

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Irene Ralyea <ireneralyea@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

No Resolution. No Apology

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Eduardo Cespedes <ERCESPEDES@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:35 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Bruce Beach Resolutions - City Council Meeting - to ALL CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**Dear Council Members:**

I have been a resident of Manhattan Beach since 1988

Please don't play the game of the Far Left

The Far Left has declared MB guilty of "systemic and institutional racism" and they want our City Council to issue any statement of "resolution" that they will spin as "evidence" to justify restitution and to take over governing our schools, police department, and city government.

Please do not issue any Resolutions tonight

It could be a huge can of worms...

Thank you

Eduardo Cespedes  
3616 Blanche Road, Manhattan Beach  
310-545-0298

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bob Shearin <bshea98359@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:25 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Concerned resident

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please no Bruce Beach Resolution. Nothing is served by pitting good people against each other. I'm a 27 year resident who is concerned about the balkanization of America by power seeking "leaders".

Bob Shearin

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Herschel Sarnoff Multimedia Learning <hsarnoff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:24 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please do not give into the radicals demanding we pay reparations and beg for forgiveness. Whatever you give them will not be enough. They hate our small city.

My wife and I have lived in MB since 1970 and have never seen so much bile and jealousy and falsehoods directed against our city.

Herschel and Elaine Sarnoff

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** heathergothitched@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:13 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CSC mask police

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Let's get rid of them altogether and save the money. Even if it's not "our money" let's save it anyway. It's no longer of any use to have CSC walking around town. We look stupid.

Love always,  
Heather

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** heathergothitched@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:11 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am no longer in favor of an apology, which is not just a heartfelt, "I'm sorry" anymore. These days, it's used as a way to springboard into litigation and you guys can already see what this is doing to our city. Please, let's end this tonight. No apologies and no resolutions of whatever.

Thank you.

Love always,  
Heather

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Linda Neumeier <lindagary120@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:11 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am NOT in favor of making any apology or acknowledgment of any racist activity that may have taken place 100 years ago.

I have lived in Manhattan Beach for over 20 years. How my grandparents lived or what they did does not reflect me or my feelings.

My grandparents told stories but gave advice on how to make a better tomorrow. Change the past and look forward.

We worked hard and made them proud. We as a city need to do the same.

Look to tomorrow our future and make this city proud of who we will become.

Linda Neumeier  
120 25th street  
Manhattan Beach

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** William Harding <rocketdude@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:59 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology vote

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I strongly oppose any sort of resolution. The Bruce's Beach incident happened 100 years ago and viewing through today's cultural values does not help our city. Any sort of apology or acknowledgement now risks our city and it's current residents for having to direct hard earned tax dollars toward resolving whatever legal action follows.

Manhattan Beach of 100 years ago certainly was not the same as Manhattan Beach of today. But why target Manhattan Beach for a giant scarlet R now? To quote the infamous bank robber, Willie Sutton, when asked why he robs banks....because that's where the money is. I suspect that's why the radical left is targeting our little city...that's where the money is.

Drop it. Move on.

Bill Harding

## **Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Laurie Patrick <lulu8beach@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**I PREFER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY.**

**38 YEAR RESIDENT OF MANHATTAN BEACH**

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Maurine Jennings <majennings52@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:50 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** majenning52@aol.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Proposed Council Action

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council Council Members,

As a forty-five-year resident homeowner in Manhattan Beach, I never thought I could be so insulted, shamed, and outright flabbergasted as by the recent actions of the City Council members on the Bruce's Beach Task Force. You were all elected by the residents of this city and we trust you to serve, protect, lead, and defend the city. I highly doubt that your oath of office states, directs, nor gives council members any legal right to work outside the mandates of a given committee or group, nor that it supports efforts to slander, defame, libel, and/or make every attempt to mislead the residents of the city; nor purposefully set about to breed unrest, division, antagonism, and/or create a toxic living environment driven by personal motives.

It seems quite questionable that the current actions of those members are of their own design. If they were, these issues would have been raised to this level years ago. To myself and many fellow residents, it appears to us as if these members have chosen to bow to and cast their lots with influencers and agitators from outside our city who call for the residents to issue an "apology" for the actions of people who lived a hundred years ago and the Task Force seems to think they should do the speaking on our behalf. No, in this matter, they do not speak for me. In this matter, they do not represent me and I protest their thinking they have some right to do so without knowing my, or any other resident's for that matter, thoughts or opinions on the issue.

What happened a hundred years ago, two hundred years ago, to so many countless thousands upon thousands of people of EVERY racial group was wrong and the city (and therefore, the county as well) actually addressed this one, singular, issue years ago. (I can't help but wonder why hasn't there been even the slightest effort made to discuss or address any other such issue; such as what happened to Japanese residents during WWII, for example?) Manhattan Beach, and her residents, is being openly defamed and portrayed as a hotbed of systematic and institutional racism. If this were true, then we residents should really be looking at our City Council Members (who have represented, lead, and guided the residents of the city as well as directed the implementation and enforcement of, and adherence to the laws and regulations of the City, County, State, and Federal Government) and be asking ourselves are YOU the singular, focused, driving (political) force that has been promoting and engendering this kind of behavior and attitude? I do not think so, but is that how you've seen yourselves all these many years?

Put this proposed action before the residents for a vote and I would (and will) not support your issuing ANY form of "apology" or "resolution" in this matter and I dare say neither would or do a majority of the voters. I respectfully ask you cease any efforts to consider the issuing of any form of "apology" or "resolution" regarding this matter. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maurine Jennings

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Neil Leventhal <nl@lma-web.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:47 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

An apology does not constitute an admission of guilt or liability by the city or current residents, but, as a community, it is our obligation to elevate truth above all, and to acknowledge not just what happened, but why – and to condemn it with at least the same clarity as the condemnation of their property.

Words are certainly important, and we understand the genuine reticence of some to internalize blame, or utilize language that they believe communicates legal liability. Nevertheless, it is also clear that many seek to symbolically minimize the history of Bruce's Beach, its significance, and its roots, and to “move on” without an appropriate expression of regret.

The objective is not simply to “acknowledge” what occurred, but to acknowledge that it was wrong, and to express the outrage and empathy that must accompany such awareness. So, if a “Proclamation of Disgust and Regret” is more semantically acceptable, I suppose we may consider that alternative, but a simple apology certainly seems appropriate.

Neil Leventhal

128 13th St.  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rhonda Myers <r.myers4164@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:12 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I am AGAINST any resolution regarding Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Manhattan Beach City Council,

I have been a long term resident of the South Bay and Manhattan Beach Community and I am against any type of reparations or resolution for the Bruce's Beach Area.

Thank you,  
Rhonda Myers  
805.709.6227 mobile

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** lucy artinian <lartinian20@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:10 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces beach issue

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Put up a new art piece to recognize and discuss history if you want.  
That enough.  
Bob Hoersch Lucy Artinian

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Neil Leventhal <nl@lma-web.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 4:47 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

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Words are certainly important, and we understand the genuine reticence of some to internalize blame, or utilize language that they believe communicates legal liability. Nevertheless, it is also clear that many seek to symbolically minimize the history of Bruce's Beach, its significance, and its roots, and to “move on” without an appropriate expression of regret.

The objective is not simply to “acknowledge” what occurred, but to acknowledge that it was wrong, and to express the outrage and empathy that must accompany such awareness. So, if a “Proclamation of Disgust and Regret” is more semantically acceptable, I suppose we may consider that alternative, but a simple apology certainly seems appropriate.

Neil Leventhal

128 13th St.  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Vesta Sung <vestasung@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Bruce's Beach Letter

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and City Council Members,

Today this group will be voting on how best for Manhattan Beach to move forward and heal with respect to Bruce's Beach. As a Manhattan Beach resident for 23 years and as a person of colour, I offer the following thoughts.

The notion of a "Letter of Apology" vs. a "Letter of Acknowledgment" is win-lose, and therefore highly divisive. The reality is there is no one who denies that what happened to the Bruce family and other black families in 1924 was an atrocity. Both letters express empathy and regret for what occurred. The difference is one accepts blame and responsibility. However, assuming blame for something that occurred 100 years ago, is not logical. Moreover, receiving an apology from someone who did not do the deed and was not even there, rings hollow and is patronizing. Instead, this letter will need to be a powerful tool to help heal our community and beyond. The idea is not to fuel resentment or encourage lawsuits that could literally destroy the city. The letter should be:

- Be personal
- Sincerely address those most affected
- Acknowledge an offense or injury
- Express sympathy, remorse, or regret
- Effect changes to ensure the offense won't happen again
- Not make excuses, reassign blame, or assume blame inappropriately.

