

COASTAL CURRENTS

SEPTEMBER 2021

Coastal San Pedro
Neighborhood Council
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San Pedro, CA 90731

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Funds Found; Wilder's Annex Stairs Set for Repair

By Noel Gould, Chair, Parks and Coastline Committee

Wilder's Annex—Even the name invites to the imagination visions of soaring sea birds, crashing waves, sheer ocean cliffs, and rocky shores inspiring exploration.

Quoted from the San Pedro Coast, "On June 30, 1926, the 6.9 acres south of Paseo del Mar owned by the Wilder family was donated to the City of Los Angeles in lieu of back taxes owed on the property. The deed contained the clause "to be used for a public park and for no other purpose."



Dean Pentcheff and Noel Gould inspecting the stair condition at Wilder's Annex.

It then became part of Point Fermin Park. The addition has also been referred to as "Wilder's Annex". As the only Coastal Access Point in 2.5 miles, Wilder's has the additional honor of being included in the California Coastal Commission's "Your Coast" free app, which shows users every Coastal Access point along California's 1,100-mile coastline.

The stairs at Wilder's Annex allowed public and scientific research groups from colleges and universities to access the coastline. Even unique first discoveries of certain species have been made here!

However, due to concerns regarding the stairs' safety, the city of L.A. closed access to the Wilder's Annex around April of 2018. The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council's Coastline and Parks Committee began taking up this issue right away.

Parks and Coastline Committee Chair Noel Gould and CSPNC Vice President Dean Pentcheff were especially active in gathering information, writing many letters, and participating in numerous telephone conversations with officials from the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, Department of Recreation and Parks, CD 15 Council Office, Bureau of Engineering, and California Coastal Commission.

Because this is a unique coastal access point, closing it had the potential to become a California Coastal Act violation, which everyone involved wanted to avoid. The committee found several grant opportunities for which the city applied and were subsequently denied for not meeting a few of the qualifications.

After three-and-a-half years of diligent work and follow-up with these organizations, on July 8 I received the following email from the Department of Recreation and Parks:

Good morning Noel,

In the Department's 2021-22 budget, we were able to successfully work with the City Council to identify deferred maintenance funds to fully fund this project. We are currently working through the details for release of these funds to the department.

We've already requested Bureau of Engineering for the technical expertise to facilitate the implementation of this project.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Best regards, Cathie

This represents the best of the best of what can happen when neighborhood councils and committees work tirelessly and continuously with the city and other concerned agencies to achieve the attention and financial support for the projects our community needs. We will continue our best efforts supporting the special coastal community in which we live!

New Members Join CSPNC Board

The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council welcomes four new board members—Carmenza Adams, Drew Leach, Rick Perkins, and Lashanda "Roz" Roberts. They were chosen in the recent neighborhood council election and took office on July 1. They were asked to provide a few words to the community as they begin their terms.

Carmenza Adams

My name is Carmenza Adams, I have been a San Pedro resident for 10 years. During this time, I have enjoyed seeing how the different cultures mesh. I am very excited to contribute my time to supporting this and other beautiful aspects of our city. I look forward to giving everything I can to keep Coastal San Pedro informed, unified, and in progress. Para la comunidad hispana les informo que hablo espanol y que pueden contar conmigo para lo que necesiten estoy a sus ordenes.

Drew Leach

I am excited to serve as Communications Chair for our neighborhood council. I live in the Point Fermin Neighborhood with my husband and daughter and love our community! I bring my desire to engage our council's stakeholders, uplift community voices, and obtain protection for our coastal habitats.

Rick Perkins

Hello, fellow San Pedro locals! My name is Rick Perkins and I look forward to serving the Coastal San Pedro Community! I am a God-loving Conservative family man, and a Special Education teacher. To reach me, email me at, "RickPerkins4coastalsp@gmail.com." Thank you!

Lashanda "Roz" Roberts

Hello, I'm Lashanda Roberts also known as "Roz". I have been a San Pedro resident since 2013 and look forward to serving the Neighborhood Council within various committees.



GOVERNMENT AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

If you're in search of help, the following information may be of use.

