



AGENDA
COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2017
6:00 PM
COMMUNITY ROOM
420 CAPITOLA AVENUE, CAPITOLA, CA 95010

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioners: Cathlin Atchison, Jacques Bertrand, Bella Hammond, Alyssa Millwood-Donahue, Kailash Mozumder, Megan Sixt, and Chair Peter Wilk

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair may announce and set time limits at the beginning of each agenda item.

The Committee Members may not discuss Oral Communications to any significant degree, but may request issues raised be placed on a future agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 24, 2017 and June 20, 2017 meeting minutes

DISCUSSION

1. Litter Prevention
2. Eco Walk/Tour
3. Fishing Line Disposal Units
4. Other Items
 - a. McGregor Park Enhancement Project
 - b. Central Coast Climate Collaboration (4C's)
 - c. Recycle/Repair/Fix It Event – July 29, 2017

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

ADJOURNMENT to Workshop on August 23, 2017

Notice: The Commission on the Environment meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Community Room located at 420 Capitola Avenue, Capitola.

Agenda and Agenda Packet Materials: The Commission on the Environment Agenda is available on the City's website: www.cityofcapitola.org/ on Friday prior to the Wednesday meeting. If you need additional information please contact the Public Works Department at (831) 475-7300.

Americans with Disabilities Act: Disability-related aids or services are available to enable persons with a disability to participate in this meeting consistent with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Assisted listening devices are available for individuals with hearing impairments at the meeting in the City Council Chambers. Should you require special accommodations to participate in the meeting due to a disability, please contact the City Clerk's office at least 24-hours in advance of the meeting at 831-475-7300. In an effort to accommodate individuals with environmental sensitivities, attendees are requested to refrain from wearing perfumes and other scented products.

DRAFT MINUTES
Commission on the Environment
Regular Meeting
May 24, 2017

Peter Wilk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Jacques Bertrand, Bella Hammond (student member), Megan Sixt, and Chair Peter Wilk

Commissioners Absent: Cathlin Atchison, Alyssa Millwood-Donahue, Kailash Mozumder

City Staff Present: Steve Jesberg, Danielle Uharriet

Community Members Present: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Jacques Bertrand made a motion to approve the March 22, 2017 meeting minutes Peter Wilk seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0, Megan Sixt abstained.

DISCUSSION

1. Work Program Updates

a. Eco Walk/Tour

Peter Wilk will meet with Kailash Mozumder to discuss and review the sites, and stops proposed for the tour. Steve Jesberg encouraged the Commission to work quickly to define the project scope, route and to begin working on the narratives for the walk. Staff will discuss the project scope with the artist, and if interested, request a bid proposal for the Whale Tail grant application.

b. Peery Park Habitat Restoration Project

An ivy removal work day was held on April 30th. There were four new volunteers, seven participants total, who made a clean-up of the upper flat areas of the park, removing new growth since the last event in 2016. The removal effort should continue with training volunteers on the Redtree hill area, while Staff completes and submits the 1602 consult permit to California Fish and Wildlife. Peter Wilk will contact Mr. McMenamin to schedule the next work day. Bella Hammond recommended contacting Mr. Roberts at New Brighton Middle School to request posting the event fliers on campus.

c. McGregor Park Enhancement Project

Jacques Bertrand is compiling a detailed description of the invasive eucalyptus grove to submit to John Laird, California Secretary for Natural Resources. Mr. Bertrand suggested working jointly with State Parks to save the oak trees in the area.

Megan Sixt offered to ask State Parks who the appropriate liaison would be to assist with this effort.

d. HERO Energy Savings/Energy Efficiency Flyer

Staff reported the City has funds available to offer grants to income eligible, senior citizens and disabled persons for energy efficiency upgrades. The Community Development Department has mailed ~3000 fliers to mobilehome owners, townhouse and condo property owners. There has been a tremendous response to the outreach effort, and now the Housing Authority is responding to interested parties, distributing applications and moving forward with the program.

e. Central Coast Climate Collaboration (4C's)

Jacques Bertrand presented information about the steering committee nominations, summer conference, goals, participating organizations, and bylaws.

