



# Seacliff Improvement Foundation

Spring  
2026



## Celebrate Summer at the Seacliff Ice Cream Social!

Saturday, June 20, 2026, 2-3 pm

Seacliff Village Neighborhood Park

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

Walk over with your, kids, parents, friends, and dogs on leash to our Second Quarter Meeting and share a scoop generously provided by Marianne's Ice Cream!



Say hello to our County Supervisor, Kim De Serpa. Learn about your local organizations and Seacliff Beach State Park Plans. Celebrate the announcement of our 2026 Beautification Awards!

By June 15th, please RSVP "YES" to [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org) and tell us how many are coming with you. No need to RSVP if you can't make it.





## Hello Seacliff Neighbors!

Kim De Serpa  
Second District Supervisor  
County of Santa Cruz

Happy May. Summer is around the corner, and while we are facing real budget challenges, there are also encouraging things happening across Santa Cruz County. New behavioral health services are opening for children and youth, Measure Q funding is beginning to turn into real projects, transportation improvements are moving forward, student housing is under construction, and County staff continue doing the steady work that keeps essential services running.

Santa Cruz County's proposed 2026-27 budget closes this year's gap, though concerns remain about future years. The County has implemented a hiring freeze, travel freeze, eliminated 58 positions, and used one-time funding to balance the budget while protecting core services and avoiding deeper long-term problems.

The major budget discussions happen in June, when the Board reviews departments, hears public input, and makes final decisions before the new fiscal year begins July 1.

I also want to highlight the County Executive Office's excellent public budget tools. Residents can explore department budgets, charts, summaries, and spending information here: <https://santacruzcountyca.gov/VisionSantaCruz/Budget.aspx>

One challenge I continue to talk about is that Santa Cruz County starts from a smaller revenue base than many people realize. Because of Proposition 13 formulas established decades ago, the County General Fund receives only about 13.4 cents of every property tax dollar, which is low compared with many neighboring counties.

At the same time, counties are increasingly asked to do more without enough funding attached. One recent example is H.R. 1, which reduced the federal share of CalFresh administrative funding from 50 percent to 25 percent, shifting more costs to local government while families still rely on the service.

The County is also continuing to manage delayed disaster reimbursements tied to the CZU Lightning Complex fires and multiple storm events. To keep recovery work moving, the County issued \$80.3 million in debt in 2024 and is still owed roughly \$40 million in reimbursements.

For Seacliff residents, these budget realities affect the basics people rely on every day: roads, drainage, sewer reliability, parks, public safety, emergency preparedness, homelessness response, transportation, and code compliance.

There are also several transportation updates worth noting. Highway 1 work between Bay/Porter and State Park continues, including auxiliary lanes, bus-on-shoulder improvements, and the future Mar Vista bicycle and pedestrian overcrossing. The new Capitola Avenue overcrossing opened earlier this year, marking visible progress in the larger project. The County is also improving Soquel Drive to make the corridor safer and more reliable for drivers, bus riders, bicyclists, and pedestrians alike.

On May 28, the County is co-hosting an "All About ADUs" panel at Cabrillo College focused on financing, design, permitting, and construction. ADUs can provide practical options for aging parents, adult children, caregivers, or modest rental housing within existing neighborhoods. Learn more here: <https://www.housingsantacruzcounty.com/affordable-housing-month-2026/all-about-adus-in-santa-cruz-county>

Countywide, there have also been important advances in behavioral health services. The Crisis Stabilization Unit at Hope Forward / Esperanza Adelante opened April 2, providing short-term assessment and stabilization for youth ages 5 to 17 experiencing mental health crises, regardless of insurance status.

Measure Q also offers reason for optimism. The program focuses on resilience, environmental health, clean water, wildfire risk reduction, habitat protection, and access to parks and open space. Interest has been strong, with more than 50 applications submitted in the first funding round.

As for a couple of local issues residents continue asking about, the Par 3 redevelopment proposal remains in the pre-application phase, meaning no formal application has been submitted yet, while discussions regarding the Beach Drive Island matter are still ongoing as parties continue working toward a settlement.

For coastal communities like ours, these investments matter. Clean water, habitat protection, wildfire preparedness, parks, and trails are part of protecting the place we all care deeply about. And Seacliff, as always, continues to show up with heart for the community we are lucky to call home. Please feel free to reach out.

## Mini Park

Rebecca Downing

Lend a Glove at the Seacliff Mini Park

If you've ever taken a stroll passed the Seacliff Mini Park, sat for a moment on a bench, or watched the birds, whales and people enjoying the beach below, you know what a treasure this little slice of garden is to our neighborhood. It's one of those special places we love to be to watch a beautiful sunset, or sunrise, if you are an early bird!