Abandoned vehicles: 800-222-6366

Animal Regulations: 888-452-7381

Anti Drug Hotline (Anonymous): 800-662-2878

Bureau of Street Services: 800-996-2489

City services: call 311 or get MyLA311 app (info at www.myla311.lacity.org)

Landlord/Tenant Disputes: 213-974-6600

LAPD non-emergency: 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273)

LAPD Harbor Division Community Relations: 310-726-7920

LAPD Harbor Division front desk: 310-726-7700

Department of Water & Power: 800-342-5397

Graffiti removal 213-978-0228

Los Angeles County Information: 2-1-1

Neighborhood Prosecutor: 213-978-7878

Transportation (parking violations): 866-561-9742

Dispute Resolution Program (free mediation of non-criminal civil disputes—legal advice is not provided): 213-978-1880

Bulky item pick up: 800-773-2489

15th District Council Office: 310-732-4515

Illegal dumped trash: 800-974-9794

Mental Health Triage: 213-798-6318

Quality of Life Car: 310-726-6920

Parking Enforcement: 213-485-4184



The Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council

Our Purpose and Function

Neighborhood councils provide a way for people to get together and discuss their mutual concerns, and then have those concerns communicated directly to our city government.

Representatives of local officials frequently attend our meetings. We also welcome the LAPD senior lead officers, who report on crime trends and confer with us regarding issues such as parking, graffiti, and violent crime.

The governing board hears public comments at the beginning of every meeting and also receives public input on each agenda item. The public comment period often results in the creation of a resolution or action item to be taken up at a later board meeting.

The city funds each neighborhood council. This is used to publish this newsletter and publicize the council. Money is also allocated in a number of ways, including support of local cultural activities, youth programs, crime prevention, and education. The city has rules which limit the acceptable uses and which provide for audits and oversight by city departments. This newsletter reports on expenditures.

Monthly Meetings

The CSPNC governing board meets every month on the third Monday, except in January and February, when meeting dates are different because of federal holidays. Because of the COVID-19 crisis, all meetings are conducted online. Please check at cspnc.org for meeting dates and times. Participants may access meetings via the Internet or telephone.

Meeting Agendas

Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council meeting agendas are posted on our website, cspnc.org, and on the window at The Mailroom, 1840 South Gaffey Street, San Pedro, CA 90731.

For more information, please visit us online at cspnc.org.

Governing Board Members

- Doug Epperhart, *President*

Dean Pentcheff, *Vice President*

Kathleen Martin, *Secretary*

Sheryl Akerblom, *Treasurer*
- Carmenza Adams

Andrea Herman

Isiah Cade

Daniel Kohn

Greg Ellis

John Kopczynski

Robert Gelfand

Drew Leach

Noel Gould

Rick Perkins

Richard Havenick

Roz Roberts

Robin Rudisill

CSPNC Committees

- Administrative Operations

Dean Pentcheff, chair
- Communications

Drew Leach, chair
- Cultural Arts

Carmenza Adams, chair
- Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety

Robert Gelfand, chair
- Homelessness

Kathleen Martin, chair
- Parks and Coastline

Noel Gould, chair
- Planning and Transportation

Robin Rudisill, chair
- Port

Kathleen Martin, chair
- Sustainability and Environment

Richard Havenick, chair
- Ad Hoc Committee on Sunken City

Noel Gould, chair
- Ad Hoc Committee on Grading City Services

Robert Gelfand, chair

Coastal San Pedro 2020-21 Neighborhood Purpose Grants

- Marine Mammal Care Center: \$5,000
- Feed and be Fed: \$3,000
- Community Disaster Preparedness Foundation / Monterey Hills Foundation: \$1,080
- International Bird Rescue: \$1,500
- Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC): \$2,500
- San Pedro Meals on Wheels: \$5,000
- Cabrillo Beach Boosters: \$1,000

International Bird Rescue

Since July 7, nearly 500 live seabirds, called Elegant Terns, have been rescued by International Bird Rescue and partners from Long Beach Harbor. As the sinking chicks are still being scooped out of the water, Bird Rescue continues to focus on three key priorities: ongoing rescues, expert patient care, and working to remedy this crisis in partnership with federal, state, and local authorities

“Our work isn’t done yet,” said JD Bergeron, CEO of Bird Rescue. “This seabird crisis requires quick minds and strong hearts to do the best for these impacted birds.”

This extraordinary seabird rescue event started after a colony of nesting terns on barges were disturbed over the long Fourth of July weekend. The baby seabirds dropped off the barges into the water and were found floating helpless, separated from their parents and unable to return to the colony. Without quick rescue and resuscitation, most of these vulnerable chicks would perish.

