



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Fahey and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Geoff Dolan, City Manager

**FROM:** Neil C. Miller, Director of Public Works  
Richard Gill, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Dana Greenwood, City Engineer  
Michael A. Guerrero, Senior Civil Engineer  
Rimiga Viskanta, Strand Public Information Coordinator  
Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager

**DATE:** April 5, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Review and Discussion of the Strand Walkway and Lighting Improvements Project

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- A) Approve trash receptacles and signage for the Strand
- B) Receive and file presentation regarding construction schedule for the project
- C) Receive and file presentation regarding public outreach and communication plans
- D) Authorize the Cultural Arts Commission to develop the Strand bench and alcove donation program

### **FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

Funds are included in the Capital Improvement Plan for this project. The total project construction cost is approximately \$3.5 million. Design and construction inspection services are provided through a professional engineering services contract at a cost of \$500,000. Thus the total project cost, including Plans, Specifications, and Estimates and construction is \$4 million.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The project plans and specifications were approved by the City Council at the meeting of September 07, 2004, and the construction contract was awarded at the City Council meeting of January 18, 2005. The scope of work for the project includes:

- A) Replacement of light poles and fixtures, conduit, and electrical wiring
- B) Removal and reconstruction of the entire walkway surface and curb
- C) Correction of drainage deficiencies
- D) Improve environmental issues of storm water drainage discharge
- E) Structural and surface repair of existing retaining walls
- F) Improve maintenance/cleaning issues
- G) Improve American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) issues

The Strand Improvement project was presented at two Community Meetings (03/09/04 and 04/15/04). At those meetings, interested residents were introduced to the proposed project concepts and were given the opportunity to ask questions and provide input to the project design team regarding their preferences for the direction of the improvements. The project was also presented at two Parking and Public Improvements Commission meetings (04/22/04 and 05/27/04). Public comments and PPIC recommendations were presented at the City Council meetings of 06/15/04 and 07/20/04. Additional community input was received following staff presentations at the City Council meetings of 08/17/04 and 09/07/04. Although the project plans and specifications were approved at the 09/07/04 City Council meeting, the City Council deferred approval of the Strand trash receptacles and signage and directed staff to bring these items back with additional information.

**DISCUSSION:**

***Trash Receptacles:***

The City Council directed Public Works staff to present additional alternatives regarding the proposed trash receptacle for the Strand project. Public Works staff originally presented a plain, simple trash receptacle, however, the City Council directed staff to investigate more decorative alternatives. Staff examined various types of receptacles including the following design elements:

- material (concrete, wood, metal, plastic)
- shape (square, round, tapered)
- covered versus not covered
- color
- texture and finish
- decorative enhancements

Due to the durability of material, staff focused on concrete receptacles. There also was a preference for covered receptacles in order to prevent rain water from filling the receptacles and reduce access to scavenging fowl. Most standard receptacles produced by manufacturers are not covered but are typically fitted with a plastic cover similar to the existing Strand trash receptacle.

During the community input for the project there were several negative comments regarding the exposed aggregate texture of the existing Strand receptacles. The existing receptacles tend to retain stains. This is essentially visible at the bottom of the receptacles where it is presumed that canine urine has stained the existing receptacles over time. Staff would therefore recommend concrete receptacles with a smooth, sealed finish.

Various decorative enhancements were examined from several receptacle manufacturers. Staff attempted to utilize other design elements of the Strand project that might provide a cohesive design for the overall finished project. In addition, staff looked at other existing receptacles utilized throughout City facilities such as downtown, the pier, and Cultural Arts Building, in order to examine other decorative elements already being utilized at City facilities. Although a majority of the Strand design includes plain, simple design elements, the new light poles and fixtures do contain decorative elements that staff looked to incorporate in the receptacle design, especially the fluted element of the new light poles. An additional decorative enhancement may be accomplished by the use of colored concrete for the receptacles. The most common colors include gray, tan, or terra cotta. Although manufacturers offer various “custom” elements in shape, color, and

decorative enhancements, staff focused on more “standard” enhancement elements in order to keep costs down and make replacement receptacles easier to purchase.

Finally, the shape of the receptacles was considered. Although various round and tapered receptacles were examined, staff preferred the square receptacles in order to provide a flat surface to attach the Strand signage. Additional information regarding Strand signage is included later in this report.

