

June 9, 2005

Honorable Mayor and Members of  
the Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular Meeting of  
June 14, 2005

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FROM THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES  
TO ACQUIRE LAND FOR THE PORTUGUESE BEND NATURE PRESERVE**

**Recommendation:**

That the City Council adopt a resolution of support for the preserve and urge the Wildlife Conservation Board to provide funding for the additional acquisition.

**Background:**

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes has requested that all South Bay cities join in supporting their application for funding. The Wildlife Conservation Board provides grant funding for these types of projects and this project certainly could be accessible to Hermosa Beach residents as well as other South Bay cities. A wide show of support is helpful in getting the grant funds. Adoption of the attached resolution simply expresses the City's support for the Wildlife Conservation Board to assist Rancho Palos Verdes in the acquisition of this land.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Burrell  
City Manager

**RESOLUTION NO. 05-**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES AND THE PALOS VERDES PENINSULA LAND CONSERVANCY TO ACQUIRE 722 ACRES OF OPEN SPACE AND CREATE THE PORTUGUESE BEND NATURE PRESERVE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy have initiated an effort to preserve the final 722 acres of natural open space required to establish the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve; and,

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve represents the last, largest and most significant opportunity for coastal protection that remains to be accomplished between the Santa Monica Mountains lying to the north of Los Angeles and Orange County; and,

**WHEREAS**, over 15 million taxpayers reside within this boundary, and the immediate service area for the project captures 1.7 million residents from a diverse racial and socioeconomic demographic; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve will enhance the quality of life of residents of the City of Hermosa Beach by providing significant recreational and educational opportunities; and,

**WHEREAS**, the property contains a multitude of endangered species, including the California Gnatcatcher and the Cactus Wren, and represents the largest potential reserve for California coastal sage scrub remaining in Los Angeles County; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 1996 and 2000, with funding from the California Wildlife Conservation Board, the California Coastal Conservancy and the County of Los Angeles, 260 acres of prime open space and endangered species habitat was purchased to begin the process of building a preserve that will eventually cover over 1,500 acres of contiguous open space; and,

**WHEREAS**, today, after lengthy negotiations, the landowners, the City and the Land Conservancy have agreed on a preserve design that requires the acquisition of 722 acres; and,

**WHEREAS**, the sales price of this land is \$26 million, to which the City of Rancho

Palos Verdes will contribute \$1 million and the state and federal governments will provide \$19 from state bond and other monies restricted to open space acquisition; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy has pledged \$6 million to be raised from the South Bay communities for the acquisition; and,

**WHEREAS**, requests for funding will be greatly enhanced through the demonstration of strong regional support; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Hermosa Beach declares its support for the preservation of the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve and the efforts of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy to obtain funding for the purchase of the property including private, Federal and State monies.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2005.

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PRESIDENT of the City Council and MAYOR of the City of Hermosa Beach,  
California

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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CITY CLERK

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CITY ATTORNEY