

City of Trinidad

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January 13, 1989

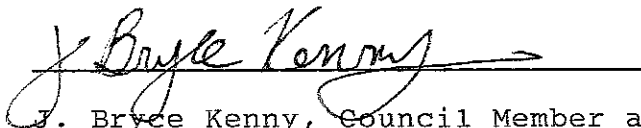
Nanci Smith
Granted Lands Representative
State Lands Commission
1807 Third Street
Sacramento, California

Dear Ms. Smith:

Enclosed please find the City of Trinidad submittal "General Use Proposal" which is presented pursuant to Assembly Bill 2857 of the 1985-86 Regular Session. This was approved by the Trinidad City Council at the January 11, 1989, regular meeting; our only meeting in January.

Please contact me if you require additional information or other assistance. We appreciate your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,



J. Bryce Kenny, Council Member and Harbor Commissioner

enclosures

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GENERAL USE PROPOSAL

CITY OF TRINIDAD

PUBLIC TRUST TIDE AND SUBMERGED LANDS

January, 1989

Assembly Bill No. 2857 of the 1985-86 Regular Session grants tide and submerged lands to the City of Trinidad, in trust, subject to specified conditions "for purposes of navigation, commerce, fisheries, and for other public purposes." (see attachment one, AB2857). One condition is that the trustee (Trinidad) must submit to the State Lands Commission a general use proposal indicating details of intended development, preservation, or other use of the granted lands, and covering a period of at least five years. This is that general use proposal.

Intended Development

The area granted in trust to the City of Trinidad is described in the legislation (see attachment one, page 8). It is the area of Trinidad Harbor which is presently used as mooring space for sports and commercial fishing boats, and the area which includes the pier.

These facilities are operated under lease with the City of Trinidad by a private business. (see attachment two, Lease Agreement)

There are no present plans to develop the harbor facilities for mooring or for pier wharfage beyond the present scale of use.

The area granted also includes certain shore lands in the area of tidal influence. Presently there is a boat launcher on rails operated there under the above mentioned lease. This use shall continue, and there are presently no plans to expand the operation, though it will continue to require periodic repairs.

While there are no intended developments beyond the present scale of use, there have been proposals which have been presented to the community from time to time, beginning in the nineteenth century when the US Army Corps of Engineers developed a proposal to put in a jetty to breakwater the wave energy from southern storms. Many such proposals are outlined in Facilities Improvements and Acquisition Feasibility Study, Trinidad Harbor, September 1981. (attachment three, pp 34 et seq.)

At present, it appears that over the next five years the only likely intended development may be installation of a permanent launching ramp to augment present facilities. This would only be initiated after considerable review and planning, especially with regards to possible public funding.

The area shoreward of the public trust lands is within what the California Coastal Commission staff designate as an Area of Deferred Certification (or, ADC). The Trinidad Local Coastal Plan must be completely certified by 1991-- while Trinidad was the first community to have an approved Local Coastal Plan, it was also the first plan to be approved with an ADC. The hearings with regard to the harbor area of deferred certification may reveal further information about community intentions, and-- if so-- the provisions for amendment of this General Use Proposal may come into effect.

Preservation

The entire area has special habitat and esthetic values, as well as being a valuable public access. Local administration of the public trust is directed at augmenting and protecting public access, while protecting biological and scenic values.

The operator of the pier and moorings has acknowledged the public access obligation, both by action and by legal agreement. Because the pier is operated to the public benefit, the State of California Secretary for Environmental Affairs has awarded Trinidad a grant share of tidelands revenues to make necessary repairs and improvements on the pier. (attachment four, SEAL Grant #131 Progress Report).

Local ordinances and plans support continued use of the area for its present purposes, and restrict industrial activities which could defile the area or interfere with sports and commercial fisherman.

Other Uses

From time to time, the area is used for educational purposes by the Humboldt State University, and by various county public schools.

At various times there have been mariculture proposals, but none is now currently active. Presumably, any such augmentation of use in the area will be reviewed by local, State and Federal permitting agencies with regard to possible beneficial or detrimental effects.

Conclusion

This general use proposal, with attachments, is submitted to meet legislative requirements. There are no plans over the next five years to change existing uses; facilities will continue to be operated to the public benefit. Trustee agrees to submit to the commission all changes and amendments to the general use proposal, however none are contemplated at this time.