Hope this helps in your decision-making process.

Best,  
Vesta

Vesta Sung  
Manhattan Beach CERT  
CoVID-19 Deployment Manager

American Red Cross  
Disaster Cycle Services  
Los Angeles Region (T4)  
[vesta.sung@redcross.org](mailto:vesta.sung@redcross.org)

Program/Project Management Consultant

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** peter topblueusa.com <peter@topblueusa.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:46 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**I PREFER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY. Seven years MB Resident.  
Peter and Andrea Balov**

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carolyn Yarbrough <carolyn.yarbrough18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:39 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach: Support for Formal Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Carly Yarbrough and I am emailing my support of a just and welcoming Manhattan Beach, and one that includes a formal apology.

I grew up in Manhattan Beach. I attended Mira Costa High School, receiving a fantastic education and participating in cross country and track and Orchestra and numerous activities that provided me a wonderful opportunity to interact with people of all backgrounds. All my coaches, mentors and family instilled such strong values of love, acceptance and tolerance and empathy and as a result I have such a fondness for this city where I grew up, and still frequently visit my parents who still live there.

But I've also learned a lot and I recognize that it is an incredibly wealthy, sheltered community with a complicated past. That's hard to realize that a place I thought of as home has such a painful history but it's even harder to accept that a formal apology at MINIMUM is even a QUESTION. I find myself in this moment, disenchanted with this beautiful community that I once and sometimes do still call home.

What happened with Bruce's Beach should never have occurred. It is up to us in this moment to apologize and commit to truth and to justice.

Thank you,  
Carly

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carolyn Yarbrough <carolyn.yarbrough18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:46 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach: Support for Formal Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

>  
> My name is Carly Yarbrough and I am emailing my support of a just and welcoming Manhattan Beach, and one that includes a formal apology.  
>  
> I grew up in Manhattan Beach. I attended Mira Costa High School, receiving a fantastic education and participating in cross country and track and Orchestra and numerous activities that provided me a wonderful opportunity to interact with people of all backgrounds. All my coaches, mentors and family instilled such strong values of love, acceptance and tolerance and empathy and as a result I have such a fondness for this city where I grew up, and still frequently visit my parents who still live there.  
>  
> But I've also learned a lot and I recognize that it is an incredibly wealthy, sheltered community with a complicated past. That's hard to realize that a place I thought of as home has such a painful history but it's even harder to accept that a formal apology at MINIMUM is even a QUESTION. I find myself in this moment, disenchanted with this beautiful community that I once and sometimes do still call home.  
>  
> What happened with Bruce's Beach should never have occurred. It is up to us in this moment to apologize and commit to truth and to justice.  
>  
> Thank you,  
> Carly

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** robertbush dslextreme.com <robertbush@dslextreme.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:40 PM  
**To:** robertbush @dslextreme.com  
**Cc:** robertbush @dslextreme.com; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Bruce Moe; Quinn Barrow; List - City Council; mmatthews; jfenton; speel; jfenton; jboxer; cgraves; jcochran  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - L.A> County & Manhattan Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

# **Bruce's Beach – L.A. County & Manhattan Beach**

**by Robert Bush**

**Supervisor Janice Hahn – when you decide what to do with Bruce's Beach land – do not harm the City of Manhattan Beach.**

**1. No apology – Resolution of Acknowledge. (Expression of Sympathy)**

**2. No Reparations (Slavery) – Use Restitution or Compensation**

**Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn sat down with county lawyers and discussed three possible options: One - transfer the land back to the Bruce family. Two - transfer the land with a ground lease back to the county to continue the lifeguard operations and pay fair-market rent to the Bruce family. Three - keep the**

**land but determine the value of the property and make some kind of monetary payment to the Bruce family.**

**Many details still need to be worked out. Transferring the land from public to private ownership would require state legislation, but numerous legislators have told Hahn that they would introduce the bill. As for the price tag, initial estimates indicate that these options could cost the county \$40 million to \$70 million.**

**Anthony Bruce is not interested in doing anything that more grief to the family. Hahn understood. She's been around public policy long enough to understand: that good intentions can still have unintended consequences. The idea was to first do no harm. The county is moving toward transferring the land to the Bruces in a way that does not immediately saddle the family with enormous property tax bill.**

**Supervisor Janice Hahn – when you decide what to do with Bruce's**

**Beach land – do not harm the City of Manhattan Beach.**

**1 No apology – Resolution of Acknowledge. (Expression of Sympathy)**

**2 No Reparations (Slavery) – Use Restitution or Compensation**

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sterling Hayden <sir@sunspeed.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:28 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] no resolution, no apology, no BBTF, stop the nonsense

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

You apparently don't realize that quietly in the background there are a lot of commonsense, reasonable people who are against the BLM sort of scams.

These BLM and similar scams have run their course to the point that more and more reality based people are turning against anything labeled racist.

And those behind it.

Including liberal career politicians like Napolitano, Hahn, apparently Stern and, maybe Franklin(?). Our family members are so fed up with it that for the first time ever we will enthusiastically campaign against anyone advocating anything close to woke social justice.

A year ago our local police and Lifeguards enthusiastically kept us from going to the beach due to the virus scamdemic.

But, didn't hesitate to escort a large march of BLM liberal leftists from pier to pier.

The hypocrisy is on full display and noticed.

Bruce, who ever that was got his / her / their day in court 100 years ago.

If it wasn't good enough for them, they or someone should've done something at the time.

100 years later is not the timing or circumstances to retroactively claim that MB is and always has been racist.

And, then try to get control and financial gain from the City for self incrimination to attitudes and actions that didn't happen.

Get real. Just deal with managing the City and do not get involved in creating narrative about a 100 year old event.

And, making MB vulnerable to more of this nonsense.

Do not allow MB to be inserted into manufactured cultural issues

SH

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Loralie Ogden <logden456@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am writing to add my name to the growing list of residents who support an apology to the Bruce Family for our past deeds. I believe Steve N composed an apology which circumvents any liability for the city. With this matter getting more and more publicity, it seems necessary that we do the right thing and apologize.

Thank you for your service.

Loralie Ogden  
456 32nd street

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bradford Williams <bradfordp47@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:17 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We Should not apologize for something that we had no control over that happened 100 years ago.I also do not believe there should be a resolution saying it was wrong; we were not there. In fact I am opposed to any resolution

Regards,  
Brad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Nadine Jackson <njej@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:14 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology!

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi MB City Council,  
I urge you to please issue an APOLOGY  
to the Bruce and other African American families that were forced out of Manhattan Beach!

Nadine Jackson

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** MICHAEL J KURZ <attorneykurz@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:12 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** MICHAEL J KURZ  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach Nonsense tonight

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council persons,

I have written all of you of my family's disgust at these Council proceedings, which we see as just extortion by Marxist/leftists. I was surprised to find out that the common sense decision of a few weeks ago didn't end this fiasco. Instead I find out it tabled the Marxists target here, obtaining an 'apology' and/or 'acknowledgement' of wrong doing. As an attorney I can tell you such an act by the council will only provide future claimants a full tank of gas for a barrage of lawsuit fires to come.

The one overwhelming and undisputed fact of the Bruce Beach narrative is that 'both' whites and blacks were affected by the Eminent Domain proceedings, and whites more so than blacks. That's a fact that kills any accusation of racist unfairness in the 1920,s. I'm sure it existed on a personal level. But the City at that time, for whatever reason, exercised its right under Eminent Domain laws to take property through condemnation and paid Fair Market Value to everyone involved, white and black equally (some at the time saying it was more than FMV). All parties were given Due Process of Law. There is nothing to apologize for, nor any wrong-doing to acknowledge.

You are charged as our duly elected officials to protect the citizens of Manhattan Beach from extortion of our resources, now and in the future. You are charged with husbanding our tax money wisely. This is a good opportunity to say no to Marxist extortion in all its new forms such as BLM, Antifa, leftist Democrats (DEI programs).

We say..."No", to anything apologetic. ONLY acknowledge the Truth, that all the families in the Bruce Beach Eminent Domain Proceedings were inconvenienced (as Eminent Domain does to nearly everyone), but were give full Due Process of Law and were paid Fair Market Value for their properties, without regard to race. Manhattan Beach of the 1920's should be commended for its fairness when compared to other cities of the time.

The rest is just disgruntled complaining, and revisionist histories, which every Eminent Domain proceeding in America is full of. People always think they get ripped off by Eminent Domain and this is no different.

