

Seacliff Improvement Association

Spring 2025

Celebrate Summer at the Seacliff Ice Cream Social!

Saturday, June 21, 2025 - 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 our Second Quarter Meeting and share a scoop generously provided by Marianne's Ice Cream!



Meet our County Supervisor, Kim De Serpa, learn about local organizations, and celebrate the announcement of our 2025 Beautification Awards!

RSVP by June 15th to: info@seacliffimprovement.org



March with Seacliff Neighbors in the 4th of July Parade!

This year we will march with our Seacliff Improvement Association banner in the "World's Shortest Parade" in Aptos.

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...



Hello Seacliff Neighbors!

Kim De Serpa
Second District Supervisor
County of Santa Cruz

With summer almost here, I wanted to send you a quick update—from progress on the ground in Seacliff to what's happening in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., which could impact our community. Let's start with the budget.

This year's state budget outlook was better than expected. While California is still facing a significant shortfall—around \$12 billion—early projections were even more dire. The reason for the improvement? Higher-than-expected revenues, especially from capital gains and delayed tax filings. That extra cushion gave the state room to scale back some proposed cuts, including health care and higher education. We're not out of the woods, but the picture is more balanced than it was just a few months ago.

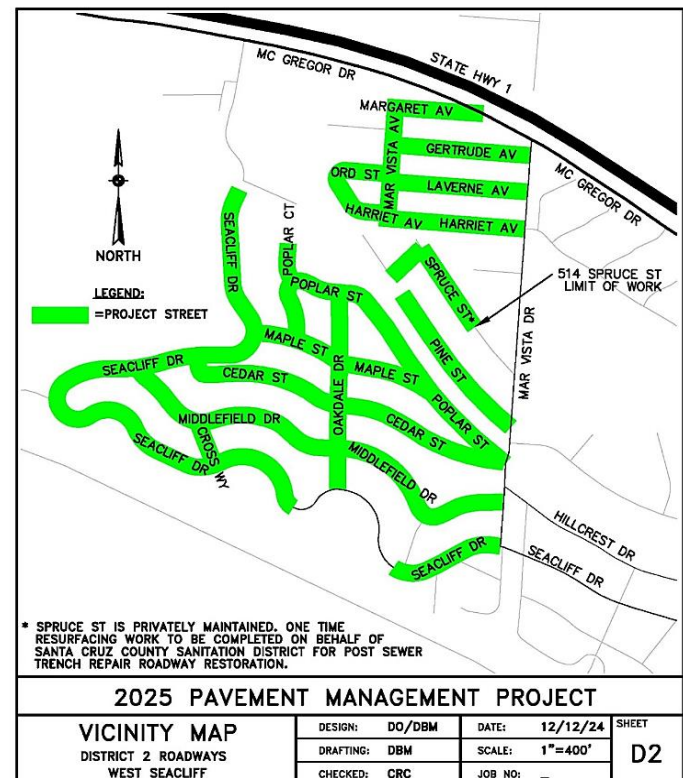
At the federal level, the House recently passed a major budget reconciliation bill. It includes tax cuts, more spending on defense and immigration control, and proposed reductions to Medicaid and food assistance. The Senate is now reviewing the bill and making changes, with a target of finalizing it by July 4. If passed, this legislation could have big implications for state and local budgets, including ours. We're keeping a close eye on what might come next.

Through it all, I'm focused on making sure Santa Cruz County continues to deliver the services you count on—especially for our most vulnerable residents—and that we do it in a way that's fiscally responsible and grounded in local priorities. If you'd like to see how the County is approaching its own budget this year, the proposed spending plan is available here: [Vision Santa Cruz Budget](#). Public hearings begin in June, and your feedback is always welcome.

Local progress in Seacliff

Let's talk about some good news. The West Seacliff Sewer Replacement Project is almost complete. Sewer work is done. Manhole lining is wrapping up. Next, crews will run camera inspections to make sure everything is working properly, then County staff will do a final review. We're on track to finish by mid-June, barring any surprises.

Next up is paving. The Measure D road rehabilitation project in Seacliff is scheduled to begin June 16th and continue through late July. I know it's been a long wait. This is a project that Supervisors Friend and De Serpa collaborated on. Thank you for your patience as work completes soon.



I've been working to bring renewed focus to some long-standing concerns in Seacliff. Last week, I was joined by County Executive Officer, Carlos Palacios and Economic Development Analyst, Peter Detlefs, for a walk through the Center Avenue corridor. We looked closely at issues that have been raised time and again—like the lack of progress on the Seacliff Village Plan, redevelopment options, and the ongoing problems caused by the drainage ditch, which has led to water overflow and impacted nearby businesses during heavy rains. Your input continues to be essential as we work together to tackle these challenges and ensure Seacliff remains a vibrant, welcoming community for all.