Tending the Mini Park is done by the crew from GreenOuse Landscape who come twice a month to weed and prune and by volunteers from our association who collect trash and maintain pathways. We each pick a month then visit once or twice a week, spending a few minutes tidying up while enjoying the view. As I mentioned in our last article, we are looking for a few folks to join us. You only need a broom, some gloves and a trash bag! You will receive training and can visit on your own schedule. Even if you commit to a month, we can pitch in for you if you are traveling or unavailable for a few days. A quick visit twice a week makes a real difference and helps us care for this local favorite we all share—and you will likely meet your neighbors and a few friendly critters while you are there too.

If you're interested, contact [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org) and we will put you to work!



## Trails Report

Dave Somerton

The Moosehead trail, which typically becomes grown over by abundant vegetation at this time of year, has recently been cleared by State Parks staff. This is wonderful news, because one of the offending plants is poison oak. Several folks I have talked to along the trail said they feel insecure along the upper steep portion and requested a hand rail be installed. SIF is now in negotiations with State Park staff about how this will be done.

We maintain the upper portion of the Beachgate trail on an as needed basis and contract with Seacliff local Scotty's Outdoor Services to do the work. You can see him at work on May 4th via his Facebook [page](#). Your dues and donations help to keep this maintenance going. Thank you for your support!



# State Parks Study: Where Will the Motorhomes Go?

Brent Lay

State Parks has announced the process they will use to determine the new location for the overnight Motorhome hook up sites. The new location will replace the beach level sites along Los Olas Drive which were subject to repeated storm damage and will not be rebuilt there.

State Parks has engaged the consulting firm Placeworks to conduct a feasibility study. They have been tasked to evaluate four potential sites: 1) New Brighton Campground, 2) Porter Sesnon Parcel adjacent to New Brighton, 3) Seacliff Upper Parking/Meadow Area and 4) Sunset State Beach.

This issue is of particular relevance to Seacliff due to proximity to the neighborhood. Residents are concerned about noise issues, night lighting for a campground, loss of views, problems with vacationers next to full time residents and change of neighborhood character.

The future plans for Seacliff Beach as part of the Resilience rebuilding process involve moving the majority of parking and picnicking areas that are currently at beach level to the upper level. The addition of Motorhome space would come at the expense of paving the meadow bordered by Seacliff Drive, a popular and well used greenspace for the neighborhood.

Placeworks initial evaluation phase will involve the following steps for each site:

- a) Land Surveying and production of a Topo map of the site
- b) Evaluation of existing Infrastructure and Utilities
- c) Research into Land Rights, Easements, etc.
- d) Evaluation of Capacity, what can realistically fit at that site
- e) Planning and Regulatory Compliance Issues, Coastal Commission, etc.

Then, considering the above factors, Placeworks will draft a Conceptual Design for each of the four sites. These designs will be rough guides, meant to be a starting point for discussion.

The four designs will be presented for State Parks Staff to review, to look for any obvious problems, errors, omissions, etc. Once the corrections are made, the four designs will be presented to the public.

Placeworks has been told to meet with Seacliff Improvement Foundation this summer to look for initial design feedback, this meeting is planned to take place in June, but a specific date has not been set. A second meeting with SIF and Placeworks will take place at the end of the year, probably in the December time frame. The next step will be the creation of four Final Conceptual Designs.

In the chart of the five stages of the Recovery Resilience Process these Conceptual Designs would be part of Stage 3 "Envision Desired Future", with Stage 4 "Design and Permitting" with Park Staff creating the Final Design and getting permits, and Stage 5 "Implementation" actual construction to follow.

In addition to the Conceptual Designs, Placeworks is tasked with making a Feasibility Matrix. The Matrix is like a grid with each potential site receiving a numerical score in a number of different factors. For example Site X might receive a 5 for accessibility but a 2 for existing infrastructure, etc. Placeworks will not make recommendations, just provide a series of scores in the different categories and it will be up to State Parks Staff to make the final decision on which of the four locations is chosen.



There was initially hope that Seacliff could be removed from the list of potential sites before the process began. State Parks said in order to get the funding needed they will need to go through both FEMA and the State Legislative Appropriations processes that will require the location where the original damage occurred to at least be considered as a potential site, along with the other replacement sites.

This first meeting with Placeworks will be a great time for us to show how the community feels about the potential impact to our neighborhood.

I hope this will help fill the "information void" around this subject. I am encouraged that Placeworks has been instructed to meet directly with us by State Parks, and that the first meeting is happening much sooner than expected. We have yet to receive a specific date for the first Placeworks meeting, stay tuned, we will provide it as soon as we have it.

