

**Friends of Opal Cliffs Park**  
**1840 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue, #102-256**  
**Capitola, CA 95010**  
[info@opalcliffspark.org](mailto:info@opalcliffspark.org)

Dear Neighbor:

February 20, 2018

Re: **Support** for Opal Cliffs Park *AND*  
**Oppose** Coastal Commission Appeal  
No. A-3-SCO-18-0004

Opal Cliffs Recreation District (OCRD) needs your support.

On December 13, 2017 Santa Cruz County unanimously approved new permits that will allow for Opal Cliffs Park (OCP) to be open and free of fees every summer from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Unfortunately, on January 18 the California Coastal Commission (CCC) 'appealed' the County approval and staff for the CCC may seek to modify or eliminate 2 years of work to improve public beach access at OCP.

OCRD & OCP need your assistance. If you value OCP please contact the Coastal Commission at [CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov) and urge that the **reject** appeal A-3-SCO-1800004 and **support** the County's approval of application 161195.

The County's approval will improve public access to OCP by allowing OCRD to open the park free of keycard access charges all summer, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, while allowing OCRD to retain it's traditional keycard access program, gate and fencing for the remainder of the year.

It is important that OCRD retain the keycard access program in order to fund all the programs and resources of the park. OCRD was established by Santa Cruz County in 1949 and has been operating the park continuously ever since then, and is one of the oldest continuous beach access providers in California. The Board of Directors of OCP are all neighbors and volunteers, and keycard revenues are the only source of income to operate the park safely. Without the keycard program the park, and the district, are not sustainable, and will likely be forced to dissolve.

Please support your Opal Cliffs Park, for our families and future. Please urge the CCC to reject their appeal and find that OCRD's efforts to improve park access represent an ideal balance for protecting natural resources and maximizing beach access.

Thank you for your support!