

*Seacliff*

*Spring 2023*

*Improvement  
Association*



*Announcing our 2023 Second Quarter Meeting*

## ***Seacliff Ice Cream Social***

**Saturday, June 17, 2023 - 2 pm**

**Seacliff Village Neighborhood Park**

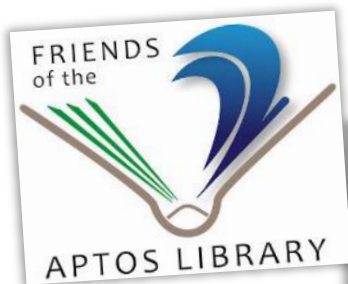
**At the corner of Sea Ridge, Canterbury, and McGregor Drives**

Bring your kids, parents, friends, and dogs-on leash to share a scoop  
generously provided by Marianne's Ice Cream!

Visit with our county supervisor, Zach Friend, and his analyst, Kieran Kelly.

Learn more about local organizations and our association including the announcement of  
our 2023 Beautification Awards, SIA activities, and issues that are important to our  
members and Seacliff Village. RSVP by June 15<sup>th</sup> with the number in your party to:

[info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)





## Road Repairs Coming to Seacliff

Zach Friend  
Second District Supervisor  
County of Santa Cruz

One of the most common service requests we receive centers around the condition of a road or road repair. We are often asked, “where do my taxes go?” “Why are the roads in the condition they are in?” After all, many residents pay thousands every year in property taxes and want to know why those funds aren’t being used to

repair county roads. Here is an overview of our local roads, the costs to maintain them, and which Seacliff roads will be repaired in the near future.

*How large is the road network?* The road network our County maintains is approximately 600 centerline miles in the unincorporated county areas. Centerline miles represent the total length of a given road from its starting point to its end point.

*What is Measure D Funding?* Measure D was a local half-cent transportation sales tax measure that passed in November of 2016. For our district, Measure D funding depends upon sales tax revenues, approximately \$900,000 each year for local roads. Last year, due to higher than anticipated sales tax receipts, it brought in about \$1.2 million to our district.

*What does it cost to maintain or repair the roads?* While construction costs are constantly fluctuating, one thing that is constant is that it’s much cheaper to maintain a road in good condition than to repair and rebuild a road in poor condition. According to Public Works, a road in good condition, requiring a single layer seal costs approximately \$141,000 per mile. For a road in fair condition, it would cost about \$352,000 per mile for a multilayer seal with dig out work. This is the average range for our arterial roads. For a road in poor condition, \$563,000 per mile and includes a full overlay and dig outs. Many of our local roads and some of our collectors fall into this category. For a road in failed condition, the cost for full reconstruction is close to \$1.1 million per mile.

*Where do my taxes go?* The county has a different funding structure than cities. Over half of all county revenues come from the state and federal government. These funds are generally pass-through funds to provide mandated services such as health or jail programs. These funds are restricted in their use and generally can’t be used for local road repairs.

Approximately 22 percent of the county revenue comes from local taxes. These taxes include property taxes, vehicle license fees, taxes paid at local hotels and sales taxes. And while property taxes make up about half of that 22 percent, only 13 cents of every property tax dollar goes to the County. This means, for every dollar of property tax you pay, only 13 cents goes to the County for services.

So where does the rest of your property tax go to? The largest share, about 57 percent goes to schools while another 18 percent goes to local special districts, cities and the libraries. Why does such a small amount stay with the county? The distribution is determined based on what our county was collecting the year before Prop. 13 was passed. This means that some counties, such as Santa Clara and San Mateo, keep between 2 and 4 times what we can keep.

*What Roads will be Repaired?* Extensive road repairs and resurfacing is coming to Seacliff this summer and next, as part of our Measure D funding program. Seacliff will have work done this summer as well as the summer of 2024.

