

Harriet Rotherberg

THIS WEEK IN YOUR GRUNION:

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GRUNION GAZETTE

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Beach Transit unveiled a new graphics package between downtown and Belmont Shore. A full-story on Page 3.

—Gazette photo by Kurt Helin

MEETING TUESDAY

Army Corps Starts Study Of Erosion On Peninsula

By Harry Saltzgaver
Executive Editor

A first step in what likely will be a years-long journey to find ways to curb erosion on the Peninsula Beach will be taken Tuesday night when the Army Corps of Engineers hosts a public workshop.

That workshop, at 7:30 p.m. at the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club, is the beginning of a year-long reconnaissance study by the Corps to decide whether there is a federal interest in finding a solution to beach erosion in Long Beach. Darrell Buxton, the Corps' study manager, said that if results of this study are positive, a two- to three-year feasibility study would be required before any action is taken.

"What we're doing now is initiating the reconnaissance study to define whether the federal

government can participate in the study of a solution," Buxton said. "This is designed to come up with a benefit to cost ratio, and if that ratio is more than one (more benefits than costs), we move ahead. There also will be a number of policy issues to be addressed."

This first study will be financed entirely by the federal government. U.S. Rep. Steve Horn (R-Long Beach) first proposed the \$300,000 study in April 1994, but the appropriation was delayed in federal budget negotiations. It is part of the 1995-96 fiscal year Energy and Water Appropriations Bill.

Beach erosion, particularly along the Peninsula, has been a hot topic for several years. Problems came to a head in 1993, when erosion reduced the

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Issues**

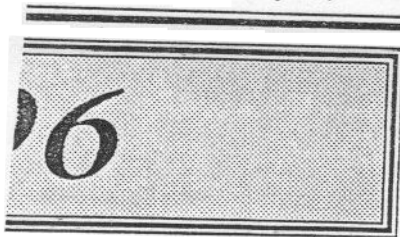
Traffic Signal At Second, Toledo To Planning

By Kurt Helin
Urban Editor

Second Street may add a new traffic signal by the end of the year, at the street's intersection with The Toledo on Naples, if the signal light is approved by city officials

Bayshore, which will be back before the Planning Commission on June 6.

The process to install the new signal started three years ago at the request of Naples residents, according to the Planning Commission staff re-



Dinner Party and a founding member of the Long Beach Community Business Network. He has been executive director of Leadership Long Beach and special assistant to Mayor Beverly O'Neill, and is currently director of development for Goodwill Industries.

Beach Study

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beach in front of Peninsula homes to 50 feet or less in width, and high tides threatened the area with flooding.

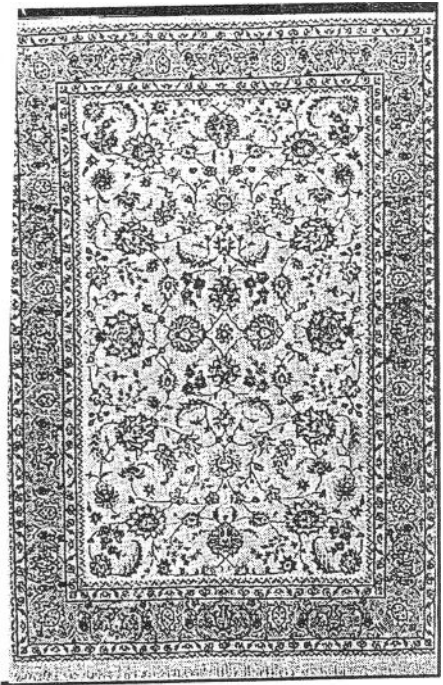
The following year, the Long Beach City Council approved a "sand plan" which called for a major rebuilding effort that year, and smaller sand-moving projects in following years. That plan included sloping the beach gradually to reduce the speed of erosion, but acknowledged that the Peninsula would continue to lose sand.

Theories about the cause for the increased amount of erosion on the east end of the beach range from sinking of the land in the area caused by oil drilling (called subsidence) to construction at the mouth of the Los Angeles River by the Port of Long Beach changing prevailing currents to the impact of breakwaters on currents. A rock breakwater creating the entrance to Alamitos Bay is the eastern boundary of Long Beach's beach and the Peninsula.

Tuesday night's meeting will inform the public of the purpose and scope of the first study as well as seek opinions from area residents about their concerns, issues and desired solutions. Buxton and the Corps are asking that comments, background and any pertinent data be submitted in writing as well as at the meeting, and asked that anyone unable to attend send comments or historical information to Buxton

Historical information to Buxton at Coastal Resources Branch, P.O. Box 2711, Los Angeles, CA, 90053-2325.

If the results of the study show that the Corps should be involved in finding a solution, the city or other local entities would have to pick up half of the cost of the feasibility study, Buxton said. Then, if a solution was agreed on, the Corps would pay between 50% and 65% of the cost of the work.



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