



**AGENDA NO: A-2**

**MEETING DATE: April 20, 2022**

**AGENDA CORRESPONDENCE  
RECEIVED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY BOARD  
FOR PUBLIC REVIEW PRIOR TO THE MEETING**

April 19, 2022

To: Morro Bay Public Works Advisory Board

Re: Coleman Park Conceptual Plan

Dear PWAB members:

When we first encountered the Coleman Park Conceptual Plan as a small sign posted along the Harborwalk, what struck us most about the plan was its \*lack\* of improved access and parking for Coleman Beach itself. Improved access to and parking for Coleman Beach should be a priority.

Coleman Beach is a vital resource for local residents to launch personal kayaks and stand-up paddleboards. It's also an important recreation site for families who want to take their young children to a beach that's more sheltered than those with breaking waves. In addition, Coleman Beach is the host point for a number of recurring water-focused classes and events, including:

- Halloween and Christmas costumed paddling festivities. The 2021 Halloween Witches Paddle is estimated to have included well over 100 participants!
- Surf Camp
- Fundraising paddles for local families
- Outrigger canoe groups such as the Central Coast SurviveOars
- Beginning and focused skill scuba classes

On any given day, dozens of people use Coleman Beach to launch their kayaks and paddleboards. In order to do so, they carry their boats and boards to the beach from wherever they can find nearby vehicle parking, which sometimes can be scarce, especially on weekends. One of the reasons many people prefer to launch paddlecraft at Coleman Beach, as opposed to the boat ramp at the south end of the Embarcadero, is the beach's easy paddling proximity to the Rock, sandspit, and harbor mouth. Also, paddlers generally want to avoid the sometimes hectic experience of launching a personal paddlecraft at the south Embarcadero boat ramp while much larger motorized fishing vessels are also in the process of launching. Many of those enjoying kayaking and SUPing from Coleman Beach are local senior citizens, some on fixed incomes, and the beach provides relatively easy – as well as \*free\* - access to the ocean for exercise and recreation, without paddlers having to confront the challenge of getting through breaking surf.

There are lots of good ideas being considered for Coleman Park, but quite a few of the proposals focus on activities that could be conducted at other locations in town (e.g., concerts/performances). Morro Bay has only this one small sheltered public access sandy beach within the harbor. For this reason, high priority should be given to those improvements at Coleman Park that facilitate direct access to and enjoyment of the beach and water of Coleman Beach.

Thank you for your consideration!

Julie Thomas and Mark Brown  
551 Norwich Street  
Morro Bay CA

Attachment: Activities at Coleman Beach

## Examples of Activities at Coleman Beach



Monster & Sea 24-Hour Paddle to raise money for local families battling cancer.



Halloween Witches Paddle.



Christmas paddle.



Outrigger canoe launch.



Average day at Coleman Beach