia Oller [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:18 PM
To: _City Council Group; Public Comment
Subject: Nonprofit surf permits

[CAUTION: External Email]

Hello!

I'm Julia Oller, a local who surfs at Pacifica at least twice a week. I love Linda Mar, the dogs and kids who splash around, the lady who cheered me on while I rode toward her, and the general beauty of the area.

That being said, I don't love what I recently learned about the outdated surf school permit system. I would like to ask the City Council to please consider allowing nonprofit surf groups to utilize Linda Mar for their surf outings. Especially given California's history of Jim Crow laws segregating beaches, it's time to make an easy change and allow groups such as Brown Girl Surf and City Surf Project license to take their kids - many of whom are black and brown - to enjoy the ocean. I'm sure there's a way to do this thoughtfully, that both honors the surfers in the water and the organizations, and I trust you to do the right thing in this matter.

Thank you,

Julia Oller

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From: Wright, Shelby on behalf of City Manager
Sent: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 9:57 AM
Cc: Woodhouse, Kevin; Brooks, Elizabeth; Public Comment
Subject: RE: Access to Beaches for Non-Profits like Brown Girl Surf

Good morning, Council,

This comment was submitted to the City Manager inbox, and the sender, Tyler Webb, asked it be sent to Councilmembers. Please see below.

Thanks!

Shelby Wright 

Administrative Clerk II | City Manager's Office

City of Pacifica | 170 Santa Maria Ave.

☎ (650) 738-7300

✉ wrights@ci.pacifica.ca.us

From: one werd [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 4:16 PM
To: City Manager <cmoffice@ci.pacifica.ca.us>
Subject: Access to Beaches for Non-Profits like Brown Girl Surf

[CAUTION: External Email]

Dear Pacifica City Council,

I'm writing on behalf of groups like Brown Girl Surf that are currently petitioning the council for access to beaches for their programs. Now is clearly a time to demonstrate support for African American communities that have suffered from discrimination, racially motivated policing policies, and a lack of access to many areas of American society. Please consider granting a permit for Brown Girls Surf and similar organizations as an important demonstration of the Peninsula's willingness to support and fight for racial justice.

Sincerely,

Tyler Webb

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