In the meantime, the public is asked to stay clear of this delicate rescue operation in Long Beach Harbor. You can read more about this amazing and evolving rescue on the Bird Rescue Blog: <https://www.birdrescue.org/southern-california-seabird-rescue-continues-500-elegant-tern-chicks-admitted/>



San Pedro Meals on Wheels

The purpose of San Pedro Meals on Wheels (SP-MOW) is to supply nourishing meals at a minimum cost to people who are unable to cook, drive, shop, or leave their home for a temporary or longer period of time.

Although many patrons are seniors, Meals on Wheels is a service for anyone. This includes people experiencing long-term disability, a chronic illness, or someone recovering from a hospitalization.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, San Pedro Meals on Wheels began a Free Meals Program and is providing meals to seniors and the disabled at no cost. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have tripled our client list. In September 2020, we extended our services to the Wilmington Community.

SPMOW intends to use this grant to continue to provide free meals to the San Pedro and surrounding communities. Funds permitting, further grow is anticipated in answer to the dire need of food and nutrition insecurity.



Get Ready for ‘The Big One’

By Bob Gelfand, Chair, Emergency Preparedness and Public Safety Committee

During the Covid-19 crisis, we’ve learned a lot about maintaining our personal stocks of water, food, toilet paper, and so forth. We’ve learned to make use of masks in order to prevent the spread of infection and we’ve learned something about staying indoors during the worst of things. But while all this was going on, we sort of forgot about preparing for a big earthquake or some dangerous chemical leak in the port.

Even after the biggest earthquake—what we’ve come to call “The Big One”—almost all of us will be alive and unharmed. That’s pretty good news, and should affect the way we think about earthquake preparedness. A major quake along the San Andreas Fault would last for more than a minute, and the shaking would be intense. But you can survive it, particularly if you have a strong table to dive under.

But there will be effects from the earthquake that you won’t be able to prevent, so you should make your own preparations. Unlike a viral epidemic, the earthquake side effects will be immediate and without warning. We can also expect to see wide-

spread fires that will build over the next few hours.

Here are the problems you can expect after the big one hits us: There will likely be an immediate loss of electricity and running water throughout your entire neighborhood. There will be leakage of sewage below the ground. Your access to cell phone service will also probably disappear within a few hours, because the cell phone towers only have so much battery backup.

And forget about using a gas stove or oven. It’s likely that there will be enough gas main breakages that the entire system will be shut down.

So in brief, we will be cold and hungry and stuck in the dark unless we take a few minimal precautions. Those precautions can be bought cheaply and for the most part will last you for years. Basically, your preparations should include having a stockpile of water, food, your personal prescriptions, and some way to have light and to prepare food.

Your neighborhood council has been working with groups of volunteers who will be responsible for simple, but critical, actions after the shaking stops.

There is a newly-formed group known as the Neighborhood Teams program which will spread out through your neighborhood after an earthquake and look for people who have been injured as well as fires and structural damage. They will be equipped with two-way radios so that they can report their findings to the authorities.

We are creating links to these and other organizations through our neighborhood council website which you can find at CSPNC.org.

The following is a link that includes comprehensive lists of emergency supplies and other important information:
<https://www.readyla.org/get-prepared>

Stay Informed
About Happenings
in Coastal San Pedro



Subscribe to our weekly E-Blast updates by entering your email on our website at cspnc.org.

Like our Facebook page to receive timely event announcements:
<https://www.facebook.com/coastal.sanpedro/>



CD 15 Working Group on Homelessness Chairperson Amber Sheikh, CSPNC Homelessness Committee Chairperson Kathleen Martin, and Gaby Medina, Office of Councilmember Joe Buscaino check out new temporary housing.

Salvation Village across from Harbor College provides shelter for 80 individuals. Cooking and personal hygiene facilities are provided onsite.



How Supporting Homelessness Solutions is Working

By Amber Sheikh, CD 15 Working Group on Homelessness

Three years ago, if you were an individual adult (without children) experiencing homelessness in San Pedro, there was not a single shelter bed or place for you to sleep for the night — even if you wanted to go inside.

In fact, there were only a few dozen beds for the more than 1,400 individuals experiencing homelessness in our harbor area (San Pedro, Harbor City, Wilmington).