The proposed plan is to install two trash receptacles at each intersection along the Strand. With 45 intersections along the Strand there will be 90 receptacles installed as a part of the project (see attached photo of proposed Strand trash receptacle). There are currently 84 trash receptacles on the Strand.

***Signage:***

The City Council also directed staff to examine the proposed signage for the Strand. The main signage issues staff examined were:

- content
- location
- frequency

Staff from various City departments met including the City Attorney, Police Department, Public Works Department, Community Development Department, and Parks and Recreation Department in order to discuss the Strand signage issue. The determination of staff includes:

- signs should contain both text and symbols
- signs should contain the appropriate municipal code section reference
- signs may be placed on the trash receptacle
- signs should be placed at each intersection

Since two trash receptacles are proposed at each Strand intersection, a sign can be attached to one of the receptacles at each intersection. The proposed Strand signage summarizes and consolidates the various existing Strand signage content. The proposed Strand signage includes the following content:

- No Alcoholic Beverages on the Beach  
L.A. Co. Ord. 17.12.320; M.B.M.C. 4.48.030
- No Dogs Allowed on Beach  
On or Off Leash  
M.B.M.C. 5.01.040
- Pick Up After your Pet  
M.B.M.C. 5.01.310
- Pedestrian Traffic Only  
No Bicycle Riding on the Strand  
M.B.M.C. 3.01.100.Z
- No Smoking on the Beach  
M.B.M.C. 12.08.320

The proposed plan is to install one sign on a trash receptacle at each intersection along the Strand (see attached photo of proposed Strand signage). With 45 intersections along the Strand there will

be 45 signs installed as a part of the project. There are currently 85 signs on the existing light poles and 68 painted pedestrian traffic markings on the Strand.

***Construction Schedule:***

A pre-construction meeting for the project was held on March 01, 2005, that included the Contractor, various City staff, the design Consultant, and Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors staff. The Strand project includes work items that are located on Los Angeles County property from 1st Street to 16th Street including bench alcoves, trash receptacles, light poles/fixtures, storm drain catch basins and curb drains, and grading. At the meeting the start date for the project was set for March 28, 2005. The Contractor has 400 working days (20 months) to complete the project. In addition, the work was set to begin at 45th Street and proceed south so that work on County property could be completed at the end of the project.

As presented at previous meetings, work on the Strand project will be completed in phases of several blocks at a time. The phases include provisions for a pedestrian detour along the area of work. Pedestrians will be detoured to Ocean Drive/Manhattan Avenue or the bike path utilizing the appropriate signage.

The following is a summary of the phases of work for the Strand project:

- Phase I: 45th Street to 36th Street (9 blocks)  
Start: March 28, 2005  
End: August, 2005
- Phase II: 36th Street to 28th Street (8 blocks)  
Start: July, 2005  
End: November, 2005
- Phase III: 28th Street to Marine Avenue (6 blocks)  
Start: September, 2005  
End: December, 2005
- Phase IV: Marine Avenue to Manhattan Beach Boulevard (11 blocks)  
Start: November, 2005  
End: July, 2006
- Phase V: Manhattan Beach Boulevard to 1st Street (11 blocks)  
Start: February, 2006  
End: September, 2006

At the beginning of each phase, the work will generally consist of demolition, electrical conduit installation, and storm drain system construction. This will be followed by forming and pouring of the concrete curb and light pole footings. The new concrete Strand walkway will subsequently be poured. The new light poles and fixtures and electrical wiring will be installed as the concrete walkway work progresses.

***Public Outreach and Communication Plans:***

As with all City capital improvement projects, the Public Works Department will utilize various methods to ensure that residents are kept informed regarding construction project issues. A Strand Reconstruction Communication Plan has been developed and the City began its outreach to City residents regarding the project by inviting them to the groundbreaking ceremony which took place on March 03, 2005. Several residents attended. The Public Works Department has also created a

webpage devoted solely to Strand reconstruction information on the City website; there is a link to it from the City's home page. The webpage includes a Frequently Asked Questions section, contact information, pictures, the most recent construction schedule, and a link to the Strand Reconstruction newsletters.

The newsletters (Attachment B) are another means the City will use to communicate with residents. In addition to posting them on the City website, the Public Works Department will either email electronic versions to those residents who elect this option or mail paper copies to those residents without email access. The Public Works Department will provide paper copies near the construction site on a trial basis to see if this is an effective means to provide necessary project information to Strand users.