2. Other Items

a. Recycle/Repair/Fix It Event – July 29, 2017

Jacques Bertrand suggested the Commission promote the event and consider participating. He requested fliers be available at the public counter.

b. Fishing Line Disposal Units

Megan Sixt offered to contact Surfrider Foundation to obtain the specifications of the fishing line disposal units, such as the size, signage, number of units suggested for placement, who is responsible for emptying and maintains the units. Staff requested a photo of the unit and signage, similar to the photo in the agenda packet. The information should be transmitted to staff who will schedule the item for a future City Council agenda to approve the units and the locations for placement.

Jacques Bertrand made a motion for Megan make the presentation to the City Council. The motion was seconded by Peter Wilk. The motion passed 3-0.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA - None

ADJOURNMENT to Workshop on June 28, 2017

Approved at the meeting of July 26, 2017

Danielle Uharriet
Environmental Projects Manager

DRAFT MINUTES
Commission on the Environment
Special Meeting
June 20, 2017

Peter Wilk called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Cathlin Atchison, Jacques Bertrand, Kailash Mozumder, and Chair Peter Wilk

Commissioners Absent: Megan Sixt

City Staff Present: Steve Jesberg, Danielle Uharriet

Community Members Present: None

DISCUSSION

1. Consider Recommendations to the City Council on the Climate Mayors and Paris Agreement.

Staff distributed a revised copy of the City Council agenda report, including the draft resolution.

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons of a local agency making a statement regarding a national political issue, Cathlin Atchison made a motion to recommend to the City Council that they direct the Mayor to join the Climate Mayors and approve a related resolution in support of the Paris Agreement as recommended by the Climate Mayors network. The motion was seconded by Kailash Mozumder. The motion passed 3-0, Jacques Bertrand abstained.

ADJOURNMENT to Workshop on June 28, 2017

Approved at the meeting of July 26, 2017

Danielle Uharriet
Environmental Projects Manager

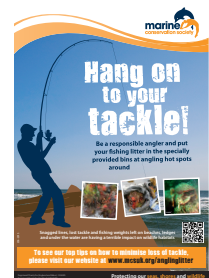
By 2050, our oceans will have more plastic trash than fish.

I believe that Capitola City Council members recognize the detrimental effects litter has on the village economy and environment, and are committed to making Capitola cleaner by supporting efforts designed to eradicate litter while instilling pride in our town

I've been researching litter prevention campaigns and am cheered to learn of their success. One site, NeatStreets, features over 20 anti-litter campaigns that are ready to be adopted by councils, businesses, and others looking to reduce waste in public spaces. (Perhaps the most inspiring campaign can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/220613478>)

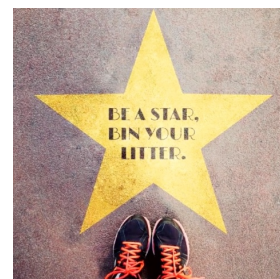
In my search, I've collected over half a dozen ideas that have been used in successful litter campaigns. Perhaps we might consider adopting one or two that would work well in Capitola village.

1. Semester internship offered UCSC Environmental Studies or Cabrillo Environmental Science Programs for a Summer Beach Monitor handing out trash bags, monitoring littering, alcohol, dogs and/or a Social Media intern to develop a Litter Prevention page on the Capitola website, and promote Capitola's Litter Prevention efforts on social media.
2. Require local schools to teach a classroom unit on beach health before permitting their class to visit the beach. Work with local principals to take advantage of free curriculum resources such as SaveOurShores, EPA's "Protect Beaches While You're In the Classroom", Keep America Beautiful's "Waste in Place" and other available resources.
3. "Adopt a Block" This encourages local businesses and civic organizations to take responsibility for ensuring curb trash is not washed into storm drains and out to sea.
4. Install fishing line collection receptacles to collect broken, or used line to keep it out of the water. The Marine Conservation Society has information on how to do this.
5. Adopt or develop our own "message" to print on stickers/decals as giveaways to display in the village businesses, local schools, on trash cans and city vehicles.