Councilmen Napolitano and Stern, seem to be the weak links here, especially Councilwoman Stern. You condescend to minorities believing they are inferior to you and need help to survive. Instead, you could view them as human beings worthy of respect, and who are capable with their own responsibilities and duties, as well as rights. This condescension is a soft racism now, but it is the root of hard core racism. I would ask both of you to stop your emotionalism and think clearly. Start by seeing people of the 1920's as human beings doing their best under their circumstances. No one was a monster.

Again, "No" to any type of apology, and only acknowledge the full truth or don't acknowledge anything. And put this thing to rest, no tails!!

Respectfully,

Mike Kurz  
18th Street  
Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michele Reniche <mreniche@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 1:28 PM  
**To:** City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Joe Franklin; Richard Montgomery; Steve Napolitano; Hildy Stern; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Residents Support a Resolution of Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My husband and I are among the hundreds of Manhattan Beach residents who signed today's two page ad in the Beach Reporter, calling for a more just and welcoming Manhattan Beach.

As the ad states, that includes an apology to the Bruce family .

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Michele Reniche  
Otis Ginoza

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mark Shalvarjian <mshalvarjian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 12:32 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please add my name to the long list of Manhattan Beach residents who feel strongly that the city needs to apologize for the stain on our history that includes evicting the owners of the properties that today make up Bruce's Beach Park.

I know there is a movement afoot to avoid making an apology because it would presumably serve as a public admission of guilt. The facts speak for themselves and as such, I am opposed to the position that is being promoted by some residents of Manhattan Beach who don't understand the power of admitting one's [community's] past failures. The power of an apology today is that it will enable our city to move beyond our past! *Failure to make an apology will ensure this chapter of our history will remain alive* as a topic of conversation for years to come.

While an apology will not change the historical facts, it will display a level of acknowledgement and integrity that is desperately needed with respect to this topic.

Mark Shalvarjian  
[mshalvarjian@gmail.com](mailto:mshalvarjian@gmail.com)  
M: (310) 890-8848

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Helena Burke <fufla@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 12:15 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology vs Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please do NOT apologize for anything. Truly ridiculous that we should apologize for something that was considered normal and acceptable **at that time.**

As I mentioned in my previous email to the city council, where would we be if all of today's society's had to apologize for the what our ancestors did; imagine the royalty of Europe who killed their own just to have a seat on the throne; taking of hostages to negotiate what a country wanted; persecution of witches; killing of Catholics across Europe; women not allowed to be in the company of a man without an escort for fear of being shamed; having a bastard child; being a spinster (this was actually written on my mother's wedding certificate because she was SO old when she got married - 30 years old)).

These are all things that in their day were considered normal and acceptable and no one blinked. Today we are a bit more refined and find these things of the past unbelievable.....but it happened and how can you apologize for something that was normal.

NO APOLOGIES. You can, and should, acknowledge what happened at Bruce's Beach 100 years ago. It is part of our Manhattan Beach history, and we should be proud that we learned from it. I don't see Manhattan Beach as anything but a welcoming community. It is an elite community with a very high cost to live here, but everyone is welcome; there are many, many multi-ethnic people living here.

And while we're at it....\$350,000 for a piece of artwork??? Really? Does MB really have that kind of money to waste? What on earth could cost that much money? Are you at least getting a LOCAL MB artist?

Just my thoughts. An Apology is out of the question.

Helena Burke

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Keely Sweeny <keelysweeny@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MBUSD Teachers Support an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Keely Sweeny and I am currently a teacher at MBMS, and for the past five years taught at MCHS.

I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family and other affected property owners and their families--and importantly to *not* support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, I am sure you agree with me that equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion are principles that should be taught to the young people of this community. A formal and public apology by the City would not only model these very principles for our students, but serve as the ultimate learning experience for showing what these principles look like in action.

The students and teachers of Manhattan Beach are counting on you to complete the good work you set out to do, and to set the example for what positive leadership looks like. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Keely Sweeny

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Keely Sweeny <keelysweeny@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
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The students and teachers of Manhattan Beach are counting on you to complete the good work you set out to do, and to set the example for what positive leadership looks like. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Keely Sweeny

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ray Joseph <Ray@rjfinehomes.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 11:15 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No on ALL Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

The days following my 45 second comment saying no to Bruce's Beach so many neighbors and people thanked me for my comments. So many people were offended by others' comments of "Manhattan Beach is White Privilege" including my Asian neighbors and said how are we white privilege. My neighborhood is very diverse with blacks, Asians and white. Frankly speaking, my black and Asian neighbors have better houses than me and are more successful than me. Most of the successful people I know are self made. What Manhattan Beach really is "Equal Opportunity Privileged" which our country is founded on.

NO apology or anything that will incur any liability for the city or county.

NO oversight committee

NO on going Bruce's Beach committee

NO modification to School Curriculum

NO new artwork.

NO to everything. Manhattan Beach is not Racist. End this.

Thanks,

Ray Joseph  
Manhattan Beach CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gregory Miller <gammd45@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 11:08 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Lisa Jacobs - Beach Reporter  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As a long-time resident of Manhattan Beach (since 1955) I have seen many changes in our beautiful town. MB was once a sleepy, unknown out-of-the-way "Midwest transplant". Now it is a bustling and highly desirable international tourist destination, for better or for worse.

But one thing MB is not is "racist". A tiny fraction of our population, probably less than 1%, may be overtly racist but they do not represent us. It would be completely inappropriate for MB to "apologize" for racist behavior committed a century ago. Any such "apology" would surely open the door to extended and expensive litigation over reparations.

MB can recognize history with a resolution acknowledging the events surrounding Bruce's Beach in the 1920's. MB can bring forward artistic and historical representations of the history of that era.

But MB cannot and should not "apologize".

Greg Miller

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kathy and Wally <kpmiglin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 10:52 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I've lived in Manhattan Beach for 50 years and my husband for around 45 years. Please do the following:

1. Council must pass a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.
  1. The "Resolution of Acknowledgment" must NOT include an "Anti-racism Pledge," as seen in Councilman Napolitano's Resolution. It calls on residents to snitch on their neighbors and smacks of Big Brother intrusion with possible legal ramifications.
  2. Council must NOT issue an apology. It will never be enough for the "woke" and they will only come back for more.
  3. .Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.

--

*Kathy and Wally Miglin*

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** DOLORES MOLONEY <mbdee@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 10:08 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I very definitely prefer no apology for the Bruce's Beach situation, but acknowledge it.  
I am a 32 year resident.

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Heidi Rayden <heidirayden@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:13 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: "Apology Letter"

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your continued hard work for our beloved city. I am a four year resident and am shocked to see how quickly (post the riots) Manhattan Beach has changed.

From increased car & home burglaries to trash being left all over the city specifically at Bruce Beach to my neighbors & friends who own homes on the Strand near B.B having to call the police every single day for one issue or another including a gun being waved at elderly homeowners recently. Nice work Hildy.

Just imagine if Hildy got her homeless shelter (oh I mean Unsheltered shelter) how the city would look. \*FYI : Venice established a homeless shelter at Main & Rose a few years ago; disregarding homeowner & residents concerns. The entire area has transformed into blocks upon blocks of skid row, filth, tents upon tents & more filth.

But I digress.

Regarding the "Apology" letter , we support an acknowledgment letter . We are not a racist city , we are a welcoming city. Period. We do not support an "anti-racist" pledge because we are not racist ...that is redundant and makes no sense. We are tired and deeply offended by the mischaracterization of our city and the people who live here. People like Anthony Lee (who repeatedly states MB is racist in covert and overt ways, ways we don't even realize) but then calls in to last months CC meeting denying calling MB racist OR people like Jenkins who can't sleep at night due to the "lack of diversity" in MB do not represent our city accurately. We are welcoming to all.

The purpose of the letter of apology continues to enforce this fake racist narrative. As lawyers on CC well know, this letter will serve as a legal tool for our city to be sued by those seeking money. Nothing else.

We support a letter of acknowledgment . A simply stated version of facts & truths.

Thank you ,  
Heidi Rayden Tobias

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** denise berger <dberger710@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 11:48 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Vote for an apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council.

I am a Manhattan Beach resident of 14 years. Setting aside for the moment that people have recently experienced racism in our beautiful community, and the "denier" voice is loud and ever-present, today I ask that City Council do one thing:

I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

Simply, this apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down. Vote to issue the apology.