Three years ago, in an effort first incubated within the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council, a council district-wide collaborative effort was born. This group, the CD15 Working Group on Homelessness, first started as a twice-monthly space to share updates on the various solutions being explored to address the growing population of our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

The group soon grew to include elected officials’ offices, organizations working with the homeless,

faith-based groups, community advocates, and individuals looking to learn more about this complex issue and how they could help support solutions.

Through collective efforts, the group has successfully hosted monthly meetings — where innovative approaches have been discussed, proposed developments and projects have been presented, and the pipeline for longer-term answers has been planned.

Today, the harbor area has a robust and diverse set of solutions, both already built and in development, to meet the needs of our unhoused neighbors.

These include 140 temporary shelter beds in San Pedro, two motel-conversion Project Roomkey sites and a soon-to-be-introduced Safe Parking program. We also have a navigation center at the LAPD Harbor Division Station.

These temporary solutions will hopefully provide shelter and a safe place for our neighbors to heal, rest and gather the tools and trust necessary to

become housing-ready — in preparation for when the true solution, more than 1,100 supportive and affordable housing units, comes online throughout the Council District over the next two years.

Saying yes to solutions solves homelessness. We have a challenging road ahead of us, but thanks to the work of our community, we are prepared with a toolkit full of temporary and permanent solutions.

In order for these efforts to be successful, we must stay communicative, flexible and open to the full range of answers that will make San Pedro a safe, healthy and connected community for everyone.

INTRODUCING THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE of Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council. Our mission is to engage, support, and strengthen the diverse cultures of our community through all forms of art. We invite you to join us at our meetings and participate in this new endeavor.

Progress on Toxic Dump Problem Understanding and Start of Efforts to Prevent Further Damage

By Richard Havenick, Chair, Environment and Sustainability Committee

Thanks to *Los Angeles Times* reporting, Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell introducing Assembly Joint Resolution 2 last December, and Congresswoman Nanette Barragán's leadership, we're advancing to necessary state and federal action.

AJR-2 requests “that the Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency take all measures necessary to prevent further damage to California’s citizens, wildlife, and natural resources by the dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane waste dumped in the waters near Santa Catalina Island.” It was adopted by the California Senate on June 14.

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein said in her April 26 congressional briefing, “This mission confirms my worst fear: that possibly hundreds of thousands of barrels and DDT-laced sediment were dumped just 12 miles off our coast,” and would ask the U.S. Justice Department to look into companies that may have illegally dumped waste into the ocean and whether they can be held accountable.

“I’m pleased the Biden administration shares my concern about this issue and took action quickly. It’s critical that this momentum continues,” she said. “We need everyone to come to the table with all the resources necessary to solve a problem of this size.”

California’s environmental agencies met multiple times with the EPA, though the state has jurisdiction only three miles into the ocean. California EPA Secretary Jared Blumenfeld stated in his April 13 letter to our EPA Region 9 Administrator Deborah Jordan, “the U.S. EPA has removal authority and access to funds... to evaluate the environmental impacts of the barrels. As a result, any funding, development of plans, and remediation or removal would be the primary responsibility of the federal government. I would like to discuss the use of these funds to investigate the nature and extent of the problem in the San Pedro Basin.”

The last City of Los Angeles action on the DDT dumping issue was filed under the Council File 92-0341 in September 1996 in closed session “for

a report and update regarding the U.S. District Court Case *U.S. v. Montrose Chemical*, (No CV90-3122-AAH) involving natural resources damages and clean-up.”

In efforts to promote understanding of the significance of the issue to our city council representative and city, the CSPNC board voted April 19 to request “the Los Angeles City Council support the AJR-2 and initiate further action resulting from the Council File 92-0341 to require the remediation and clean-up of the respective toxic waste in the Santa Catalina Channel.”

The scope of the problem is more clearly understood thanks to the March 2021 two-week marine survey led by UC San Diego’s Scripps Institution of Oceanography in collaboration with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration of more than 36,000 acres of seafloor between us and Catalina which identified in excess of 100,000 total “debris objects” on the seafloor in depths up to 3,000 feet. The total debris field was estimated to extend well beyond the expedition’s March survey.

The *Los Angeles Times* noted last year that “shipping logs from a disposal company supporting Montrose Chemical Corp. of California, a DDT-producing company, show that 2,000 barrels of DDT-laced sludge could have potentially been dumped each month from 1947 to 1961 into a designated dumpsite. In addition to Montrose, logs from other entities show that many other industrial companies in Southern California used this basin as a dumping ground until 1972, when the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, also known as the Ocean Dumping Act, was enacted.”

