

THE OLD ROAD NEWSLETTER

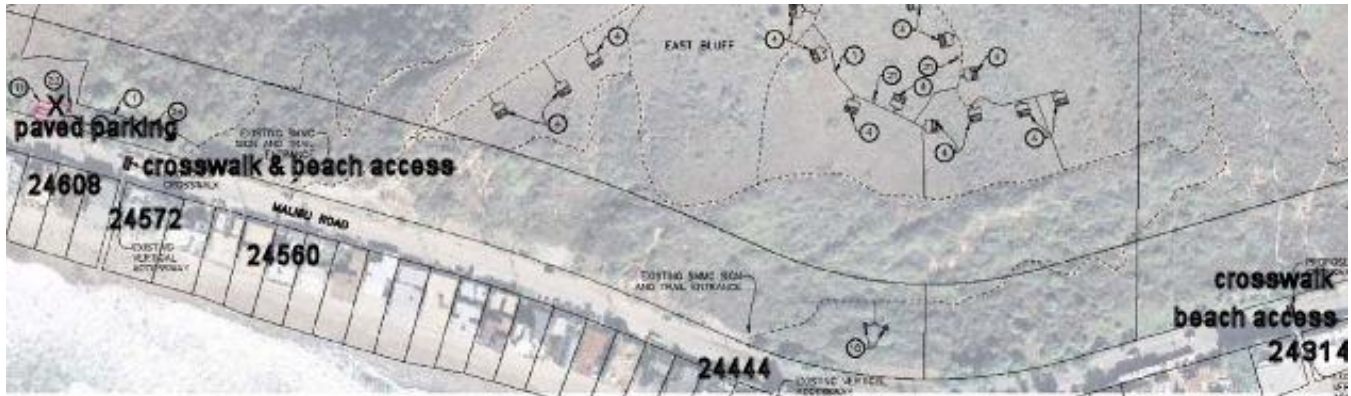
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PUBLIC CAMPING ON MALIBU ROAD?



A partial map of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's plan for placing campsites, crosswalks and a paved parking area along Malibu Road. The house-numbers show the width of the area, Small circles with the numeral 4 represent campsites in closest proximity. Toilets and picnic areas are also planned.

As many of us already know, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, headed by director Joe Edmiston, plans to build a number of new public camp sites located between Pacific Coast Highway and Malibu Road. The sites are to be in the hilly area adjacent to and above Malibu Road, roughly between house numbers 24616 and 24314.

Approximately 16 of these sites will be within 200 feet of the Malibu Road, several of them much closer. Moreover, the Conservancy intends to build a public parking area opposite the residence at 24608, and plans pedestrian crosswalks to existing beach accesses adjacent to 24752 and 24314 which, not incidentally, do *not* have Lifeguards. And it will undoubtedly result in more transient parking along the road.

Their plan includes many additional sites closer to PCH, as well as a paved parking lot across from John Tyler Drive. Malibu Road residents can access a more detailed diagram at: <http://mrca.ca.gov/pwp5.html>. Click on **Figure 9G**, enlarge it -- and study it. The circles with # 3 & 4 are proposed campsites, # 6: restroom, # 10: picnic area, # 11: parking lot (paved).

But arguably more important than any of the foregoing is the obvious, very real danger of fire. While the plans call for a prohibition of campfires, we have been informed by the Conservancy that because of insufficient funding there will be little or no supervision of campers with regard to smoking, nor cooking with flames, both of which pose an obvious and unacceptable risk in our fire-prone area.

While all of us believe that the lovely open areas of the Santa Monica Mountain are ideal for and should be enjoyed by all, we regard this intrusion into our quiet residential road truly objectionable and *unnecessary*.

Therefore, in an effort to prevent its being implemented in its present form and to help achieve the

best possible result for Malibu Road residents – for their safety as well as for the countless children who play in Bluffs Park, we have hired local attorney Greg Aftergood to serve as our advocate. Greg is working with the City of Malibu and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to get the existing plan modified so that it works for all parties.

Which is why we are asking that *everyone* on Malibu Road join the **MRA**. This may be a protracted, very expensive fight, and we *need* those modest annual dues. Plus, if you can contribute any extra to help us head off this very real threat, it will be appreciated, acknowledged if you give your permission, and put to very good use for all of us.

This issue is of *great* importance to all residents of Malibu Road. *Please* help - we urge you to:

- Join our association
- Add a generous contribution to your dues to help with our legal fees
- Attend our annual meeting in April (time to be announced)
- Talk to you neighbors about camping and make certain everyone on the road is up-to-speed on this issue.