Here are the roads that will be completed this summer:

Hillcrest Drive - between State Park and Mar Vista

Coates Drive - between Hillcrest and Seacliff

Seacliff Drive - between State Park and Mar Vista

Park Drive - between Coates and Hillcrest

Beachgate Way - between Coates and Seacliff and between Seacliff and Hillcrest

Loma Place - between Seacliff and Park

We occasionally reduce a section if there are significant unexpected costs. We add small sections when costs are lower than expected. Often, once road work begins, my office receives calls asking why a neighbor's road is being resurfaced and not the caller's road. There are a number of reasons for this including the cost per road repair. We want to repair as many as possible even though some might actually be in better condition and less expensive to repair. Adjacent streets are sometimes included because the construction crew is already working nearby. The good news is more roads will be repaired in Seacliff in 2024!

Here are a list of Summer 2024 roads:

Margaret Ave - between McGregor and Mar Vista Ave

Mar Vista Ave - between Margaret and Harriett

Gertrude Ave - between Mar Vista Drive and Mar Vista Ave

Laverne Ave - between Mar Vista Ave and Mar Vista Dr.

Harriett Ave - between Mar Vista Drive and Ord

Ord St - between Harriett and Mar Vista Ave

Pine St - between Mar Vista Dr and the end of Pine

Poplar Ct - between Poplar St and the end of Poplar Ct

Poplar St. - between Maple and Mar Vista Drive

Maple St - between Seacliff and Poplar

Cedar St - between Mar Vista Drive and Seacliff Drive

Middlefield Dr - between Seacliff Dr. and Mar Vista Drive

Cross Way - between Middlefield and Seacliff

Oakdale Dr - between Seacliff and Poplar

Seacliff Dr - between Mar Vista Drive and end of Seacliff

If you have a pothole or non-emergency road issue you can submit service requests through the County's free mobile app, My Santa Cruz County, available on the app store or Google Play, online via the Public Works Department's website: <https://dpw.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Home.aspx> or by calling 454-2160. As always, if you have any questions about this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me at 454-2200.



*Hillcrest Drive at Mar Vista Drive is marked for Measure D resurfacing this summer.*

# Seacliff State Beach Day Use and Trails are Open

Rebecca Downing and Dave Somerton



State Park staff and local contractors have been working busily since January to prepare for reopening and we can now visit AND park in the day use section of our beloved beach park. Some areas, including the campground, remain unsafe and are behind fencing and are off limits to visitors but the visitor center and restrooms are open.

To address the future of the entire park, California State Parks has started work with Moffatt & Nichol, an engineering and consulting firm, to develop a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Alternatives Study. This study will analyze the park in the context of climate change and sea level rise and evaluate options and opportunities. As part of this study, there will be robust public outreach throughout the planning process to engage the community, stakeholders, and visitors. The association board will meet with Friends of State Parks to explore and establish how our organization will work on the Beachgate and Moosehead trails in the future. The Beachgate Trail only required repair at the bottom of the cliff but was closed until last week because the campground area was unsafe for day use walking.



January 19

The Moosehead trail was badly damaged by multiple landslides during the winter storms. Most of this damage, shown in the January 19<sup>th</sup> photo on the left, occurred to the middle, mostly flat, trail section. Thanks to the efforts of State Parks staff, the Friends of State Parks and an anonymous donor, this section was rebuilt, is still very narrow but now includes a new cable handrail, as is shown in the May 19<sup>th</sup> photo on the right.



May 19

## Draft EIR Moves to Caltrans for Review

Rebecca Downing



On June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission conducted a public hearing for the Highway 1 Auxiliary Lanes and Bus on Shoulder project between State Park Drive and Freedom Boulevard, and the Coastal Rail Trail Segment 12 Project Draft Environmental Impact Report and Assessment. Public comments varied from concerns about tree removal, trail access, width and placement, lack of funding, sound mitigation, historical buildings and more.

Caltrans will respond to comments received and prepare the final report. Upon certification by Caltrans, the Commission will adopt findings and file a notice of determination in accordance with CEQA. Although no date has been set for this filing, project construction is currently planned to begin in 2025 pending availability of funds.