6. Offer pocket ashtrays and litter bags to fisherman on the wharf.
7. Advertise events as "Waste Wise and Litter Free" events and publicize that message throughout promotional materials.
8. Hold a contest to paint anti-littering murals/artwork on utility boxes etc. Perhaps SC Art League would develop the "call to artists", recruit the artists and manage the submission and selection process as other local art leagues have done.
9. Stencil litter prevention message on sidewalk in front of beach wall openings. i.e.



PACK YOUR TRASH

I understand the used pizza box bins are on their way and someone is working on a straw reduction effort with local restaurants. That's fantastic. Please indicate whether you are open to any of these additional ideas. I'm willing to help. If funds are needed and you know of grants that might be worth applying for, perhaps I could do that. Is this effort something you recommend be taken up by Capitola's Commission for the Environment?

Capitola Eco-Tour – 2017 Whale Tail Grant Application Materials

Prepared by the Capitola Commission on the Environment

The Eco-Tour will feature 10 locations within the City of Capitola. These locations have been selected based on the unique opportunities they provide visitors and community members to have urban/wildlife interactions and learning opportunities.

The following list provides the locations. The following pages provide a draft list of topics and pictures aimed at capturing the key natural wonders visitors can experience here in the City of Capitola.

1. Capitola Historical Museum
2. Stockton Bridge
3. Peery Park
4. Capitola Wharf
5. Capitola Jetty/Esplanade Park
6. Village Overview
7. Cliff Overview (two locations)
8. Monarchs @ Escalona
9. New Brighton Beach
10. Noble Gulch Park

1. Capitola Historical Museum

- Starting Point - check inside for some history on the City of Capitola and pick up and drop off your Eco-Tour Guide



1



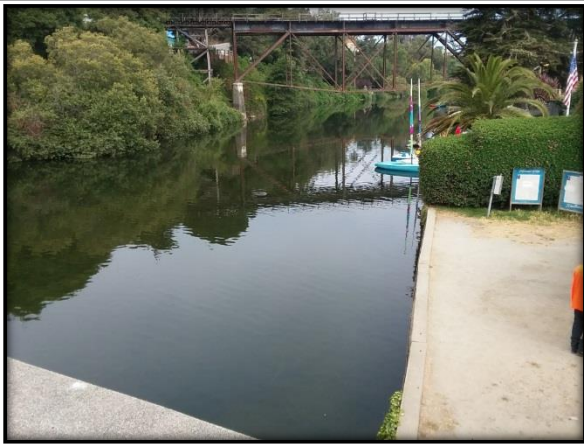
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2. Stockton Bridge

- Soquel Creek Wetland - Bio Filtration
 - Freshwater/saltwater (brackish water) ecosystem
 - Steelhead
 - Fume – Summer/Winter conditions – Lagoon creation, winter breaching



1



2



3

3. Peery Park

- Riparian restoration
- Invasive species – ivy
- Native and endangered species
 - Animals - Red Legged Frog, yellow legged frog, western pond turtle, California newt
 - Plants - Arroyo Willow, coast live oak, redwood



4. Capitola Wharf

- Sand deposition
- Giant Kelp forest ecosystem
 - Sea Otters (raft)



1



2



3



4



5

5. Capitola Jetty/Esplanade Park

- Litter and the ecosystem - millions of plastics bags in the ocean between California and Alaska
- Whale Fossils
- Tidepools
- Whale watching
- Leopard sharks
- Purpose of the Jetty



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

6. Village Overview

- Sea level rise
- Coastal Zone
- Changing environment



7. Cliff Overview

- Redwood ecosystem (southernmost edge for North America)
 - Special Redwood tree stop
- Regional importance of the Monterey Bay and Monterey Canyon
- Geologic time



1



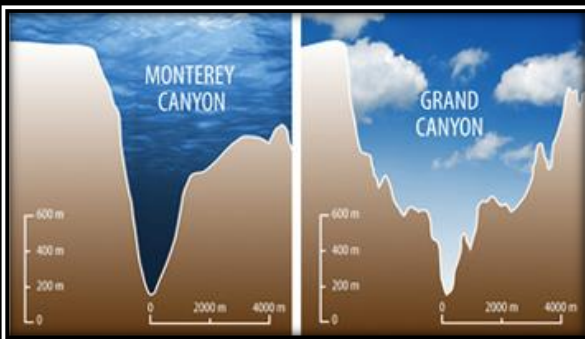
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5