We’re grateful for the update provided by Scott Strgacich of Congresswoman’s Barragán’s office at our August board meeting. CSPNC will keep you informed of pending action on the DDT issue.

References for the above include the following: Los Angeles Times (multiple); University of California News, by Lauren Wood, UC San Diego, May 7, 2021; and, Bloomberg Law, Environment and Energy, April 30, 2021.

Progress on Los Angeles 100% Renewable Energy

By Richard Havenick, Chair Environment and Sustainability Committee

Thanks to coordination initiated in 2017 by Mayor Eric Garcetti, the Department of Water and Power, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the LA100 Study to achieve 100% Renewable Energy by 2035 was released in March affirming that a 100% renewable, reliable, and resilient grid is within Los Angeles’ grasp and will provide a wide range of health and economic benefits.

The LA100 Study defined a practical roadmap for success through rapid deployment of wind, solar, and storage technologies along with aggressive electrification targets for buildings and vehicles.

Importantly, President Joe Biden had also issued in January the Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis committing to decarbonize the nation’s electric power sector by 2035.

The DWP, as the largest municipal utility in the US, currently generates over half of electricity from renewable and zero-carbon resources and was directed on March 31 by the City of Los Angeles Energy, Climate Change, Justice and River Committee to “prepare a Long Term Strategic Plan to achieve 100% carbon free energy by 2035 in an equitable way that has minimal adverse impacts on rate payers and which must include a list of shovel-ready projects to seize on Federal and State funding opportunities.”

Understanding the need for our transition off greenhouse gas contributing fuels with minimal adverse impacts on rate payers and the need to demonstrate the importance to our City, your CSPNC Board voted on April 19 to support the Energy Committee’s request for the Long Term Strategic Plan to achieve 100% carbon free energy by 2035.

Coastal San Pedro: A ‘Special Coastal Community’

By Robin Rudisill, Chair,
CSPNC Planning, Land Use
and Transportation Committee

The San Pedro Coastal Zone is just one small community along the 1,072 miles of the state’s coastline. However, it is a very important area of the coast as it is one of only a small handful of communities designated in the California Coastal Plan (Plan) as a “special coastal community.”

The California Conservation Act, an initiative passed by the voters of our state in 1972, mandated the creation of the Plan. Its principal objectives are to protect the California coast as a great natural resource for the benefit of present and future generations and to use the coast to meet human needs in a manner that protects the irreplaceable resources of coastal lands and waters. Due to concerns that coastal neighborhoods would be overrun by incompatible development, the Plan was designed to achieve long-term protection of coastal resources, including special communities.

The Plan states: “Development out of scale, size or social character shall not be allowed in designated special communities and neighborhoods. In determining the appropriateness of a proposed development, consideration shall be given to lot size, unit size, residential composition, height, bulk, pedestrian accessibility, open space, economic and social factors, and the cumulative impact that potential development would have on an area’s resources.”

According to the Plan, special coastal communities, which are as important to the coastal zone as are its natural resources, include coastal neighborhoods in larger cities that are usually of a small scale of development, are oriented to the ocean and provide significant opportunities for access to the coast, have distinct cultural, historical, architectural and aesthetic qualities, and complement the visual character of the Coastal Zone.

San Pedro is in good company along with other special coastal communities identified in the Plan, such as Carmel, Morro Bay, La Jolla, Mendocino, and Venice.

What this means is that the Coastal Zone of San Pedro has an extra layer of protection, above and beyond other areas of the Coastal Zone. The Coastal Act, the state law governing the Coastal Zone and which was based on the Plan, states that “New development shall...protect special communities and neighborhoods that, because of their unique characteristics, are popular visitor destination points for recreational uses.”

The Coastal San Pedro community is a very special place and it is incumbent on all of us to protect it. In the words of Peter Douglas, one of the founders of the California Coastal Act, “The Coastal is never saved, it’s always being saved. Our work, your work, the labor of love that it is, is never finished. It’s a job that will always be ongoing.”

I hope you will join us in our labor of love, our ongoing work to preserve and protect our Coastal San Pedro community!

Southern California International Gateway Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report

By Richard Havenick, Chair, Environment and Sustainability Committee

On May 19, the Port of Los Angeles released the Revised Draft EIR for the Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) intermodal rail yard project. The original certification of the EIR occurred in March of 2013.