To learn more about this segment of the Watsonville to Santa Cruz Multimodal Corridor Program visit: <https://youtu.be/tu2-ozjFrhs>

# Why We All Need to Participate in the County of Santa Cruz 2023 Housing Element Update

Rebecca Downing

The County of Santa Cruz is updating its Housing Element chapter of the County's General Plan. The Housing Element, a plan for meeting local housing needs, is required by State law, and updated every 8 years. The County's latest plan must be submitted to the state by December 2023. The plan requires the County to identify sites where new housing could be built to meet our regional housing needs allocation of 4,634 new housing units and seeks to provide a range of opportunities for all people in our community.

You are encouraged to participate in an interactive housing plan created for public input. This takes some time and you will notice, as you review various local areas suggested for housing, that Seacliff is not included. In 2009, four acres of the Coastlands Church property, owned by Dominican Hospital, were selected for rezoning to meet a previous housing element cycle. The County Board of Supervisors approved 100 units per acre, 400 units. Seacliff neighbors, including this association successfully sued both the County and Dominican Hospital over several issues with the site including lack of traffic mitigation infrastructure, site unsuitability, and lowering the priority of use in the Coastal Zone. You can read more about this in our 2009 and 2010 newsletters that give a detailed account of how Seacliff residents joined together to successfully fight this action. <https://seacliffimprovement.org/membership/newsletter-archive/>

It was a watershed moment for our association; membership and Seacliff community involvement grew significantly afterwards. The neighborhood already supported affordable housing, as demonstrated by two projects built on Canterbury Drive during this period, the Seacliff Highlands and Canterbury Townhomes. Both were built without local road improvements to accommodate the additional traffic near the same intersection as the Coastlands Church where rezoning for another 400 units without substantial traffic enhancements at the State Park Drive/Sea Ridge Road intersection was unacceptable to residents.

Fortunately, online tools, such as the interactive plan, now allow everyone to better understand the realities and opportunities of finding ways to increase housing in the unincorporated areas of the County. Public participation can now expand beyond public meetings and navigation through complex planning documents. There are a variety of creative housing scenarios that were unavailable in previous cycles including townhomes, apartments, single family homes, duplexes, and more that you will review and evaluate as you develop your online housing plan.

The Housing Element Interactive Plan will be available through the month of June. Read more about this work and create your own housing plan at the County's Housing Element website: <https://www.sccoplanning.com/PlanningHome/Housing/2023HousingElement.aspx>

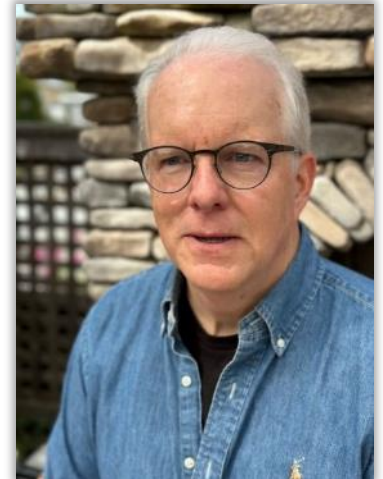


## Welcome Our New Board Members!

The Seacliff Improvement Association(SIA) added two members to our board of directors this spring and include both long time and newer members, and full and part time residents.

Our new Secretary is Bill Reddington. Bill and his wife have been part-time residents of Aptos since 2015. According to Bill, "We literally decided it was the perfect spot for our eventual retirement one morning as we had breakfast at the Hole In the Wall. We had a lead on a house in the area and came over for the weekend. That's all it took." They have really enjoyed getting to know their neighbors, and the local "happenings."

Bill has worked as a business appraiser for over 30 years, specializing in appraisals for Estate and Gift tax matters. Their primary residence is in the Central Valley, but the nature of his work allows him to do it almost anywhere. Bill's wife is also self-employed, and while she can't do her work remotely, she is working on cutting back on her office time. They have three kids, who live all over the country, so they take advantage of the San Jose airport, often!