The City has established a Strand Reconstruction hotline number: (310) 802-5339. It provides recorded information about the latest reconstruction developments. Residents have the option to bypass the recorded message and leave a question or comment which the Public Works Department will respond to by the next business day.

The City will create signs to post at either end of the current construction phase. The signs will contain City contact information, including the Strand construction hotline number, so that any passersby who are interested will know how to contact the City with any questions or issues.

Finally, the City will use notices to communicate with the Strand residents who will be immediately affected by the reconstruction work. Although, the contractor is required to provide 48 hours notice to Strand residents prior to beginning work in front of their homes, the City intends to provide an even earlier communication about the work to come and about what residents can expect during the period of construction (Attachment C).

***Strand Bench and Alcove Program:***

As the City Council is aware, a key design component of the Strand renovation project is the creation of recessed seating areas, i.e., alcoves along the entire length of the Strand (there are a total of 43 alcoves in the Strand design). The thought was that by moving the seating areas and trash containers off the Strand walkway, we will be able to more easily clean and maintain the Strand.

The existence of the alcoves also gives us an opportunity to be creative; rather than putting in plain concrete benches, there have been long-standing discussions that this would be a great chance to create unique, public art opportunities. There are three existing benches on the Strand that would be put in alcoves, leaving 40 other openings. Opportunities for art include the bench/seating component as well as the entire alcove, i.e., perhaps artistically-designed tile or stamped concrete.

We are requesting that the Council refer this to the Cultural Arts Commission for development of the program, i.e., design criteria and guidelines, approval, donor recognition, etc. which would be brought back to Council for approval. Once Council has approved the program, staff will recommend that a portion of the funds available in the Public Art Trust be used to construct two "sample" alcoves for evaluation and to use as a model for other alcoves.

**Conclusion:**

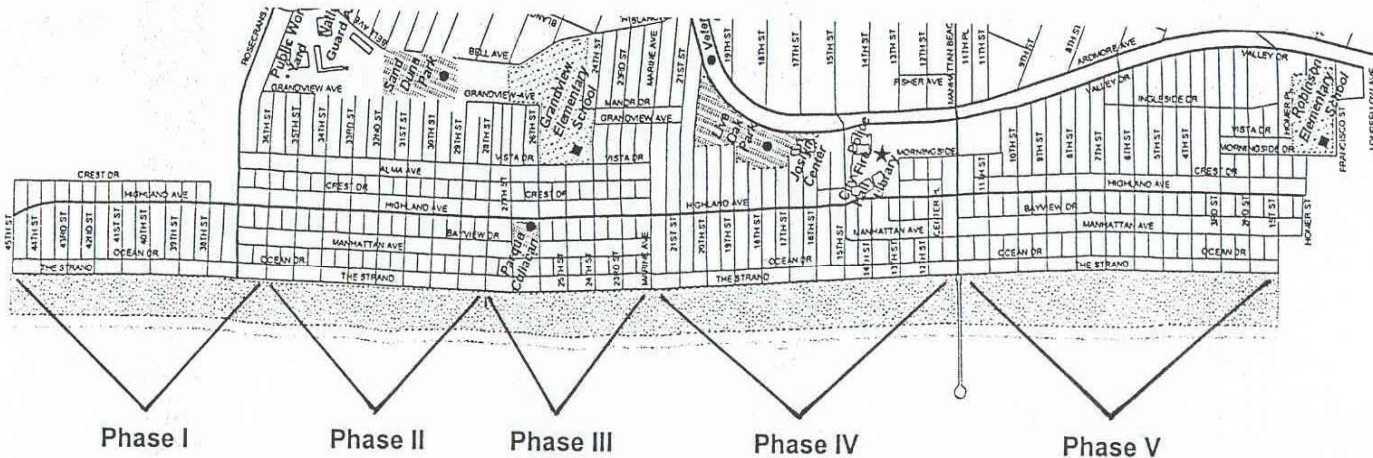
Staff recommends that the City Council approve the proposed trash receptacle and signage for the Strand; receive and file the construction schedule and public outreach/communication plans; and authorize the Cultural Arts Commission to develop the Strand bench and alcove donation program.