8. Monarchs @ Escalona

- Butterfly lifecycle
- Refuge for butterflies etc. (17.95.061 Escalona Gulch Monarch Butterfly Habitat)
- <http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/Capitola/?Capitola17/Capitola1795.html&?f>
- Recommended plants to plant in your yard - Milkweed



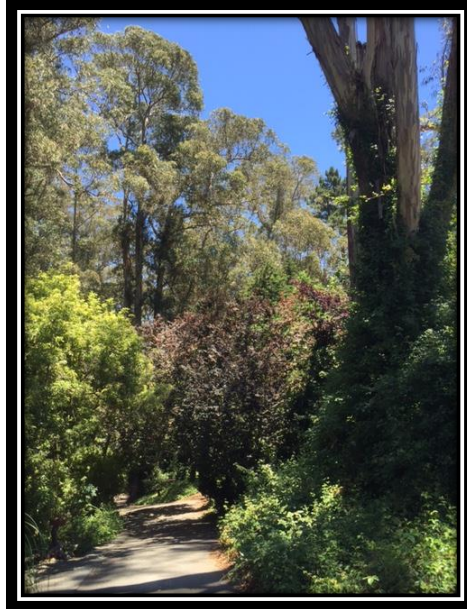
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4

9. New Brighton Beach

- Nesting Sea birds cormorants, petrels
- Marine mammals and their predators
 - Seals - harbor seals, sea lions, elephant seals, Ano Neuvo
 - Great white shark - feralon islands,
- Sinkhole/ watershed



1



2



3

10. Noble Gultch Park

- Riparian restoration
- Invasive species – ivy
- Native and endangered species -
 - Animals - Red Legged Frog, yellow legged frog, western pond turtle, California newt
 - Plants - Arroyo Willow, coast live oak, redwood
- Importance of Watershed runoff and the permeable parking lot
- Friends of Noble Gultch – prehistoric plants