Bill Reddington

Adele Eberhart officially joined SIA Board in February, and also represents the community on the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Advisory Group. Adele is a legacy SIA member! Her mother, Barbara McGee served the association for decades was likely the first woman board member. Adele believes, "The SIA is our voice for Seacliff to the County, State and even Federal agencies. With the assistance of the membership, the SIA looks out for emerging and ongoing issues that may have an impact to all of us. The SIA also improves our sense of community via meetings, events, the newsletter, and community outreach. Seacliff would not be Seacliff as we know it without the SIA."

Since moving back to the county in 1996, Adele has served various organizations including the Pajaro Valley Loaves and Fishes, the Santa Cruz County Drug and Alcohol Prevention Taskforce, and the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County Program Committee.

For leisure, Adele enjoys walking at Rio-Seacliff and other beaches, tending roses for the community to enjoy at her 3rd generation home on the Seacliff bluff, and entertaining friends and family. She and husband Glenn are retired medical professors spending the last ten years of their careers with Genentech and UCSC, respectively. Their sons, Bryce lives in Sydney, Australia (spending Julys in Seacliff) and Erik who lives in Seascape along with grandson, Sean. Dog "Hank" is known to carefully watch all Seacliff Drive visitors from the windows of their home.



Adele and Glenn Eberhart

Seacliff Improvement Association 2023  
Treasurer's Report

	YTD
Ending Balance from Dec 2022	\$26,542.02
<b>INCOME:</b>	
Membership Dues	\$1,460.00
General Donations	\$1,010.77
Wells Fargo Account Interest	\$4.13
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$2,474.90</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
PayPal Transfer Fee	\$2.65
Membership	\$615.53
Mini Park	\$4,023.92
Newsletter	\$1,660.63
Seacliff Street Fair	\$348.98
Website	\$140.00
Zoom Annual Subscription	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$6,791.71</b>

**ENDING CASH BALANCE: \$22,076.37**

**Beachgate Trail YTD Balance: \$5615.62**

**Welcome New Members!**

Dawn Thomas-Schwartz &  
Jonathan Schwartz

Anders Pers

**We thank all 312  
member households and  
friends for your continued support.**

Seacliff Improvement Association  
2023 Officers and Board of Directors

President:	Emily Chorba
Vice President:	Dave Somerton
Secretary:	Bill Reddington
Treasurer:	Rebecca Downing
Director:	Kelly Dillon
Director:	Adele Eberhart
Director:	Brent Lay

Learn more about the association visit:

<http://www.seacliffimprovement.org/>

Our membership meets quarterly, and our board

of directors meets on the second Tuesday of the month. We currently have two board seats open and waiting for your participation. If you have been an association member for more than one year and wish to get more involved in all things Seacliff, consider joining the board. We also need a treasurer who loves numbers and Excel. Contact us if you are interested or wish to attend our meeting:

[info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)

**March with Seacliff in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade - July 4, 2023**

This year the Seacliff Improvement Association returns to the Fourth of July parade! We will march with our Seacliff banner in the "World's Shortest Parade" from State Park Drive to Aptos Village. We invite you to join us wearing your Red, White and Blue. Grab your dog, your kids, your bike, your flag, your wagon, and your bunting, to celebrate Independence Day with your neighbors and the community.



Show your Seacliff pride!



Stay tuned for email details and RSVP later this month...

**Seacliff Improvement Association**

**PO Box 533**

**Aptos, CA 95001-0533**



***Share your newsletter with a neighbor and invite them to join!***

Membership Application/Renewal-Newsletter

Annual Dues are \$20.00 (January– December)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Seacliff Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address if different: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (for newsletters and bulletins only):

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Donation Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us?  Invitation Letter from Us  Nextdoor  Someone told you about us  
 Complimentary Newsletter  Membership Renewal  Our website

Please include your check and mail to: Seacliff Improvement Association, P.O. Box 533, Aptos, CA 95001