Attachments: A. Strand Project Construction Schedule  
B. Sample Strand Newsletter to Residents  
C. Sample Strand Notice to Residents

	03/05	04/05	05/05	06/05	07/05	08/05	09/05	10/05	11/05	12/05	01/06	02/06	03/06	04/06	05/06	06/06	07/06	08/06	09/06	
Phase I		█	█	█	█	█	█													
Phase II					█	█	█	█	█	█										
Phase III								█	█	█	█									
Phase IV												█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Phase V																█	█	█	█	█

**ESTIMATED PROJECT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:**

- \* Phase I: 45th Street to 36th Street (9 blocks) April, 2005 to August, 2005
- \* Phase II: 36th Street to 28th Street (8 blocks) July, 2005 to November, 2005
- \* Phase III: 28th Street to Marine Avenue (6 blocks) September, 2005 to December, 2005
- \* Phase IV: Marine Avenue to Manhattan Beach Blvd (11 blocks) November, 2005 to July, 2006
- \* Phase V: Manhattan Beach Blvd to 1st Street (11 blocks) February, 2006 to September, 2006



**THE STRAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
1st STREET to 45th STREET**

# The Strand Reconstruction Newsletter

## Groundbreaking Ceremony Kicks of Reconstruction

The highly anticipated Strand Reconstruction project is officially underway. Residents, City Council and City Staff gathered on March 3rd for a groundbreaking ceremony to kick of the construction project.

What will the new Strand look like? At public meetings residents expressed the desire for simplicity and timelessness in the Strand design. They also felt that cleaning and maintenance of the Strand are important issues.

Therefore, the Strand will maintain the smooth grey concrete walkway which was first constructed in 1920. And the lamp posts will be replaced with new ones, but they will have a



**Councilmember Jim Aldinger, Director of Public Works Neil Miller, City Manager Geoff Dolan, City Engineer Dana Greenwood, Project Manager Mike Guerrero, former Mayor Linda Wilson and former Councilmember Steven Napolitano break ground.**

similar timeless look. More details about the design of the new Strand can be found inside this issue.

The Contractor begins work on March 28th at

45th Street will head south. Construction for the entire project is expected to take about 20 months.

### Inside this issue:

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## S.P. Pazargad Awarded Strand Reconstruction Project Contract

S.P. Pazargad Engineering Construction, Inc. will be the contractor working on the Strand Reconstruction Project. Their bid came in at around \$3.5 million.

S.P. Pazargad is not new to

the City. They are currently working on a retaining wall in El Porto. They have created a link on their website at [www.sppazargad.com](http://www.sppazargad.com) for the Strand reconstruction project.

Strand Reconstruction Hotline:

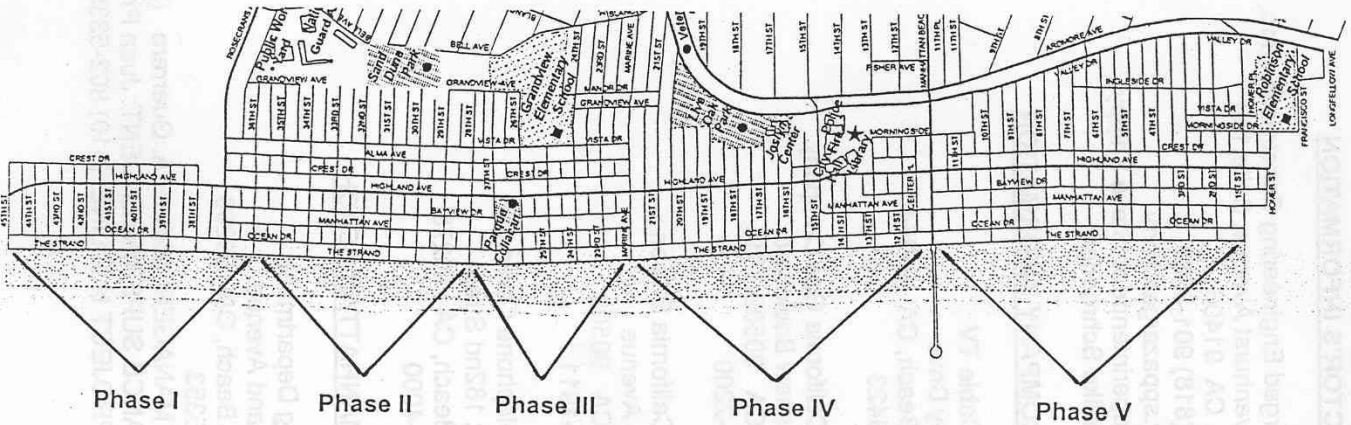
**310-802-5339**

City Website:

**[www.cityymb.info](http://www.cityymb.info)**



# Estimated Project Construction Schedule



Construction will be phased in approximately 8 to 10 block segments. Here is the most recent estimated project construction schedule:

- Phase I: 45th Street to 36th Street (9 Blocks) April 2005 to August 2005
- Phase II: 36th Street to 28th Street (8 blocks) July 2005 to November 2005
- Phase III: 28th Street to Marine Avenue (6 blocks) November 2005 to February 2006
- Phase IV: Marine Avenue to Manhattan Beach Blvd (11 blocks)
- Phase V: Manhattan Beach Blvd to 1st Street (11 blocks)

Additional construction dates will be listed as the project progresses.

## Important Phone Numbers

Save Postage

### Get This Newsletter By E-Mail!

It is our goal to get this newsletter to as many people as possible—we will mail it to those who would like it mailed; however, it will save the City money and supplies if we can email it to you. To join the email list, please call or write Rimga Viskanta at 802-5363 or

[rviskanta@citymb.info](mailto:rviskanta@citymb.info). Thanks!

**Strand Reconstruction Hotline** (310) 802-5339

**Rimga Viskanta** (310) 802-5363  
City's Public Information Contact for Strand Reconstruction Project [rviskanta@citymb.info](mailto:rviskanta@citymb.info)

**Michael Guerrero** (310) 802-5355  
City's Project Manager

**Steve Shippy** (818) 901-8883  
Contractor's Project Superintendent  
*S.P. Pazargad Engineering Construction*

**Utility Company Information**  
Adelphia Cable Television 310-318-3423  
Southern California Gas Company 1-800-427-2200  
Southern California Edison 1-800-611-1911

## Bench Alcoves A Big Improvement

Currently, pedestrians will find that some benches are tucked away in alcoves apart from The Strand walkway. However, most benches and trash containers are placed directly on the walkway. This placement makes it necessary for pedestrians to maneuver around these obstacles. More importantly, however, they obstruct the pathway so that street sweeping vehicles cannot drive along the length of the walkway.

As part of the Strand improvement project, all benches and trash cans will be removed from the walkway and placed into alcoves. This will minimize interference with pedestrian traffic. And street sweeping machines will be able to drive the



Typical existing bench and alcove. After the reconstruction, new trash receptacles will be placed in the alcoves instead of on the walkway as is depicted in this picture.

length of The Strand improving maintenance and cleaning issues.

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## Goals of the Project

The Strand Improvement Project from 1st Street to 45th Street is included in the City's Capital Improvement Program. The scope of work includes the following items:

- Replacement of light poles and fixtures, conduit and electrical wiring
- Removal and reconstruction of the entire walkway surface and curb
- Correction of drainage deficiencies
- Improve environmental issues of storm water drainage discharge
- Structural and surface repair of existing retaining walls
- Improve maintenance and cleaning issues
- Improve Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility issues

In order to meet the public desire to keep the design simple and to maintain the smooth surface of the walkway, the new walkway will remain grey concrete. The light poles and fixtures will be replaced, but the existing lighting level will stay the same. The new light fixtures will help reduce the glare to adjacent homes and eliminate light shining up into the nighttime sky which will improve visibility and reduce light pollution. Signs will be taken off light poles, made more uniform, and placed on trash receptacles. As a part of the project, the existing Strand gardens will be protected in place unless they obstruct construction at the curb or alcove location. Please see the other articles in this newsletter to learn more about the placement of benches and about the public art bench donation program.

## City of Manhattan Beach



1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach CA 90266

## Public Bench Donation Program

Would you like to make an artistic contribution to the City of Manhattan Beach? Then consider donating a bench to replace the current standard benches which you find along The Strand.

The Cultural Arts Commission is developing a program where citizens can donate benches that will not only be functional, but will also be considered as public art.

There are currently a handful of benches on The Strand that have been donated to the city. You can see them in the photos



Samples of two artistic benches that are currently found on The Strand and which will remain when the new Strand walkway is constructed.

above. These benches will be placed into alcoves when the new walkway is reconstructed. The details for the bench donation program are still being finalized within the Cultural Arts

Commission. For more information, contact Juanita Purner, Cultural Arts Manager, at 802-5406 or by email at [jpurner@citymb.info](mailto:jpurner@citymb.info).