Thank you,  
Denise & Eric Berger

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Denise Berger

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** robertbush dslextreame.com <robertbush@dslextreame.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 6:56 PM  
**To:** robertbush @dslextreame.com  
**Cc:** robertbush @dslextreame.com; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Bruce Moe; Quinn Barrow; List - City Council; mmatthews; jfenton; speel; List - City Council; jboxer; jcochran; cgraves  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] M.B. City Council & I.A. County Supervisor - Janice Hahn

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Manhattan Beach City Council & Los Angeles County Supervisor – Janice Hahn

by Robert Bush

Janice Hahn was shocked and embarrassed, she said, to have not known what happened to Bruce’s Beach 100 years ago. Janice did you witness the protests throughout Los Angeles County when protesters looted, used arson and vandalized the City of Los Angeles and Santa Monica? None of the protesters has come to apologize for millions of damage.

The First Amendment (Freedom of Speech) of U.S. Constitution gives the right to protest, but does not give you the right to loot, vandalize and arson.

Be careful in your negotiations – apology (An apology is necessary for litigation and reparations against the City of Manhattan Beach) – acknowledgement (Act of admitting the existence or truth of something.) Reparations (Relates to slavery) - compensations.

Said Jan Williams of BLM LA, "We demand reparations right f\*\*\*ing now. You can answer. You can answer to everybody...Reparations or nothing. Reparations and redress or f\*\*\* y'all. This whole country can f\*\*\*ing burn."

When BLM LA's Melina Abdullah spoke, she said, "They can do what they're compelled to do. You know what we need to compel them to do is exactly what Kavon [Ward of ARMs] said. Pay us. Pay us. Pay us. Until you pay us, there ain't gonna be no peace for y'all. There's no peace for y'all. We're not just gonna go in the house and be good Negroes ..."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said he opposes paying [reparations for slavery](#), arguing “none of us currently living are responsible” for what he called America’s “original sin.”

“I don’t think reparations for something that happened 150 years ago for whom none of us currently living are responsible is a good idea,” the Kentucky Republican told reporters in response to a question about whether reparations should be paid or a public apology should be made by Congress or the President.

Manhattan Beach is not “racist”. The residents that live in Manhattan Beach in 2021 had nothing to do with what happened to the Bruce family in Manhattan Beach almost 100 years ago. Manhattan Beach will not “apologize” for something that happened 100 years ago and will not pay “reparations”. And forget about “defunding” our Police Department. Manhattan Beach doesn’t own Bruce’s Beach, since it was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1995.

City council [agreed this month](#) to maintain a website on the history of Bruce's Beach and commissioned two new plaques to acknowledge the past. The council also allocated \$350,000 to be spent on an art installation, but it postponed voting on whether to issue an apology.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn sat down with county lawyers and discussed three possible options: One - transfer the land back to the Bruce family. Two - transfer the land with a ground lease back to the county to continue the lifeguard operations and pay fair-market rent to the Bruce family. Three - keep the land but determine the value of the property and make some kind of monetary payment to the Bruce family.

Many details still need to be worked out. Transferring the land from public to private ownership would require state legislation, but numerous legislators have told Hahn that they would introduce the bill. As for the price tag, initial estimates indicate that these options could cost the county \$40 million to \$70 million.

Charles and Willie Bruce purchased two oceanfront lots for \$1,225 in 1912. City officials in 1924 condemned the neighborhood and seized more than two dozen properties through eminent domain. The reason was an urgent need for a public park. (Bruce's Beach) Land was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1995. The Bruces sought \$70,000 for their two beachfront properties and \$50,000 in damages. They received \$14,500. The other families, Black and white, received between \$1,200 and \$4,200 per lot.

The Bruce Family received more compensation than any of the property owners (black or white) Who could predict when they might have sold their land at nice profit a few years later, not 100 years? How do you arrive at \$40 million to \$70 million to pay off the Bruce Family?

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Anne Marie Crotty <annemariecrotty@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 5:42 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Mira Costa Students - Please get them back to School IN PERSON

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

“They don’t want us there.”

This is what our MCHS sophomore told us last week after the Zoom meetings his teachers conducted regarding students “returning” to school.

We, his parents, and he witnessed his teachers say:

“You will be made to sit in a plastic cube for 2 hours a day, basically chained to your desks. You will not be able to get up to use the bathroom nor get a drink of water. It’s going to be torture – do you really want to come back for this?”

And:

“Nobody really knows what’s going on. Ben Dale is quitting, and nobody here knows how we’re going to teach back in the classroom. Are athletes even allowed back in school? Does anybody know?!”

None of his teachers have said, “We can’t wait to welcome you back,” or “We’re looking forward to meeting you in person.”

We don’t blame the Mira Costa teachers entirely. The lack of leadership from Mike Matthews and Ben Dale has had its effect; based on the little communication we have received from them, they have been reactive and condescending. For the last year, there has been a “don’t blame us, our hands are tied” messaging. It has permeated the entire MCHS administration and teacher corps. The administration has had a year to prepare to have students back in class. How is it that the teachers are angry and confused about returning to in-person teaching?

We sent comments to the MBUSD School Board begging them to step in and LEAD. Many other school districts are well positioned and are ready with an action plan and positive messaging to their students and parents about the return to school.

Our son is reluctant to return to school because it is implicit in the messaging that none of his teachers or administrators want to be there. He has been made to feel like a burden.

Our son is a straight-A student, and a leader on his sports teams. The only adults we have witnessed having a positive effect at Mira Costa High School are his coaches. They are amazing leaders and mentors, and they deserve to be praised and rewarded.

The “return” to high school process has been confusing and negative. Our son “returns” to Mira Costa tomorrow, but his friends have told him “it is terrible, we just sit on zooms in class inside cages with masks.” Needless to say, he is not looking forward to being there. This is so wrong! It should be a celebrated day, but instead it is a day filled with dread.

We expect that when our student arrives at class, an *in-person teacher will teach him and the class he is attending*. We will not tolerate him sitting in a classroom on a zoom like he does at home. What is the point?

We expect that the plastic “cages” be taken away as they have been deemed “unnecessary” by the CDC, despite Ben Dale’s messaging that “we don’t want the students to be too comfortable”.

As parents, we have a responsibility to our children to make sure they are being educated in an environment that is in-person, positive and productive.

We need to see evidence that the MBUSD Board care about students and will effectively lead the district through this transitional time. The only thing keeping us in the district is the hope that new leadership (both in the Mira Costa Principal and MBUSD Superintendent positions) will make the changes necessary to ensure in-person, quality instruction to the greatest extent possible. If we do not see evidence of changes soon, we will have no choice but to find alternative, positive learning environments for our sophomore and incoming freshman.

Anne Marie and Robert Crotty

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** JANET SOLIMAN <manhattan3333@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 4:54 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council

I'm so sick and tired of our beautiful beach side city and it's residents being maligned by Bruce's Beach task force members and BLM. We were all called racist even though we committed no racist crimes. Now we (the city which is made up of its people), are suppose to apologize for the Bruce's Family eminent domain issue that happened 100 years ago! I have no relatives that lived here 100 years ago but I'm suppose to apologize ? The apology the city and residents (one in the same) are asked to give is based on out skin color which is racist in itself. If this were a majority black town the apology would not be asked. To apologize would mean your ok with reverse discrimination.

The second point is that this would open the door to suing our city which means the tax payers would be the people shelling out reparations for something that happened 100 years ago and none of us had anything to do with this event. All people of all colors want fairness and to comply with this demand would be totally unfair to the 99% of your constituents.

No apology please!

Janet Soliman

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** KATHI COLLIGAN <pandkcolligan@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 3:11 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach - Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Manhattan Beach City Council,

I am in strong support of the "Resolution of Acknowledgement" regarding Bruce's Beach. I do not feel that an apology is appropriate for our city, and feel that this does not represent the feelings of the community.

Thank you,  
Kathi Colligan  
25 year resident

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** John MacEachern <johnnymac123@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 2:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello Council. We are John and Ann MacEachern. We have been residents of Manhattan Beach for over 50 years. In regards to Bruce's Beach please pass a Resolution of Acknowledgement, and NOT issue an apology. Please end this April 6th!! Additionally, DO NOT include an Anti-racism Pledge. We don't need that. Thank you all so much. John MacEachern  
540 4th Street Manhattan Beach

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Matthew Wheeler <mwheeler78@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MBUSD Teachers Support an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Greetings:

My name is Matt Wheeler and I am a teacher at Mira Costa High School. I am also a lifelong resident of Manhattan Beach.

I ask the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” from the City Council to the Bruce Family and other affected property owners and their families and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, I am sure you agree with me that equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion are principles that should be taught to the young people of this community. A formal and public apology by the City would not only model these very principles for our students, but serve as the ultimate learning experience for showing what these principles look like in action.