Since taking office January 6, here's a snapshot of what my team and I have been working on:

- 36 department orientations, facility tours, and trainings
- 109 meetings with residents, neighborhood groups, nonprofits, and businesses
- 11 days in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., advocating for resources
- Six "Office Hours" events across the district—including one in Seacliff
- And countless calls and emails answered to help solve local issues

I'll be around the district this summer. If you see me, please stop and say hello. I'm always glad to hear from you. Thanks for being such an engaged part of this community. It's an honor to represent Seacliff, my first home in Santa Cruz County.

Warm regards,

Kim De Serpa, Santa Cruz County Supervisor, District 2

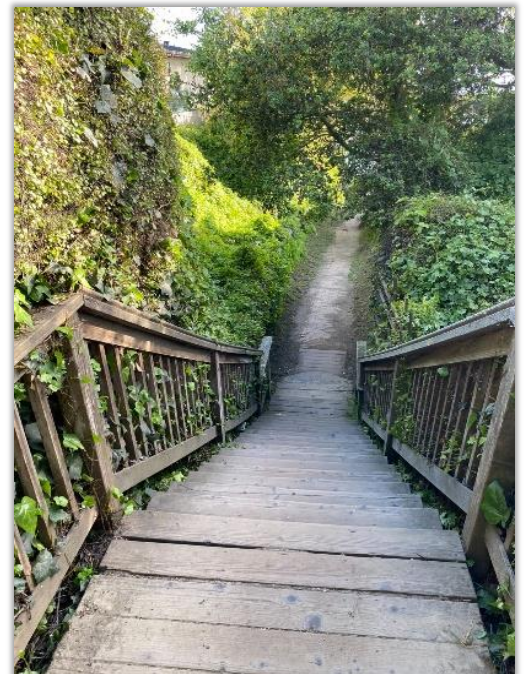
second.district@santacruzcountyca.gov



Beachgate Trail Gets A Spring Cleaning

Emily Chorba

Keeping this trail clear and safe for your passage to enjoy your walk to Seacliff Beach State Park, is enabled and funded by your dues and generous donations. Thank you!



Co-housing Community: St John's House

Rebecca Downing

Housing for the most vulnerable in our county is difficult to find and mostly unaffordable. Finding new ways to establish safe homes for those with very low incomes is a challenge that requires creativity and commitment. St John's Episcopal Church in Seacliff hopes to address this with their co-housing design for ten units to be located on their property on Canterbury Drive. Jon Showalter, the project manager, recently walked me through the site as he described what the church envisions for the corner of their property adjacent to McGregor Drive next to the Sea Breeze townhomes. They look to form a community that includes women with children, seniors, and those recently unhoused to share common meals in the large kitchen and time with each other and members of the church who may assist in tutoring, teaching financial literacy, cooking and other life skills. Each studio or one bedroom unit will also have small kitchens for individual meals.

Grant funds for St. John's House require renting to those who are Medicaid and Section 8 housing eligible, and includes the working poor, disabled, indigent and those coming out of homelessness. Their priority is to house the elderly, single parents with children and those previously unhoused, and believe a mix would be best for the residents, the church and the neighborhood. The property manager will conduct criminal background and reference checks and, along with members of St. John's Church, will conduct potential tenant interviews. As part of the community nature of the project, they will also seek a resident with leadership and communication skills to act as a first-among-equals, go-to-person to encourage community engagement who will receive training in conflict resolution and other relevant topics along with some subsidization of their rent.



St John's is using a concept from the Association of Faith Communities that has successfully used this model in their rotating shelter program at St. John's and multiple other faith communities for the past 14 years. In addition to the support of St. John's members, all those coming out of homelessness or who are medically fragile will continue to receive case work for the first six months of their tenancy and longer as needed. This is paid for by the Central Coast Alliance for Health and provided by local service providers.

Jon said the passage of SB4 that allows faith communities to develop affordable housing on their properties, reducing the planning time to shovel ready status and associated costs considerably. The church has currently raised \$1,758,000 in grants, donations and investments. To break ground, they need to raise \$826,000 more and are hoping to do within the next 14 months.



Dune Restoration at Rio Del Mar State Beach

Scott Rohlf

Staff Park and Recreation Specialist California State Parks - Santa Cruz District

Over the spring, California State Parks took the next step forward on the Rio del Mar Living Shoreline Pilot Project. This project began after substantial storm events in 2021 which caused significant beach and habitat loss and endangered public facilities. California State Parks worked with the local offices of Integral Consulting, Inc., who saw an opportunity to pilot a new approach to protecting public facilities while supporting natural processes.