## Transit, Trails, and Safe Passages

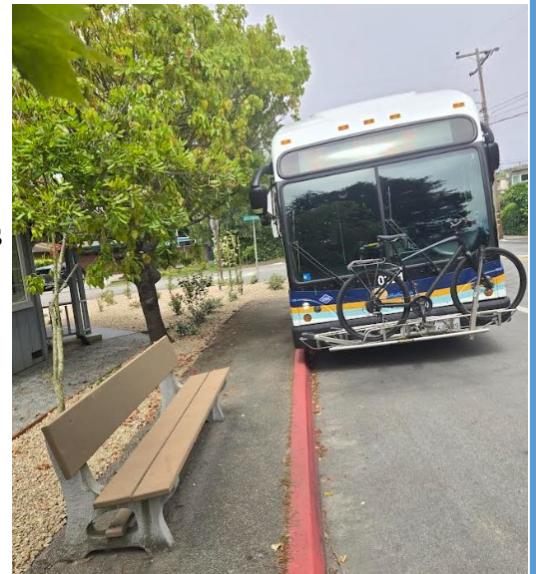
Rebecca Downing

People who move to Seacliff often tell us they love walking to the beach, around the neighborhood, and downtown for a beer, a bite, or a scoop. But walking safely beyond Seacliff is a challenge, so most of us rely on cars to get to places outside our village. Nearly 30% of our residents do not drive, so they must find other ways to get around, such as ride services, carpooling, biking, or walking. With gasoline prices rising, leaving the car behind is becoming more attractive—and it will be easier once safer routes are built.

Our closest bus service, Route 55, runs through Seacliff every two hours on weekdays. It travels in a loop from Capitola Mall to La Selva Beach before heading north again to connect with other METRO routes serving Santa Cruz and Watsonville. That makes it useful for return trips, but not timely for travel elsewhere. Bus service is more frequent on Soquel Drive, but the only way to reach those stops has been to cross State Park Drive, which carries heavy traffic. Pedestrians and cyclists must stay alert there, especially near the Highway 1 on- and off-ramps. For Seacliff residents who may one day no longer drive, safer pathways to bus stops will help connect us to the rest of the community and allow us to remain independent.

Our association was a key stakeholder in the development and design of both the Mar Vista Pedestrian Bridge, now under construction, and segments 11 and 12 of the Rail Trail, which are funded and in final design. These new pathways will connect Seacliff to the rest of the county and let us walk and roll more safely. The Rail Trail is set away from busy traffic except at crossings, so we can enjoy nature and ocean views along the way. The Soquel Drive Buffered Bike Lane and Congestion Mitigation Project has also improved pedestrian safety on this busy corridor and will continue until it reaches Freedom Boulevard. Once these safe passages are in place, walking to Aptos Village—a long-time goal of Seacliff neighbors—will be much safer and more pleasant.

As a member of the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, the Santa Cruz METRO board, and chair of the Community Traffic Safety Coalition, I am happy to answer questions or meet to talk about pedestrian and bike safety, bus service, or transportation in and around the county at: [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)



# Treasurer's Report

	January	February	March	April	YTD
Ending Balance from Jan 2026	\$24,355.85				\$24,355.85
<b>INCOME:</b>					
Membership Dues	\$200.00	\$75.00	\$250.00		\$525.00
General Donations		\$90.00	\$105.00		\$195.00
Calendar Donations	\$1,385.00	\$125.00			\$1,510.00
Beachgate Trail Donations					\$0.00
Wells Fargo Account Interest	\$0.19	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.08	\$0.44
Transfer to New Foundation Account				\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$1,585.19</b>	<b>\$290.08</b>	<b>\$355.09</b>	<b>\$5,000.08</b>	<b>\$7,230.44</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>					
Beachgate Trail Expenses			\$200.00		\$200.00
Beautification Gift Certificates					\$0.00
Annual Dinner					\$0.00
Insurance					\$0.00
Membership Meetings Expenses					\$0.00
Membership Supplies and Annual Renewal Mailing					\$0.00
Mini Park	\$95.00	\$95.00			\$190.00
Newsletter					\$0.00
4th of July Parade					\$0.00
Nonprofit registration fees	\$15,000.00				\$15,000.00
Post Box Annual Rental					\$0.00
Seacliff Street Fair					\$0.00
Survey Monkey Subscription					\$0.00
Website Hosting, Security and Admin	\$623.64	21.19			\$644.83
Transfer to New Foundation Account				\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Credit Card Fee for New Foundation Account				\$25.00	\$25.00
Annual Zoom Membership					\$0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$15,718.64</b>	<b>\$116.19</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$5,025.00</b>	<b>\$21,059.83</b>

**ENDING CASH BALANCE:** \$10,222.40 \$10,396.29 \$10,551.38 \$10,526.46 \$10,526.46

**Beachgate Trail YTD Balance:** \$3,610.62

Welcome New members  
Mary and Jon Hutters



**Stop by and visit us at our booth at the second annual Ocean Fest**

# OCEAN FEST

Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>  
11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Shell-ebrate the ocean and our community with Seacliff State Beach!