### CONTRACTOR'S INFORMATION

S.P. Pazargad Engineering Construction, Inc.  
7120 Hayvenhurst Avenue, Suite 108  
Van Nuys, CA 91406  
PHONE : (818) 901-8883  
<http://www.sppazargad.com/>  
General Superintendent: Steve Shippy  
Foreman: Mike Schroeder

### UTILITY COMPANY INFORMATION

Adelphia Cable TV  
1529 Valley Drive  
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254  
(310)318-3423

Southern California Gas Company  
2325 Crenshaw Boulevard  
Torrance, CA 90509-2815  
1-800-427-2200

Southern California Edison  
505 Maple Avenue  
Torrance, CA 90503  
1-800-611-1911

Verizon Telephone Company  
2819 West 182nd Street  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278  
1-800-483-4000

### CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

Engineering Department  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
(310) 802-5353  
PROJECT MANAGER: Michael A. Guerrero (310) 802-5355  
MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT: Juan Price (310) 802-5310  
STRAND PROJECT HOTLINE: (310) 802-5339

## CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

### THE STRAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, California 90266  
Telephone : (310) 802-5355  
Fax : (310) 802-5351  
<http://www.citymb.info>

## THE STRAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Included in the City's Capital Improvement Program is The Strand Improvement Project from 1st Street to 45th Street that includes:

- Replacement of light poles and fixtures, conduit and electrical wiring
- Removal and reconstruction of the entire walkway surface and curb
- Correction of drainage deficiencies
- Improve environmental issues of storm water drainage discharge
- Structural and surface repair of existing retaining walls
- Improve maintenance and cleaning issues
- Improve American's with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility issues

Public input stressed the desire to keep the design simple and maintain the smooth surface of the walkway. Therefore, the new walkway will remain grey concrete. The light poles and fixtures will be replaced, but the existing lighting level will stay the same. The new light fixtures will help reduce the glare to adjacent homes and eliminate light shining up into the nighttime sky which will improve visibility and reduce light pollution. All benches and trash cans will be moved off the walkway and instead alcoves will be constructed to hold them. This will make it possible for a street sweeper to travel the length of the entire Strand improving maintenance and cleaning issues. Signs will be taken off light poles, made more uniform, and placed on trash receptacles. Benches will be replaced gradually as part of a public art program through the City's Cultural Arts Commission. As a part of the project, the existing Strand gardens will be protected in place unless they obstruct construction at the curb or alcove location. Construction will be phased in approximately 8 to 10 block segments.

The Contractor, S.P. Pazargad Engineering Construction Inc., will commence construction by March 28, 2005 and complete the work within 400 working days (20 months). During the construction period a City representative will be on the job site to provide assistance to residents and coordinate the work. Pedestrian traffic will be detoured and parking may be prohibited within the area where work is being performed. If necessary, parking prohibitions will be posted 72 hours prior to street closure. Provisions in the contract require that the Contractor maintain access to residences in the work area, however, access along portions of the Strand may be necessarily limited due to adjacent construction. The Contractor will be permitted to work from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm on weekdays in order to assure completion of the project on time. The Contractor will submit a more detailed construction schedule upon commencing construction and residents within the affected construction areas will be notified as the work schedule progresses.