The design features driftwood, carried onshore from local rivers during storm events, collected and buried in an interlocking manner beneath the sand. First implemented in 2022, the pilot project has survived the catastrophic swell events of recent winters with further additions to the

buried driftwood in 2023 and 2024. Over the last few years, you may have seen us stacking and burying driftwood to support dune growth.



SIA President Emily Chorba

This year, with support from local non-profit Groundswell Coastal Ecology and the Coastal Conservancy funded Monterey Bay Living Shoreline Program, and local volunteers, we're planting more native dunes. These plants have evolved to handle local coastal hazards, add stability to dune sand, and aid in the capture of additional sand, helping to maintain dune size over time. The native plants also support native pollinators helping increase local ecosystem health.



Picture courtesy of Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks

Monterey Bay Living Shoreline Program and California State Parks will monitor the pilot project with technical assistance from UC San Diego Scripps Institute of Oceanography. We thank all the volunteers that made our community planting days a success. If you are interested in joining future planting days or would like to help in the maintenance and care of the restoration, please reach out to: outreach@groundswellecology.org.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
MEASURE Q

Participate in the countywide effort to shape the Measure Q Vision Plan, which will guide investments in climate resilience, for our county parks, trails, and natural lands. Santa Cruz County Parks

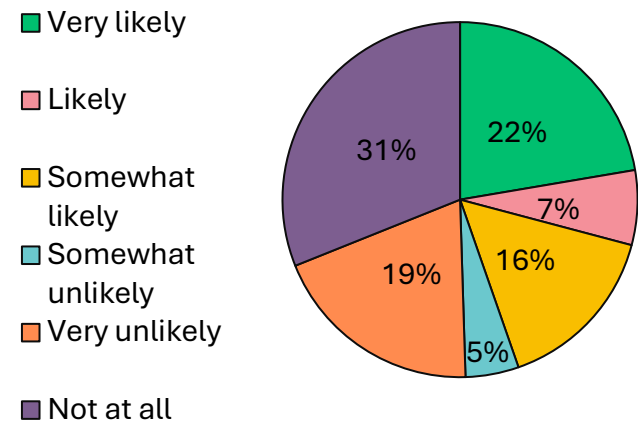
will host community open houses including one at the Live Oak Community Center on June 27th. Meetings will follow an open house format with interactive stations, and maps, and offers an online survey: [Vision Q Investment Survey](#) To learn more about Measure Q and open house details, including a virtual opportunity, visit: [Measure Q Open House Meetings](#)

Results of the Association Passenger Rail Survey

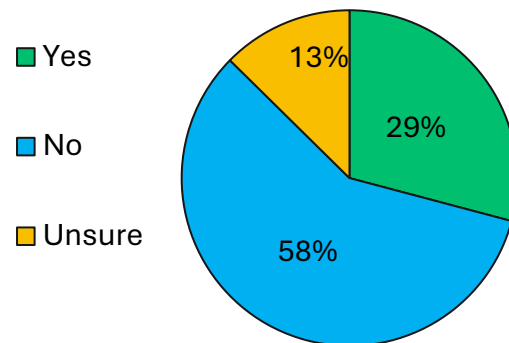
Rebecca Downing

Our rail survey received 103 responses and included many comments in addition to the questions we posed. Below are responses to four of the questions. Read the complete results on our website: [Seacliff Improvement Association](#).

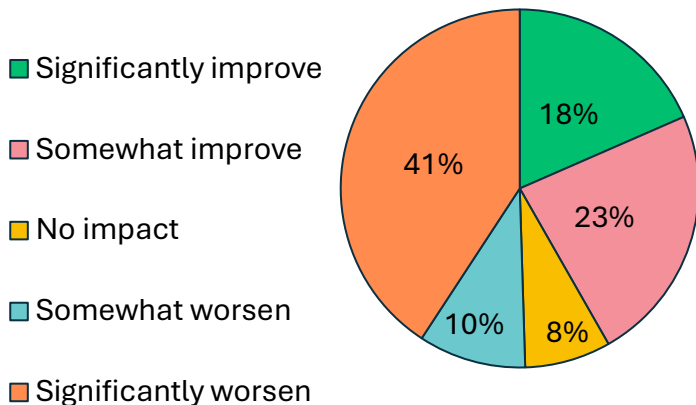
How likely would you be to use passenger rail service in Santa Cruz County?