- Live music by Tim Brady of The Cement Ship
- Food trucks
- Kids' activities
- Info booths
- Local artists
- Soft drinks
- Beer garden provided by Discretion Brewing

Questions?  
Email [seacliff@ports-ca.us](mailto:seacliff@ports-ca.us)

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## Reference list for neighborhood issues

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Have a Concern?	Contact	Contact Information
Noise	Santa Cruz County Sheriff	24 hour non-emergency:
Abandoned Vehicle Please provide: Location and Color Make and model License plate number and length of abandonment	Santa Cruz County Sheriff	<a href="#">Santa Cruz County Sheriff Vehicle Abandonment</a> 454-7602
Car Blocking the street Parking in a no-parking zone Non-injury accidents	California Highway Patrol	796-2160 or visit: <a href="#">California Highway Patrol</a>
Animal Control/Barking	Santa Cruz Animal Shelter	<a href="#">Santa Cruz Animal Shelter</a>
Code Compliance	Santa Cruz County Planning Department	<a href="#">Santa Cruz County Code Compliance</a>
Emergency Road or Sanitation Issue	Public Works 24 hour Service Line	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

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PO Box 533  
 Aptos, CA 95001  
 Write: [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)  
 Surf: [www.seacliffimprovement.org](http://www.seacliffimprovement.org)

Seacliff Improvement Association 2026 Treasurer's Report						
	January	February	March	April	May	YTD
Ending Balance from Jan 2026	\$24,355.85					\$24,355.85
<b>INCOME:</b>						
Membership Dues	\$200.00	\$75.00	\$250.00		\$950.00	\$1,475.00
General Donations		\$90.00	\$105.00		\$325.00	\$520.00
Calendar Donations	\$1,385.00	\$125.00				\$1,510.00
Beachgate Trail Donations						\$0.00
Wells Fargo Account Interest	\$0.19	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.52
Transfer to New Foundation Account				\$5,000.00	\$0.10	\$5,000.10
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$1,585.19</b>	<b>\$290.08</b>	<b>\$355.09</b>	<b>\$5,000.08</b>	<b>\$1,275.08</b>	<b>\$8,505.62</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>						
Beachgate Trail Expenses			\$200.00		\$200.00	\$400.00
Beautification Gift Certificates						\$0.00
Annual Dinner						\$0.00
Insurance						\$0.00
Membership Meetings Expenses					\$7.65	\$7.65
Membership Supplies and Annual Renewal Mailing						\$0.00
Mini Park	\$95.00	\$95.00			\$500.00	\$690.00
Newsletter						\$0.00
4th of July Parade						\$0.00
Nonprofit registration fees	\$15,000.00					\$15,000.00
Post Box Annual Rental						\$0.00
Seacliff Street Fair						\$0.00
Survey Monkey Subscription						\$0.00
Website Hosting, Security and Admin	\$623.64	21.19			\$15.00	\$659.83
Transfer to New Foundation Account				\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
Credit Card Fee for New Foundation Account				\$25.00	\$25.00	\$50.00
Annual Zoom Membership					169.90	\$169.90
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$15,718.64</b>	<b>\$116.19</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$5,025.00</b>	<b>\$917.55</b>	<b>\$21,977.38</b>
<b>ENDING CASH BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$10,222.40</b>	<b>\$10,396.29</b>	<b>\$10,551.38</b>	<b>\$10,526.46</b>	<b>\$10,883.99</b>	<b>\$10,884.09</b>
<b>Beachgate Trail YTD Balance:</b>						<b>\$3,410.62</b>

## Join or renew your membership in the Seacliff Improvement Foundation Today

To learn more about the association including our bylaws, activities, newsletter archive, and board service, visit: [Seacliff Improvement Foundation](http://SeacliffImprovementFoundation.org). Our membership meets quarterly, and our board of directors meets on the second Tuesday of the month. All are welcome to join us, so if you wish to attend, email a request to us at: [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org). We will confirm the meeting time and location. It may be a Zoom meeting if not in person.

**You can still join for 2026. Dues are \$25.**

1. Pay online using the 1st QR code to pay with a credit card, ApplePay, or Google Pay. OR  
 Pay with Zelle to [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)
2. Use the 2nd QR code to complete the online application form for our membership records.

You can also write and mail a check to:  
 Seacliff Improvement Foundation  
 PO Box 533  
 Aptos, CA 95001.

Questions? Write to us at [info@seacliffimprovement.org](mailto:info@seacliffimprovement.org)

Scan to pay dues and or donate



Scan to complete your contact details for our records.

