



Marine Advisory Commission

CITY OF LONG BEACH
205 N. Marina Drive, Long Beach, CA 90803

August 8, 2024

Mayor Rex Richardson
411 West Ocean Blvd., 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Long Beach's 1938 Surfing and Paddleboard Championship "Historic Point of Interest" Designation

Dear Honorable Mayor Richardson,

The Marine Advisory Commission (MAC) assists the Marine Bureau of the City of Long Beach's Park, Recreation and Marine (PRM) Department by formulating requests for projects and programs, and advocates on behalf of Long Beach stakeholders.

The Long Beach site of the 1938 National Surfing and Paddleboard Championship was designated a "Historic Point of Interest" in April 2024 by the State of California's Department of Parks and Recreation. This was the first national surfing competition in the United States.

The MAC heard a presentation by Michael Blum, Sea of Clouds, on July 11, 2024 describing the project and this achievement.

The MAC believes that this designation, within the footprint of the city's historic beaches, falls within the purview of the Marine Bureau. Given the interest and enthusiasm expressed by our commissioners, we have formed a subcommittee to engage with City of Long Beach staff, in partnership with the Long Beach Chapter of Surfrider Foundation, historian Bryce Leisy and Michael Blum of Sea of Clouds, in the hope of supporting and assisting the effort to commemorate this historic site.

The MAC subcommittee is eager to assist in developing ideas for community outreach, design, placement of a plaque or other physical locator to celebrate this "Historic Point of Interest" designation.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support for this Historic Point of Interest. If there are ways we can help foster further support from your office, City Council, and City staff in this effort, please let us know. Kindly contact us at the Marine Advisory Commission of the Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine Department Marine Bureau.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jo Murray, Chair

Bruce Mac Rae, Vice Chair

Avis Atkins McPhail, Commissioner

Elizabeth Carlin, Commissioner

Gordana Kajer, Commissioner

Elizabeth Lambe, Commissioner

Theresa Marino, Commissioner

Sabrina Zavala, Commissioner

c: Long Beach City Council
Thomas B. Modica, City Manager
Brent Dennis, Director, Parks, Recreation and Marine
Todd Leland, Manager, Marine Bureau