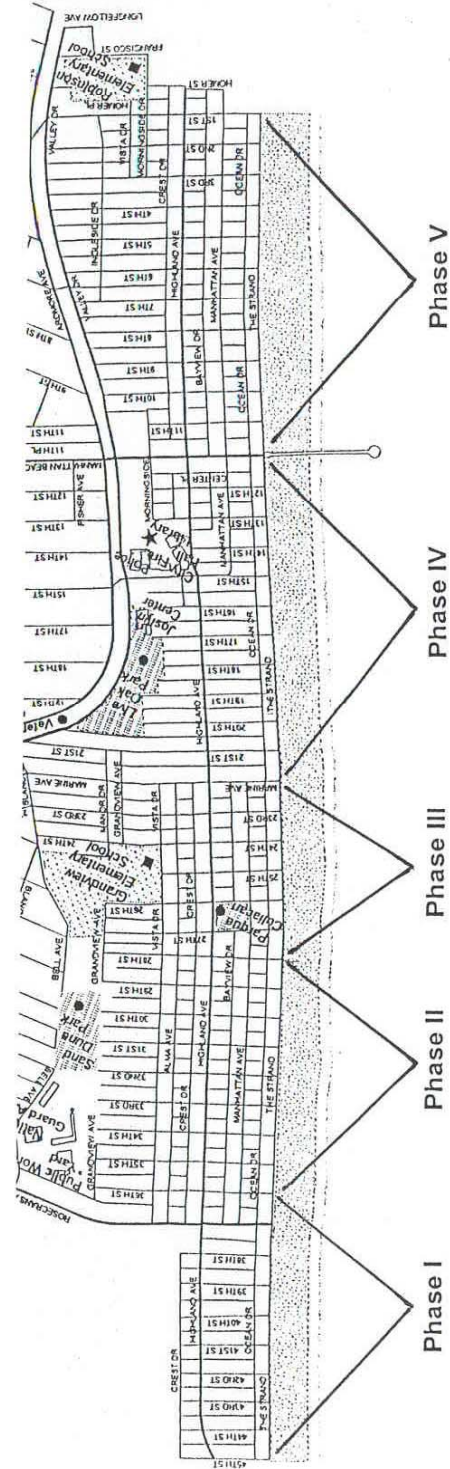
### FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Public Works Department welcomes any inquiries you may have regarding the project. Should you require any further information regarding the scheduled work please access information at <http://www.cityymb.info> or the Strand project hotline at (310) 802-5339 or contact Mr. Michael A. Guerrero at (310) 802-5355. The project represents a major improvement to the City and your assistance during the construction period will be appreciated.

### ESTIMATED PROJECT CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE:

- \* Phase I: 45th Street to 36th Street (9 blocks) April, 2005 to August, 2005
- \* Phase II: 36th Street to 28th Street (8 blocks) July, 2005 to November, 2005
- \* Phase III: 28th Street to Marine Avenue (6 blocks) September, 2005 to December, 2005
- \* Phase IV: Marine Avenue to Manhattan Beach Blvd (11 blocks)
- \* Phase V: Manhattan Beach Blvd to 1st Street (11 blocks)

Additional construction dates will be listed as the project progresses



THE STRAND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
1st STREET to 45th STREET

# TRASH RECEPTACLES

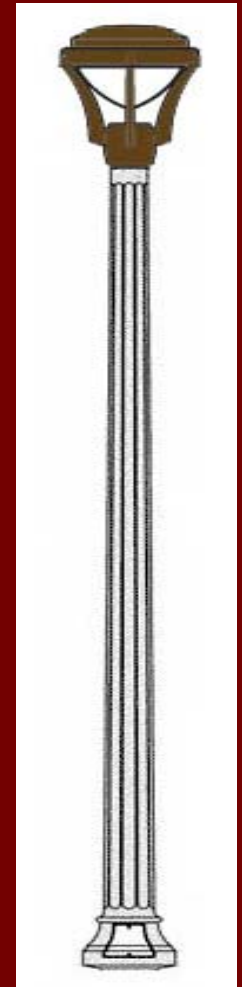


**Stock Trash Receptacle**



**Proposed Trash Receptacle:**

- Concrete material
- Integral concrete cover
- Smoother finish
- Edge fluting similar to light poles
- Center “stock” decorative enhancements
- Various concrete colors available
- Squared shape can accommodate signage
- Side opening for easy service



**Strand Light Pole**



**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**



**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON THE BEACH**  
L.A. CO. ORD. 17.12.320 ; M.B.M.C. 4.48.030



**NO DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH  
ON OR OFF LEASH**  
M.B.M.C. 5.01.040



**PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET**  
M.B.M.C. 5.01.310



**PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ONLY  
NO BICYCLE RIDING ON THE STRAND**  
M.B.M.C. 3.01.100.Z



**NO SMOKING ON THE BEACH**  
M.B.M.C. 12.08.320

# ***TRASH RECEPTACLES/SIGNAGE***



**Proposed Strand Trash Receptacle with attached Signage**

- **Two trash receptacles per intersection**
- **Proposed location at top of curb elevation accommodates automated sweeper**
- **One sign per trash receptacle pair at each intersection; 45 proposed signs**
- **Replaces 85 signs on existing Strand light poles and 68 painted pedestrian traffic markings**