	
1	2
	
3	4

MAP IDEAS

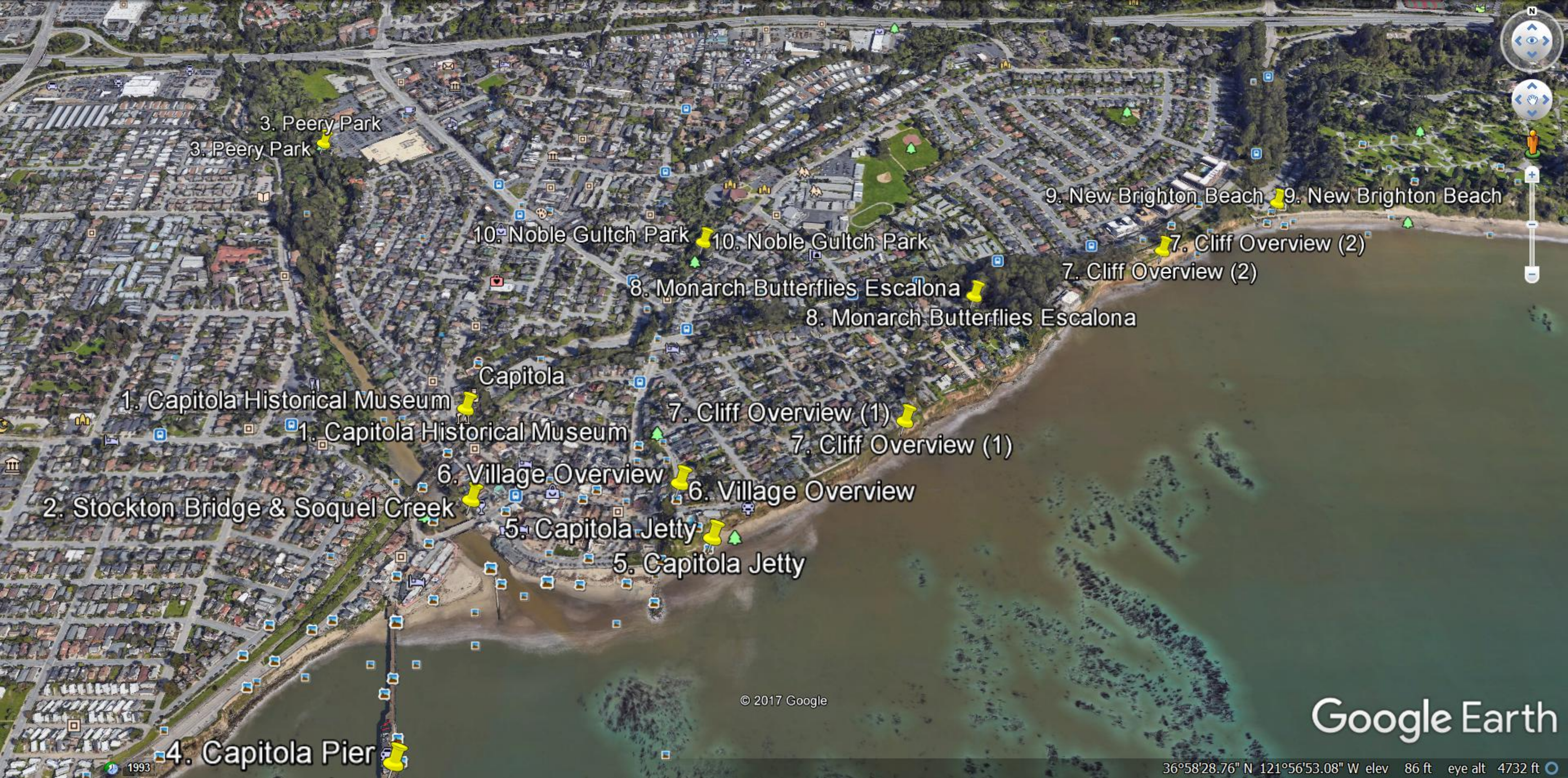
- Display all the Creeks/Waterways in Capitola
 - Soquel Creek
 - Escalona Gultch
 - Noble Gultch
 - Tannery Gultch
 - Porter Gultch
- Trails
- Beach/Break names (Capitola, China Beach, Bombora, New Brighton)
- Marine Sanctuary Area
 - mammals and their predators
- Walking Route between all 10 stations
 - Additional Hiking Trails
 - New Brighton State Beach Trail Map - (example)

Highlighting Soquel Creek

Soquel Creek

Located between the cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville , the Soquel Creek watershed drains an area of 42 square miles. Major tributaries include the West Branch (Burns, Laurel, Hester Creek, Amaya Creek, Fern Gulch, Ashbury Gulch, Hinkley Creek, and numerous unnamed waterways) and the Main Branch (fed by Moore 's Gulch, Grover Gulch, Love Creek and Bate's Creek). Smaller tributaries include Noble Gulch, Porter Gulch, Tannery Gulch and Borregas Creek. Principal land use in the watershed includes urban development, rural residential development, agriculture, parks and recreation, and mining and timber harvesting. The unincorporated town of Soquel and the City of Capitola are both located in the lower reaches of the watershed. Sedimentation and impairment of important fish habitat have been identified as principal resource concerns in this watershed. Soquel Lagoon is listed on the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments for nutrients, pathogens, and sedimentation/siltation.

(from - <http://sceh.com/Home/Programs/WaterResources/WatershedandStreamHabitatProtection/SantaCruzCountyWatersheds.aspx>)



3. Peery Park

3. Peery Park

9. New Brighton Beach

9. New Brighton Beach

10. Noble Gultch Park

10. Noble Gultch Park

7. Cliff Overview (2)

7. Cliff Overview (2)

8. Monarch Butterflies Escalona

8. Monarch Butterflies Escalona

1. Capitola Historical Museum

1. Capitola Historical Museum

7. Cliff Overview (1)

7. Cliff Overview (1)

6. Village Overview

6. Village Overview

2. Stockton Bridge & Soquel Creek

5. Capitola Jetty

5. Capitola Jetty

4. Capitola Pier

© 2017 Google

Google Earth

36°58'28.76" N 121°56'53.08" W elev 86 ft eye alt 4732 ft