Your students and teachers are counting on you to complete the good work you set out to do. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Matt Wheeler  
English Department  
Mira Costa High School  
1401 Artesia Blvd.

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
TEL: (310) 318-7337 ext. 5208  
EMAIL: MWheeler@mbusd.org  
WEBSITE: [www.proseandcommas.org](http://www.proseandcommas.org)

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Matthew Wheeler <mwheeler78@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MBUSD Teachers Support an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Greetings:

My name is Matt Wheeler and I am a teacher at Mira Costa High School. I am also a lifelong resident of Manhattan Beach.

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This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

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Your students and teachers are counting on you to complete the good work you set out to do. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Matt Wheeler  
English Department  
Mira Costa High School  
1401 Artesia Blvd.  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
TEL: (310) 318-7337 ext. 5208

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Perry Colligan <pcolligan1957@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 2:06 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Acknowledgement  
**Attachments:** Suggested Resolution of Acknowledgement by the Network.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Members of the Manhattan Beach City Council:

I am writing to express my opinion with respect to the Bruce's Beach acknowledgement/apology issue. I strongly agree with those who argue that an acknowledgement is appropriate. I strongly disagree with those who would like to see an apology. I have read the attached Resolution of Acknowledgement and believe it goes far enough in acknowledging what may have transpired 100 years ago.

Assuming my opinion is consistent with a majority of Manhattan Beach residents, I hope we can get this behind us and move on to more positive issues.

Thanks for your time and attention.

Perry Colligan

## **Resolution of Acknowledgement**

Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach.

Whereas the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were likely motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bruce Timmer <brtimmer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 1:36 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I do not support an apology.

Bruce Timmer

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** PAULA PACKWOOD <ppss4@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 1:28 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach agenda item April 6

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear council members:  
Re: Bruce's Beach Agenda item April 6:

We would prefer that city council make no statement whatsoever on the above topic.  
If you feel obligated to say something, please only do a resolution of acknowledgment clearly intended as an expression of sympathy only.

Thank you  
Stephen Packwood  
Paula Packwood

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cathy Dragich <ctdragich@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I do not support an apology.

Cathy Dragich

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lyn Fisher <fisher6188@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY!

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

It is important that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's.

I do not support an apology.

Lyn Fisher

Sent from my Galaxy

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Janet Hilton <janethilton122@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:28 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Not sure why this is so hard to resolve the issue of Acknowledgment v. Apology. You apologize when you or your community or council did something wrong. None of us were here 100 years ago, so we did not wrong anyone. You can't change history, you learn from it.

Please acknowledge what prior residents and council may have done. Then move on to getting our kids their education.

Janet and Hugh Hilton

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Larelle Rutherford <larellek@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] apology vs. resolution of acknowledgement

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council,

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I do not support an apology but do support a resolution of acknowledgment

Ed and Larelle Rutherford

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ellie Heffernan <esh7@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 11:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BB SAGA

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

With due respect to all council members we want to state that you **MUST** end this incident of 100 years ago!!

During 65+ years in MB, we helped organize this little paradise by being good civic minded and active citizens by voting and volunteering

in endless projects throughout the city; now it is being torn down by hatemongers. Don't do this to our heritage.

Prior to our settling in MB not a word was known about what had taken place 35 years earlier at the beach front lots

where **all** children and adults loved playing. Then we helped build Sand Dune Park. And we **all** know how popular that park

became with **ALL** people. Is anyone coming after that one next.?

**ACKNOWLEDGE THE SAGE AND MOVE ON TO UNBIAS RELATIONS WITH HUMANITY. NO APOLOGIES. ONLY GOD FORGIVES.**

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Paolo Marescalchi <paologemini@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 10:55 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach- Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

As a longtime resident and homeowner and business owner in Manhattan Beach, I request that the city issues a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" concerning the past of Bruces Beach and **NOT** issue an "apology". None of the current residence or city council members were alive or responsible for transpired almost 100 years ago and issuing an "apology" will only open up the city to further criticism and potential future issues such as lawsuits. There needs to be an Acknowledgement that condemns racism, but it is important that this city does not position itself for future issues to arise on a past that we cannot change. No acknowledgement or apology will never change the past; therefore, it is important to acknowledge the facts of what happened and that we need to look to a future of acceptance and inclusion for our city, moving forward while learning from our past.

I did not write the below statement however I do urge you to issue a "Resolution of Acknowledgement" similar to the below statement.

*Resolution of Acknowledgement:*

*Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach. Whereas the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were likely motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.*

Thank you,  
Paolo Marescalchi

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ted Botsford <botsford.ted@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 10:50 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I have been a resident of Manhattan Beach for the past three years, and am writing to express my extreme disappointment in the City's current response to the seizure of Bruce's Beach. Even though our generation did not commit this clearly racially-motivated act against the Bruce family, we as a city have certainly benefited from it and have deprived the Bruce family from reaping the same rewards. I strongly believe it is on us to balance the scales and be active in the process of combating the systemic racism that is baked into our society. It seems clear to me that the moral imperative is on us to right this wrong, regardless of the financial implications to the city's current budget.

I am hopeful that Manhattan Beach can show itself to be a progressive leader in this arena and use its considerable resources to atone for this stain on our history.

Thank you for your time,

Ted Botsford

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** herbertharger@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 10:46 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have been a citizen of Manhattan Beach for 70 years.

As stated in my last E-Mail to our City Council, No apology is necessary or required PERIOD.

Lets spend our time on important items.

Herbert L Harger

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Richard MacKenzie <dr.rgmac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 10:19 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Not sure if this repeat email is necessary. Indeed the issue of Bruce's Beach is becoming somewhat tedious - tedious to the point that one wonders whether the motivation is truly altruistic. Again, as a 37 year resident of Manhattan Beach, I emphatically re-iterate my choice of a letter **acknowledging** the possible alleged actions that created the present conflict over what is now called 'Bruce's Beach'. This letter should in *no way infer or suggest an apology or action of wrong doing*.

I do hope the City Council takes definitive action at it next Meeting on April 6th to bring an end to what has now become an inane claim of an action taken in the 1920's by the presumed 'woke' culture of 2021!

Richard G MacKenzie MD  
Alma Avenue

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** emma hite <e\_hite@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:39 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB Residents Support an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilwoman Stern, Councilman Montgomery, and Councilman Napolitano,

I have been a resident of MB for 6 years and I am writing to you with regards to the latest NYT article and pleading for something as small - but powerful- as an apology.

If you all could ban together and deliver this valuable sentiment, it would speak volumes to our City.

We had the opportunity to prevent this type of criticism post council meeting however we did nothing. Its not just bad press for the City of MB, but to all of you- as it suggests that ALL City Council, is in agreement with Suzanne Hadley. I just can't fathom that this is the case.

Please, I am urging you to do the right thing. Make the apology on behalf of this great city. We have a lot of work to do, but this is the step in the right direction.

Sincerely,  
Emma Hite

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Olivia Fox <olivia.fox@csuglobal.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:20 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please, in an effort to make reparations for MB's historical racial atrocities, give the land back to the Bruce family.

Publicly admit and denounce the racial exclusion that took place in MB.

Thank you

Olivia

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** dennymb@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:12 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: MB Bruce's Beach is Not Over Yet  
**Attachments:** BBTF History Fact vs Fiction by Mr. Gary McAulay.docx; Suggested Resolution of Acknowledgement by the Network.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

MB City Council,

I am in full agreement with the content and suggestions put forth below from Save Bruce Beach Park.

Denny Gregory  
Sand Section  
Manhattan Beach

-----Original Message-----

From: SaveBruceBeachPark SaveBruceBeachPark <savebrucebeachpark@gmail.com>  
To: SaveBruceBeachPark SaveBruceBeachPark <SaveBruceBeachPark@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tue, Mar 30, 2021 10:09 pm  
Subject: Fwd: MB Bruce's Beach is Not Over Yet

We know you will want to see this email below!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bruce's Beach: Get The Facts** <[brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Mar 30, 2021 at 9:28 PM  
Subject: MB Bruce's Beach is Not Over Yet  
To: Bruce's Beach: Get The Facts <[brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com)>

*We apologize if you are receiving this email twice.*

Dear Like-minded residents of MB,

The Good News: Our 300+ emails to City Council moved the members to disband the Bruce's Beach Task Force (BBTF).  
The Bad News: Council punted making a decision on whether to "Apologize" or "Acknowledge" the eminent domain decision made over 100 years ago.

Members of the BBTF have ads in this week's Beach Reporter, demanding MB issue an Apology. They petitioned 500 residents and business owners to add their names to the ad. It will come out on April 1st.

