



BEAUTIFY LUNADA BAY PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

January 2018

Phase 1a Completed!



Local and AmeriCorp volunteers put finishing touches on Phase 1a of the Beautify Lunada Bay Pilot Project by covering the ~1/3-acre plot with mulch (see figure). Plants and the drip-watering system had been put in place in late December. The stone-lined trail is now open for use.

The finished site is an example of what's planned for Phase 1b of the pilot, except that that phase will include two additional features: 1) a decomposed granite path along the street curb that will provide children dirt and mud-free access to and from cars; and 2) two outdoor classroom areas that Lunada Bay Elementary School teachers can use as part of their science education program (note that this is the same area where Palos Verdes High School students laid out transects and recorded data as part of a long-term science project to track changes as native plants installed in Phase 1b mature).

A goal of Phase 1a was to help determine the role volunteers might play as the project moves forward into Phase 1b. While volunteer activities to date have focused on adding mulch, discussions with volunteers indicate that they may be willing to take on more demanding tasks, such as helping to build the stone-lined trails. We'll continue to use the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy's help with bringing volunteers to help with particular projects via their <https://pvplc.volunteerhub.com/> site. We'll send out a notice when tasks and dates have been defined.

Fundraising Key for Phase 1b



Increasing use of volunteers and materials donated by the City will help cut costs for BLB Phase 1b, but professional labor and some materials must be purchased. Labor costs include manpower to prepare the site, install the main water lines and drip system, and move and place larger boulders; purchased materials include decomposed granite for the trails and native plants. Additional costs for labor might be incurred if some projects are judged not practical for volunteers to perform. In any event, **financial support from the community will be essential if we are to complete Phase 1b.**



Over 60 families have already donated to the project--many thanks to those donors for seeing the vision early! These donations have made it possible for us to complete the first phase. You can now visualize how the second phase will look. And this phase will bring an additional benefit: the outdoor classroom will enhance educational opportunities for both our elementary and high school students.

Please consider adding your support to this effort by making a tax-deductible contribution via the Land Conservancy's website, www.pvplc.org, and be sure to include a note that the contribution is for "BLB."

----- Background -----

The Lunada Bay Homeowners Association initiated the Beautify Lunada Bay (BLB) Project in 2014 to restore the habitat and improve the appearance of areas in Lunada Bay. The project will replace the seasonal weeds or bare dirt with drought tolerant native plants that will remain less than three feet tall and be attractive year-round. The project will also upgrade existing walking paths by adding stone borders and decomposed granite.

After meetings with local residents, BLB planners developed plans for Phase 1 of the effort: a demonstration garden on a 1-acre site across from

Lunada Bay Elementary School (see figure). Plans for that site were developed in concert with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC), a local nonprofit organization that grows native plants and restores open space on the Peninsula.

The City of Palos Verdes Estates gave its enthusiastic support and is providing boulders, stones to line the paths, mulch, and water for three years to assure the plants get a good start. Please see the LBHOA web page (blb.lbhoa.org) if you'd like more information.

----- BLB Steering Committee -----

Bill Ailor, Project Leader, VP, LBHOA Board
Barbara Ailor, Resident
Peter Bena, LBHOA Board
Jane Biggeln, Resident
Marlene Breene, LBHOA Board
Brittany Goldsmith, PVPLC
Karen Merickel, Resident

Adrienne Mohan, Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy
Austin Nash, PVHS Student
Connie Smith, Resident
Kristin Sweet-Pekarek, President, Lunada Bay Homeowners Association (LBHOA)
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