THE LATEST SEWER POOP

As most of us know, in November the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board mandated sewers for about half the length of Malibu Road along with a prohibition on new projects until sewers are in place.

A clearly questionable no-science solution based on assumptions (not facts) that our road's septic systems somehow contribute to pollution at Surfrider Beach and the Malibu Lagoon, **MRA** President Bill Rhodes and other interested parties are currently and

diligently working closely with the City of Malibu in an effort to get this decision dramatically modified and/or rescinded. As things move along, we will keep everyone posted, both in our Newsletter and at our website.

Your Malibu Road Association NEEDS Your Help! So Please – Join Us to Make Our Slice of Paradise Even Better!

Many thanks to all of you who during past years have joined our group and paid your modest annual dues – only \$100, or \$40 if you're a renter, and what a bargain! It's time to do it again, for 2010.

For those who may be unfamiliar with what your voluntary **Malibu Road Association** does for you – member or not – consider the recent, vastly improved trash pickup arrangement. That did not happen by itself, but rather because of the **MRA** Board's persistence and insistence over several years of meetings and negotiations with City and County representatives, wherein we made demands, based on our residents unique needs.

But that's only a portion of it! Here's a partial list of what your dollars – and hopefully your voluntary participation – accomplish:

- Speed signs. Those nifty – and pricey – radar signs are not provided by State, City or County. Rather, they are a product of **MRA**-solicited member-donations, as well as your dues.
- Other signage.
- Weekly road cleanup.
- Disposal of dead seals and sea lions.
- Advocacy/liaison with City, County and State – as in our current problems re: camping, our ongoing campaign to get the road repaved – and a place for you to air your concerns and gripes.
- Our handsome Website. Visit us at www.MalibuRoad.org. There, you'll find archived back-issues of our newsletter, as well as pertinent information you can use – and a ready-way for you to contact us with your issues and concerns.

Our board Members volunteer their time – for all of us, so c'mon – join the **Malibu Road Association** – and if you can afford the time, for such activities and services as distribution of announcements, we'd love to have your help!

One big challenge your Association faces is finding a way to reach all of the newer Malibu Road residents/owners. If we can't find them we can't ask them to join.

So, if you live near a new resident who may not know about us – PLEASE give us a heads-up about them (and, if you can, tell them about us, and the valuable services we provide) and we will send them a special welcoming letter. Or if you are moving away, please tell the new owner how great we are and give us their name(s) for our records.

PLEASE join and send your check today. Or, pay via credit card (using PayPal), at our website: www.MalibuRoad.org! Moreover, you are always welcome to attend our monthly Board Meetings. There, you can see how we operate, and air your views on urgent matters! Contact us by phone or Email for the time and place of our next meeting. mail@MalibuRoad.org, or 310.317.1040.

MRA BOARD ELECTION

Please mark your ballot for the **2010 Malibu Road Association** Board of Directors and send it in the enclosed envelope along with your dues.

And please note that your residency on Malibu Road entitles you to vote – as well as enjoying the above-referenced benefits your **Malibu Road Association** provides – whether you're a dues-paying member or not. So – c'mon already! Ante up to help us help you!

Or, put another way, ask yourself where else you'll get that kind of bang for only a few bucks!

SPECIAL THANK-YOU

Malibu Road Association President Bill Rhodes and the other Board Members wish to thank departing Board Member Steven Weiss for his years of service, his passion, good humor, and his many contributions, both creative and financial, to the **MRA**.

We are indebted to Steven, and wish him, his wife, Debbie, and family continued success and good health.

SOME VITAL CONTACT INFO

EMERGENCY, of course	911
Sheriff	310.456.6652
Fire	310.317.1122
City of Malibu	310.456.2489
Lifeguard	310.457.2525
Animal Control & Care	818.991.0071
Solid Waste (Universal Waste Syst.)	800.631.7016
Wildlife Rescue	310.457.WILD
Dead seal on beach burial	310.317.4717
(We contract w/the Labor Exchange for this.)	

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol, 1st Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

City Council, City of Malibu
23815 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu, CA 90265

Malibu Road Association 310.317.1040
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www.MalibuRoad.org mail@MalibuRoad.org

Remember, your **Malibu Road Association** is here to serve in any way it can, renters & owners alike.

Newsletter edited by Holly & Tom Sawyer