**Stand up, Fight for our City, and Write to City Council...once again.**

**ACTION: Use this link to write to all 5 Council Members. Emails are made available to the public at this address [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)**

Or contact each Council Member individually. Emails are not public when sent individually: <https://www.citymb.info/government/city-council>

**Write to City Council and state the following:**

1. Council must pass a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.
  1. The "Resolution of Acknowledgment" must NOT include an "Anti-racism Pledge," as seen in Councilman Napolitano's Resolution. It calls on residents to snitch on their neighbors and smacks of Big Brother intrusion with possible legal ramifications.

2. *See attached sample Resolution of Acknowledgement suggested by members in our like-minded Network.*
2. Council must NOT issue an apology. It will never be enough for the "woke" and they will only come back for more.
3. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.
  1. *We found a very good commentary letter sent to City Council regarding the BBTF Report called Fact vs Fiction. See attached.*
  2. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits. As long as these remain up, the mischaracterization of our city will continue to be used by the Left media and others to unfairly attack MB.
4. End all of this on April 6th!
5. Be sure to add how long you have been a resident!

## **THE BACK STORY:**

### Dealing with the Woke Mob:

- MB should not issue an "Apology"
  - Trying to appease the woke with an apology will not work, it will not satisfy them.
  - To the woke, an apology means an admission of guilt, which they will use to justify ushering in every woke policy imaginable.
  - MB residents of today are not responsible for and cannot apologize for what others did 100 years ago.
  - The Bruce family will try to milk the apology for every dime they can get, including payment for the county-owned beach property where the Bruce business once stood.
- MB should issue an "Acknowledgment," recognizing the eminent domain decision was wrong, and continue our current culture of racial inclusion.
- Watch the 2-minute video illustrating the ideology of some of the individuals on the BBTF. <https://youtu.be/XGDOOAs6JLQ>
  - City Council put together a Task Force comprised of an ideologically aligned group of individuals, omitting a balanced cross-section representation of MB residents.
  - This has caused an unhealthy and sad division in our community, which could have been avoided if the Council was more inclusive and balanced in choosing Task Force members.

### The Woke Task Force wrote the biased history report sensationalized with rumors that is being used by others to mischaracterize MB:

- MB must demand all stories in the report told by a single person, uncorroborated by a second or any form of documentation, must be removed. They are unconfirmed stories and rumors, not facts.
  - the KKK was in MB and harassing Blacks
  - a mattress fire under Bruce's Lodge
  - the beach was roped off to Blacks
  - "10 minute only" parking signs posted to harass a Black homeowner
  - air being let out of tires
  - a Black-owned house partially burned by an angry neighbor
  - a cross burned on a hill above a Black-owned house
- Council must not include any rumors or inflammatory language that mischaracterizes the city in its "Acknowledgement,"

### The history report and video posted on the City's website have already been used by the Woke Mob to spread rumors about MB:

- Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce%27s\\_Beach](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce%27s_Beach)
- The Left Media:
  - <https://abc7.com/bruces-beach-manhattan-property-seized-from-black-family-in-1924-bruce-willa-and-charles/10389611/>
  - <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/11/us/bruce-family-manhattan-beach.html>

- o <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-03-28/how-should-manhattan-beach-atone-racist-past>
- o [https://www.reddit.com/r/worldnewsvideo/comments/m93rdq/bruces\\_beach\\_is\\_another\\_example\\_of\\_racism\\_keeping/?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=ios\\_app&utm\\_name=iossmf](https://www.reddit.com/r/worldnewsvideo/comments/m93rdq/bruces_beach_is_another_example_of_racism_keeping/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=ios_app&utm_name=iossmf)

MB School District just got "woke" by establishing an Equity, Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion Committee:

- The committee has contracted with an outside agency to conduct an audit of the staff, parents, and students to collect data to "uncover any racial injustices" in the school system.

The next City Council meeting is on April 6. In our next email, we will provide a link so you can tune in with the option of voicing your opinion.

Until then, email your letter to City Council and JUST SAY NO to the Woke Mob agenda.

~Concerned Residents of Manhattan Beach

We are a Network of like-minded MB residents.

To stay informed, email us a request to be added to our email list.

Forward to you MB like-minded friends and ask them to email City Council!!!!

From: **Gary McAulay** <[gary.mcaulay@gmail.com](mailto:gary.mcaulay@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 6:58 AM  
Subject: BBTF history report comments to council  
To: Manhattan Beach City Council <[CityCouncil@citymb.info](mailto:CityCouncil@citymb.info)>

Hello Council

I offer some comments on the Bruce's Beach Task Force history subcommittee report of March 9, 2021. I personally know that the subcommittee has worked diligently on this report and Herculean efforts have been made on the research and documentation, in an attempt to meet the desired goal of getting the actual facts together about the Bruce's Beach story. I understand that the draft being presented on Tuesday is a "living document" that will be updated in the future, but the March 9 draft is the one being presented. So some thoughts:

The late 19th century and the early 20th century were a very different time from today. Much was changing. There were conflicts. Race relations across the United States deteriorated and the era from 1877 to 1901, 1923, or even 1940 has become known as the Nadir of American race relations. There were race riots, lynchings, court decisions legalizing segregation, racial property covenants, redlining, and more, across the whole US.

During this era, empty sand dunes saw the beginnings of a tiny town that eventually became today's Manhattan Beach. Willie Bruce bought a Strand lot in May, 1912. An LA Times article made the so far unconfirmed claim that she paid a high price compared to the cost of nearby lots. Whether or not this turns out to be correct, Mrs. Bruce was an astute businesswoman and she chose to make the investment, paying \$1225 for her first lot. A few years later she bought a second lot next-door for a mere \$10. Mrs. Bruce built a very successful business from a small start. That's something to remember.

Mrs. Willie Bruce (as she signed letters) opened her business June 17, 1912. The City of Manhattan Beach had not even been incorporated; this occurred in December, with a population estimated to be only about 600 people.

The subcommittee report on the history of Bruce's Beach carefully details and documents the story of the Bruce's resort. There is necessary reliance on the 1956 student thesis of Robert Brigham, who was completing his master's degree. Brigham interviewed several people who'd had some part in the story of Bruce's Beach. Brigham wrote several cautions about the interviews he conducted and often questioned the accuracy and even the reliability of his witnesses. Yet he included every anecdote in his paper, and through the years those stories have been repeated countless times, and are now regularly repeated as fact. But, Brigham's thesis contains a number of stories, assumptions, and conjectures that are simply not confirmed history, and some plain simple errors.

What is the standard for a fact in the BBTF history report? It seems to be appropriately high, but also there are stories repeated that don't meet the standard. Sometimes it is noted that they are unconfirmed stories, but there they are in this factual report, where they confuse the facts and the fiction.

There must be some standard applied before an incident can be considered a fact of history. A story told by a single individual, uncorroborated by a second witness or any form of documentation, is just a story. The measure of a fact is not that it sounds like something that could have happened. For example, there is a story (that you may be familiar with) which claims that the beach at Waikiki was created with sand from Manhattan Beach. Regarding Bruce's Beach, there have been printed stories, told by somebody old enough to have been there, that Bruce's resort was burned down. These are just two examples of stories and embellishments that sound so good they must be true, except they are not.

There is evidence to disprove both of those stories. But, really, the burden of proof is on the assertion of fact. A single "witness" claim, unsupported by other witnesses or documentation, that something happened, cannot be called a fact.

Among possible corroborating witnesses, one of Brigham's informants was Hugh E. MacBeth, an attorney who represented some of the landowners during the eminent domain proceedings, as well as the NAACP after the swim-in. MacBeth informed Brigham that Blacks frequently found that air had been let out of their tires while at Bruce's Beach (this is the source of the exaggerated story that tires were "slashed"). However, MacBeth apparently did not repeat any of the stories of cross-burnings, or the alleged mattress fire, etc. His information to Brigham is only of the tires having the air let out, and of the trespass trial on the Bessonette leased beach property.

Please be aware that I can substantiate with sources everything that I am writing but such detail would make an even lengthier email. Please contact me if you have any questions on any item whatsoever.

### **The role of George H. Peck, Jr.**

The BBTF reports that around the time of the opening of the "Bruce Beach Front," there were "no trespassing" signs posted around a strip of beach property owned by George H. Peck, Jr. Visitors at the Bruce's had to walk around that property to access the ocean.

In other places you will read or hear it said that the LA Times article from June 27, 1912, "...reported that land owner George H Peck installed 'no trespassing' signs on the strip of land..."

