

[date], 2008

Mr. Sam Schuchat  
California Ocean Protection Council, Secretary  
State Coastal Conservancy, Executive Officer  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

SUBJECT: Letter in Support of SANDAG's Application for Proposition 84 Funding

This letter is to express the support of [Organization/Agency name] for SANDAG's Proposition 84 funding proposal for the planning and construction of retention structures offshore of San Diego County. As part of the Regional Beach Sand Replenishment Project 2 (RBSP2), the retention structure will be designed to help reduce persistent coastal erosion, provide biological enhancements, and increase recreational opportunities for the residents and visitors of the region.

The region's beaches are a valuable economic resource and key part of the area's positive image and overall quality of life. The region has been highly involved in shoreline management and the design and planning of retention structures will bring this work to a new level.

In 2001, SANDAG spearheaded the highly successful Regional Beach Sand Replenishment Project (RBSP), which placed 2.1 million cubic yards of sand on the region's highly eroded beaches. An extensive monitoring program showed that many beaches widened significantly for several years, while others did not retain sand for extended periods. The project also did not cause significant adverse environmental impacts. This effort was deemed a successful pilot project and paved the way for additional similar future efforts to benefit the region's beaches.

The coastal cities in the San Diego region and SANDAG have now embarked on a second round of replenishments, the RBSP2. The region is committed to the successful planning and construction of the RBSP2 and has provided funding for the preliminary planning activities, which include an investigation of offshore resources and preliminary design/engineering. SANDAG is pursuing funding from the California Department of Boating and Waterways for the engineering, environmental analysis, and construction of the project. Proposition 84 funds from the Coastal Conservancy and Ocean Protection Council will be used for the planning and construction of retention structures, as well as the replenishment activities that occur as part of the project.

SANDAG has been at the forefront of shoreline management issues because of the significant tourism and recreational functions that our beaches provide. In 1993, the Board of Directors approved the *Shoreline Preservation Strategy for the San Diego Region*. The strategy recognized sand retention as one of a number of tactics that can be used to complement the placement of sand on the region's beaches. Retention structures have the potential to increase the cost effectiveness of beach sand replenishment activities and may help to reduce the environmental effects of beach filling.

With the benefits of the original RBSP clear, a similar project that enhances what was done in 2001 by including retention structures will clearly be beneficial to the region and the state. The proposed project will help retain sand in up to three of the most erosive spots in the region in a cost-effective and environmentally sensitive manner. The continued monitoring program will help verify the effectiveness of the project and will help to expand the understanding of sediment transport, bringing benefits beyond the locations of the retention structures.

The City of Oceanside encourages the allocation of Proposition 84 funds so that the

San Diego region and the coast of California can benefit from that latest erosion control technology and enjoy the recreational and environmental benefits they provide.

Sincerely,

cc: Shelby Tucker, SANDAG