



LA JOLLA PARKS & BEACHES

DRAFT

January 24, 2022

Mr. Andy Field
Director, Parks & Recreation Dept.
City of San Diego
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Field,

In 1930, after years of planning and design, the City of San Diego, the State of California and Ellen Browning Scripps entered into an agreement to construct a protected bathing pool along the La Jolla coastline for the benefit of children. The Children's Pool was approved and completed in 1931 with the understanding that future maintenance and repairs would be the responsibility of the City as a permanent structure within the City's parklands area. For many years, that maintenance was done in a timely manner and this has protected the Children's Pool for the enjoyment and use by future generations of San Diegans.

When the Children's Pool was first being proposed and accepted by San Diego City Officials, the City's Park and Playground Board commissions agreed in writing to maintain the Pool to the best of their ability. At the time it seemed like an obvious consideration given the substantial value to the community of the gift of the Children's Pool by Ellen Browning Scripps.

Today, the accumulated deferred maintenance puts this gift to future generation in serious doubt. The seawall and stairs have deteriorated rapidly in the past decade to the point where there is serious structural damage occurring to the concrete structures causing hazardous conditions for continued use. The walking surface of the seawall and the safety railings are in immediate need of repair. The landward end of the seawall has been exposed by eroding bluffs. The stairways and walls have cracked due to corrosion of the structural rebar within the walls. The low walls along the sidewalks are undermined from erosion as well.

There is currently a privately financed structural engineering survey being done to determine a course of action to identify the most serious problems. However, that survey is not expected to be completed for one year. In the meantime, there are repairs to make the Children's Pool safer and more enjoyable to use by residents and tourists alike.

La Jolla Parks and Beaches requests the City prioritize the most critical maintenance problems at the Children's Pool to prevent further deterioration and preserve the facility for future generations.

Sincerely,

Claudia Baranowski, President
La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc.

La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc. is a registered California charitable (public benefit) corporation and exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Contributions are tax deductible. FEIN 45-3281923
Regular Meetings: 4th Monday of the month, La Jolla Recreation Center, 615 Prospect St., La Jolla CA 92037

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