This is not correct. The cited article says, "this strip has been staked off and 'no trespassing' signs put up..."

The BBTF history report says that "it is unclear if the signs were placed at Peck's request or even with his knowledge."

More to the point: not unclear, but flat unknown.

And again, note that this occurred before the City was incorporated.

Roping off the beach:

To be clear, only one person reported that the beach had ever been roped off. It was claimed thirty years after the fact by George H. Lindsey, and it involved an alleged series of telegrams, as related in the BBTF report.

Brigham did not relate how Lindsey claimed to have knowledge of the story. Even the year of the alleged occurrence is not given by Brigham, although later writers often suggest (in contradiction to the contemporary newspaper report) that it occurred at the opening of the business.

No other informants say anything about the beach being roped off. No stories about roping off the beach have surfaced in the California Eagle or the Liberator. The story is unsupported.

From the report: "Multiple sources, however, did state that there were barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces' resort..."

But: while there was (1) the original 1912 Times article that said the beach was staked off with "No Trespassing" signs and patrolled by deputy constables." And there was (2) the post-Bruce's resort episode with Oscar Bessonette who also used "No Trespassing" signs. Otherwise, besides Lindsey's belated and unconfirmed hearsay story that the beach was roped off, there is only

Bowden née Prioleau's account of a "fence *at either end* of the beach in front of Bruce's Lodge." [italics added.] Brigham himself wrote that, "this informant was the only one who ever mentioned such a fence..."

Lindsey's and Bowden's stories are unsupported stories told decades later.

So, I cannot find the "Multiple sources" that stated that there were "barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces' resort."

"The Bruces' and their resort flourished," and photos show the beach being enjoyed extensively.

Re: Peck setting aside land for minority residents:

This story, noted on the current plaque, is also unsupported. The BBTF report correctly says that, "there is no verifiable evidence from primary or other sources that Peck actually set aside land for this purpose,,,"

Although Peck actively opposed incorporation of Manhattan Beach in 1912, and he wrote in opposition to the City's expenditures to build a new pier, he was silent on the matter of Bruce's Beach. This certainly does not support the story that he set land aside for minorities. It also does not inform as to his position either way on the eminent domain action.

### **The role of the KKK**

The BBTF report says, "It is also important to note that the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) was showing its influence in the area at that time. On January 12, 1924, The Redondo Breeze published an ad that invited readers to a free lecture on "The Principles of the KKK and Ideals of Pure Americanism." <sup>25</sup> The California Eagle, a prominent African-American newspaper from 1879-1964, reported on the front page of its July 4, 1924, issue that the KKK was operating unrestricted along the waterfront."

But, to be accurate, while the KKK was active in the South Bay area, and while The California Eagle suggested that the KKK had an "undue influence" on the MB Board of Trustees, even Alison R Jefferson wrote, "Based on current available evidence, we can only speculate whether the KKK's activities may have influenced the Manhattan Beach city council in the condemnation proceedings of the Bruce's Beach establishment..."

Or as stated in the BBTF report, ",,,there was no evidence directly linking acts of harassment to the KKK..."

The BBTF report then goes on to list several alleged racially-motivated incidents, both those supposedly KKK related and others not:

- air being let out of tires
- a mattress fire supposedly set by a Klansman at Bruce's Lodge
- a Black owned house partially burned by an angry neighbor
- "10 minutes only" parking signs posted to harass a Black homeowner
- a cross burned on a hill above a Black-owned house

The partially-burned house may be substantiated (I can't find the news article on the fire at the moment) but it is not attributed to the KKK.

Only the alleged incidents of a cross burning and the Bruce's Lodge fire are attributed to the KKK. None of the stories was recounted or corroborated by a second informant, or substantiated by a newspaper or other recorded account (except possibly the partially burned house occurred.)

Taking the **mattress fire story** specifically under examination, because it is popularly reported and exaggerated:

"A Manhattan resident who was a member of the Board of Trustees in 1924 tells of some of the activities of the Manhattan Klan. Possibly referring to the attempted burning mentioned previously in this chapter, he recounted a night in the early 1920's when he followed a siren to Bruce's Lodge where someone (supposedly a Klansman) had set fire to a mattress under the main building. This produced lots of smoke, but the only fire was in the eyes of Mrs. Bruce as she greeted the white spectators."

- Brigham pp 41-42 informant 12 - Cassius L. Robbins

The story told by Cassius Robbins about the smoldering mattress fire at the lodge is especially weak. It is completely unsubstantiated.

- It was told at least 30 years after the fact.
- There is no record or evidence of a "Manhattan Klan."
- There are no known contemporary newspaper accounts of this event, either in local papers or in Black-owned papers.

- The California Eagle wrote about a guy handing a KKK leaflet to three Blacks on the Redondo pier in 1924, but didn't report that the KKK tried to burn down the Bruce's Beach building. Why?
- The story of the fire and response by a fire department was not reported in the Manhattan Beach News, which at the time reported every fire that occurred, down to the most minor grass fires.
- It was not recounted by any other of Brigham's informants, Black or White.
- It was not mentioned by attorney Hugh E. Macbeth, who *did* report that Black resort-goers, "frequently returned from the beach to find that the air had been let out of their automobile tires."

It seems to me that unsubstantiated stories do not belong in a factual history.

But the BBTF report goes on to say, "**Despite this harassment**, Black residents and guests did not cease coming to the beach. According to reports from the California Eagle, it was just as popular as ever."

Which is a good point, **but assumes that "this harassment" actually happened**. The stories above are unsubstantiated.

In the end, Mrs. Bruce decided to settle.

BBTF report: "The California Eagle printed a letter from E. Burton Ceruti, Attorney for the L.A. Branch, N.A.A.C.P. on July 11, 1924, wherein he stated that Mrs. Bruce was "willing to sell her property and, even if a suit be instituted, would sell at a fair price at any time, and would abandon the suit at such time." By December, they had entered into the condemnation proceedings with Attorney Willis O. Tyler as their lawyer."

Mrs. Bruce had run a business that attracted hundreds of Black visitors on Sundays and holidays, and which had continued to expand for some 15 years. For the \$1235 she had paid for the two lots, she settled for a payment of \$14,500.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1912 survived until today.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1927 survived until today.

The city grew from a population of about 600 in 1912 to about 2500 in 1924. That's for the whole city, It is unknown how many MB residents today can claim that their family was living in MB in 1912. A few, but likely not many. Maybe a few more from 1924, but again, not many. That would be an interesting project.

Again, I understand that the BBTF history report is expected to be updated as research continues, and that is a good thing, It takes so much time to research these things, It's important, however, and a primary task of the task force, to separate the facts from the fiction.

This is a good start but it's necessary to let go of some of the uncorroborated stories.

Respectfully,  
Gary D. McAulay

This email is my own opinion and does not represent the position of any other person, group, or organization.

## **Resolution of Acknowledgement**

Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach.

Whereas the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were likely motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** TRISH PIETRZAK <aussietp310@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 9:01 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement Not Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

My husband and I are 30 and 20 year residents/business owner respectively, and vote for an acknowledgement not an apology. While the events 100 years ago in MB as well as nationwide sadden me, MB residents of today are not responsible for and cannot apologize for what others did 100 years ago. Why isn't an acknowledgment enough? Why must I (a current tax paying resident who) pay the price for the Pandora's Box that will open up with an admission of guilt? The information currently on our website is skewed, as was the selection of Task Force members. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits.

Mayor and Council, please do the right thing for MB today – acknowledge the past and protect our future.

Respectfully,

Trish Pietrzak and Terrell Brodnax

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** MELINDA MCKINLEY <lindymck@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 4:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I moved here in June 2019 with much anticipation of life in this peaceful, scenic location. The last few months have been eye opening. People here pay large sums of money and high taxes for the right to live here. The idea that this council would bully residents over decisions made 100 years ago when none of us were alive is outrageous. My own family has been a victim of eminent domain but here's what we did: we moved on with our lives. Sometimes we think about it, discuss it, even get a bit angry but I would never expect citizens 75 years from now to feel the obligation to correct it. Please issue an acknowledgment and be done. Do not apologize for something none of us did and please put the issue to rest. History in any setting is messy, at best, because mankind is messy. Picking at old scabs does not heal a wound. Please reconsider any further actions concerning this discussion.