Subsequently, the California Court of Appeals concluded that “certain project specific and cumulative impacts did not comply with the California Environmental Quality Act” and the EIR certification was set aside.

The Court required that additional analyses be prepared and disclosed in a Revised Draft EIR specifically relating to Environmental Impact Air Quality-4, “operational-phase offsite ambient air pollution concentrations.”

The just-released Draft EIR is intended to resolve

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Open; Features New and Improved Exhibits

Due to the COVID Crisis, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium had to close its doors for 15 months, finally reopening in June of this year. During the closure, membership plummeted from a high of 1,600 to about 400.

“Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium helps support the amazing programs offered year-round,” said Friends Executive Director Caroline Brady.

“Even during the closure, member support proved crucial as we pushed to make programs and educational content available online.”

Not only did the Aquarium scramble to provide virtual content, staff rallied to perform a long list of deferred maintenance tasks and completed several exhibit projects.

“We’re proud of all we accomplished during the closure and think our guests will be impressed too,” said Crislyn McKerron, Aquarium executive director. “We can’t wait to see everyone!”

Visitors to the aquarium can get a first look at the Aquarium’s new Rocky Intertidal Exhibit, sponsored by Phillips 66, and a major refresh of the Tidepool Touch Habitat, sponsored by American Honda Motor Corp.

In addition, the Aquarium’s life-sized spy-hopping Gray Whale model got new barnacles; the fence is now covered with scientific drawings



of local sea creatures; the welcome booth sports a new look and a gorgeous new glass panel door brightens the courtyard.

A \$100,000 grant from the Ahmanson Foundation funded many of the new features as well as gifts from Valero and California Sulphur.

Guests will also watch the premiere of an award-winning short film, “Night at the Aquarium,” which features a voice-over actor portraying the late Aquarium Director John Olguin as he unravels the mystery of a missing sea creature.

Made at the Aquarium during the closure, the film features super high-definition camera work that highlights the beauty and complexity of the Aquarium’s animals.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is open to the general public. New hours are 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Individual memberships start at \$50; family memberships cost \$75. Founded in 1935, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is located at 3720 Stephen M. White Drive in San Pedro.

It is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks with support from the Port of Los Angeles and the nonprofit Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

AltaSea Update

AltaSea is pleased to say that with hard work and the help of good friends, we came out of a difficult 2020 stronger than ever! Our 35-acre campus, that includes 180,000 square feet of warehouse, is buzzing with activity and plans for the remainder of 2021.

We are so happy to announce that the University of Southern California (USC) signed a lease to develop its Seaweed Lab at AltaSea! The lab and researchers will be operational in August! In addition, 2020 and 2021 allowed us to add and welcome companies in the Blue Economy, including Pacific Mariculture, Braid Theory, and Holdfast Aquaculture. Even more exciting—the AltaSea administrative offices have officially moved onto the waterfront campus.

We’ve just returned to hosting safe, live events. In the spring, AltaSea hosted an innovative environment nonprofit, Energy Independence Now (EIN), and welcomed the *Energy Observer*, a hydrogen powered catamaran, on its voyage back to San Francisco. The event was featured on Spectrum1 News.

On the capital improvement front, we are pleased to announce that our Solar Rooftop Array Project will begin construction this Summer, which will



Cutting the ribbon at AltaSea.

provide enough renewable energy to power the AltaSea campus and feed extra clean energy into the DWP grid!

Like many entities, in the depths of the pandemic, we went virtual with our education programs and community outreach. Our programming expanded in 2020 and continues to grow. In May, AltaSea hosted the Blue + Green Webinar series focused on the emerging aquaculture Blue Economy.

In our continuing efforts toward diversity, equity, and inclusion, we are proud that the 2021 live chats were entirely comprised of brilliant female scientists. These live chats and webinars through the first half of the year reached over 7,000 viewers; and our partnership with Expand LA has reached 28,000 LAUSD students per semester.

Finally, mark your calendars—the AltaSea team is currently working hard on this year’s *Blue Hour* to be held on October 9 for which we were honored to win a community grant from Council District 15.

For more details on our progress, visit altasea.org!

Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Upcoming Meetings

Saturday, September 11
2:30 p.m. Planning, Land Use
and Transportation Committee

Monday, September 13
7:00 p.m. Agenda-setting meeting

Monday, September 20
6:30 p.m. Governing Board

Agendas and meeting links are at cspnc.org