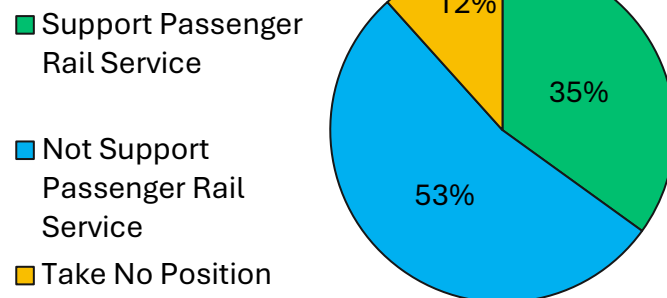
The Regional Transportation Commission has stated that our county residents will be required to help fund passenger rail service through a local tax measure. Would you support one to pay to build and maintain passenger rail services in Santa Cruz County?



How do you think passenger rail would impact the overall quality of life in Seacliff?



If our association were to take a position, should we:



Shortly after our survey closed, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission voted to reclassify its rail type to an intercity train to better integrate with the California State Rail System. This may improve the agency’s chances to receive funding and will result in changes to local rail planning. Intercity service is designed for longer journeys between major cities or metropolitan areas with fewer stops and higher speeds to maximize travel time. Regional service serves commuters and more local travelers, stops more frequently, and travels at variable and typically lower speeds along the line.



What this means for Seacliff is uncertain. It does mean that trains will pass through here faster and more frequently than the freight trains that used to run three times a week to Davenport. With California’s goal of transitioning to zero emissions, the current plan is to use hydrogen fuel cell trains so service can connect seamlessly at the future station planned for Pajaro.

Welcome New Members!

Teresa Olson

and

Jerry Romani & Teri McKeever

*We thank all 250
member households and
friends for your continued
support.*

Learn more about our association...

including our history, bylaws, activities, and newsletter archive by visiting our website:

[Seacliff Improvement Association](https://seacliffimprovement.org)

Our membership meets quarterly, and our board of directors meets on the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to join us. Contact us if you wish to attend a board meeting: info@seacliffimprovement.org

Volunteer at the Mini Park

Rebecca Downing

Over the decades, the Seacliff Mini Park has been cared for by SIA members who weed, spread mulch, tidy the paths and collect trash. One of our members even installed new benches! Thanks to your dues, we now pay for twice per month maintenance to prune plants and remove weeds. We still need help sweeping mulch off the paths weekly and twice per week during the summer. This tidying takes about 20 minutes if you don't count the moments spent enjoying the view! Please consider joining our current crew that alternates months and pitches in if one of us is away. If you want to know more or are ready to go with your broom and trash bag, contact us at: info@seacliffimprovement.org

Seacliff Improvement Association 2025 YTD Treasurer's Report

	YTD
Ending Balance from Dec 2024	\$23,423.48
INCOME:	
Membership Dues	\$3,472.75
General Donations	\$1,274.80
Beachgate Trail Donations	\$200.00
Wells Fargo Account Interest	\$1.03
TOTAL INCOME:	\$4,948.58
EXPENSES:	
Beachgate Trail Expenses	\$950.00
Mini Park	\$649.58
Newsletter	\$1,995.03
Website Hosting	\$894.81
Annual Zoom Membership	\$159.90
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$4,649.32

ENDING CASH BALANCE: **\$23,722.74**

Beachgate Trail YTD Balance: **\$3,060.62**



Reference list for neighborhood issues

Have a Concern?	Contact	Contact Information
Noise	Santa Cruz County Sheriff	24 hour non-emergency: 471-1121
Abandoned Vehicle Please provide:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location and Color Make and model License plate number and length of abandonment 	Santa Cruz County Sheriff	Santa Cruz County Sheriff Vehicle Abandonment 831- 454-7602
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car Blocking the street Parking in a no-parking zone Non-injury accidents 	California Highway Patrol	796-2160 or visit: California Highway Patrol
Animal Control/Barking	Santa Cruz Animal Shelter	Santa Cruz Animal Shelter
Code Compliance	Santa Cruz County Planning Department	Santa Cruz County Code Compliance
Emergency Road or Sanitation Issue	Public Works 24 hour Service Line	831-477-3999

Explore County resources and report neighborhood concerns, including: potholes, bicycle and pedestrian hazards, encampments, or illegal dumping to the County at:
[My Santa Cruz County](#)

Seacliff Community Contacts

Santa Cruz County Representative	2nd District Supervisor, Kim De Serpa	454-2200
Central Fire District	Jason Nee Fire Chief	479-6842
The Aptos Village Safety Center	Sergeant Travis Huntsman	662-0690
Seacliff State Beach	Park Office	685-6442 or 685-6500