Melinda McKinley  
Oporto

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Robert A. Maynez <robmaynez@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:07 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: No Apologies, NO Reparations

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council Clerk: I apologize, I am resending as I had one typo and left out a couple of small details. Please disregard the 11:58 p.m. email and substitute with this one immediately below. Thank you. Robert A. Maynez

Dear City Council Members:

I am a Latino, U.S. Veteran, Manhattan Beach home owner, and voter. I have been watching this local "Bruce's Beach" issue in dismay, and to be honest, in horror. I plead with you to not let Manhattan Beach fall victim to insurgency groups who honestly bring no value to Manhattan Beach. This City and its hard working residents need to remain proud and not apologize for past generations. Such apologies belong in the national forum, along with apologizing for stealing land from the Native Americans, interning Japanese Americans, etc. In conclusion, I have two (2) votes in my household and we are ready to vote out any politician who leads Manhattan Beach in a race to the bottom with Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, and the like. I am keeping close watch. No apologies and no reparations. Not with my tax dollars. "Not on my watch."

Sincerely,

**Robert A. Maynez, J.D., USMC Veteran**  
**(310) 987-1580**

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert A. Maynez <robmaynez@aol.com>  
To: citycouncil@citymb.info <citycouncil@citymb.info>  
Sent: Tue, Mar 30, 2021 11:58 pm  
Subject: No Apologies, NO Reparations

Dear City Council Members:

I am a Latino, U.S. Veteran, Manhattan Beach home owner, and voter. I have been watching this local "Bruce's Beach" issue in dismay, and to be honest, in horror. I plead with you to not let Manhattan Beach fall victim to insurgency groups who honestly bring no value to Manhattan Beach. This City and its hard working residents need to remain proud and not apologize for past

generations. Such apologies belong in the national forum, along with apologizing for stealing land from the Native Americans, interning Japanese Americans, etc. In conclusion, I have two (votes) in my household and we are ready to vote out any politician who leads Manhattan Beach in a race to the bottom with Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, and the like. I am keeping close watch. No apologies and no reparations. Not with my tax dollars. "Not on my watch."

Sincerely,

**Robert A. Maynez**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Robert A. Maynez <robmaynez@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apologies, NO Reparations

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members:

I am a Latino, U.S. Veteran, Manhattan Beach home owner, and voter. I have been watching this local "Bruce's Beach" issue in dismay, and to be honest, in horror. I plead with you to not let Manhattan Beach fall victim to insurgency groups who honestly bring no value to Manhattan Beach. This City and its hard working residents need to remain proud and not apologize for past generations. Such apologies belong in the national forum, along with apologizing for stealing land from the Native Americans, interning Japanese Americans, etc. In conclusion, I have two (votes) in my household and we are ready to vote out any politician who leads Manhattan Beach in a race to the bottom with Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, and the like. I am keeping close watch. No apologies and no reparations. Not with my tax dollars. "Not on my watch."

Sincerely,

**Robert A. Maynez**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Lisa Ann Clark <lisaann\_clark@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:23 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] End this all April 6  
**Attachments:** BBTF History Fact vs Fiction by Mr. Gary McAulay.docx; ATT00001.htm; Suggested Resolution of Acknowledgement by the Network.pdf; ATT00002.htm

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**I'm a resident of Manhattan Beach of 18 years. Please see message below. Thank you. Lisa**

1. Council must pass a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.
  1. The "Resolution of Acknowledgment" must NOT include an "Anti-racism Pledge," as seen in Councilman Napolitano's Resolution. It calls on residents to snitch on their neighbors and smacks of Big Brother intrusion with possible legal ramifications.
  2. *See attached sample Resolution of Acknowledgement suggested by members in our like-minded Network.*
2. Council must NOT issue an apology. It will never be enough for the "woke" and they will only come back for more.
3. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.
  1. *We found a very good commentary letter sent to City Council regarding the BBTF Report called Fact vs Fiction. See attached.*
  2. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits. As long as these remain up, the mischaracterization of our city will continue to be used by the Left media and others to unfairly attack MB.

From: **Gary McAulay** <[gary.mcaulay@gmail.com](mailto:gary.mcaulay@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Mar 16, 2021 at 6:58 AM  
Subject: BBTF history report comments to council  
To: Manhattan Beach City Council <[CityCouncil@citymb.info](mailto:CityCouncil@citymb.info)>

Hello Council

I offer some comments on the Bruce's Beach Task Force history subcommittee report of March 9, 2021. I personally know that the subcommittee has worked diligently on this report and Herculean efforts have been made on the research and documentation, in an attempt to meet the desired goal of getting the actual facts together about the Bruce's Beach story. I understand that the draft being presented on Tuesday is a "living document" that will be updated in the future, but the March 9 draft is the one being presented. So some thoughts:

The late 19th century and the early 20th century were a very different time from today. Much was changing. There were conflicts. Race relations across the United States deteriorated and the era from 1877 to 1901, 1923, or even 1940 has become known as the Nadir of American race relations. There were race riots, lynchings, court decisions legalizing segregation, racial property covenants, redlining, and more, across the whole US.

During this era, empty sand dunes saw the beginnings of a tiny town that eventually became today's Manhattan Beach. Willie Bruce bought a Strand lot in May, 1912. An LA Times article made the so far unconfirmed claim that she paid a high price compared to the cost of nearby lots. Whether or not this turns out to be correct, Mrs. Bruce was an astute businesswoman and she chose to make the investment, paying \$1225 for her first lot. A few years later she bought a second lot next-door for a mere \$10. Mrs. Bruce built a very successful business from a small start. That's something to remember.

Mrs. Willie Bruce (as she signed letters) opened her business June 17, 1912. The City of Manhattan Beach had not even been incorporated; this occurred in December, with a population estimated to be only about 600 people.

The subcommittee report on the history of Bruce's Beach carefully details and documents the story of the Bruce's resort. There is necessary reliance on the 1956 student thesis of Robert Brigham, who was completing his master's degree. Brigham interviewed several people who'd had some part in the story of Bruce's Beach. Brigham wrote several cautions about the interviews he conducted and often questioned the accuracy and even the reliability of his witnesses. Yet he included every anecdote in his paper, and through the years those stories have been repeated countless times, and are now regularly repeated as fact. But, Brigham's thesis contains a number of stories, assumptions, and conjectures that are simply not confirmed history, and some plain simple errors.

What is the standard for a fact in the BBTF history report? It seems to be appropriately high, but also there are stories repeated that don't meet the standard. Sometimes it is noted that they are unconfirmed stories, but there they are in this factual report, where they confuse the facts and the fiction.

There must be some standard applied before an incident can be considered a fact of history. A story told by a single individual, uncorroborated by a second witness or any form of documentation, is just a story. The measure of a fact is not that it sounds like something that could have happened. For example, there is a story (that you may be familiar with) which claims that the beach at Waikiki was created with sand from Manhattan Beach. Regarding Bruce's Beach, there have been printed stories, told by somebody old enough to have been there, that Bruce's resort was burned down. These are just two examples of stories and embellishments that sound so good they must be true, except they are not.

There is evidence to disprove both of those stories. But, really, the burden of proof is on the assertion of fact. A single "witness" claim, unsupported by other witnesses or documentation, that something happened, cannot be called a fact.

Among possible corroborating witnesses, one of Brigham's informants was Hugh E. MacBeth, an attorney who represented some of the landowners during the eminent domain proceedings, as well as the NAACP after the swim-in. MacBeth informed Brigham that Blacks frequently found that air had been let out of their tires while at Bruce's Beach (this is the source of the exaggerated story that tires were "slashed"). However, MacBeth apparently did not repeat any of the stories of cross-burnings, or the alleged mattress fire, etc. His information to Brigham is only of the tires having the air let out, and of the trespass trial on the Bessonette leased beach property.

Please be aware that I can substantiate with sources everything that I am writing but such detail would make an even lengthier email. Please contact me if you have any questions on any item whatsoever.

### **The role of George H. Peck, Jr.**

The BBTF reports that around the time of the opening of the "Bruce Beach Front," there were "no trespassing" signs posted around a strip of beach property owned by George H. Peck, Jr. Visitors at the Bruce's had to walk around that property to access the ocean.

In other places you will read or hear it said that the LA Times article from June 27, 1912, "...reported that land owner George H Peck installed 'no trespassing' signs on the strip of land..."

This is not correct. The cited article says, "this strip has been staked off and 'no trespassing' signs put up..."

The BBTF history report says that "it is unclear if the signs were placed at Peck's request or even with his knowledge."

More to the point: not unclear, but flat unknown.

And again, note that this occurred before the City was incorporated.

Roping off the beach:

To be clear, only one person reported that the beach had ever been roped off. It was claimed thirty years after the fact by George H. Lindsey, and it involved an alleged series of telegrams, as related in the BBTF report.

Brigham did not relate how Lindsey claimed to have knowledge of the story. Even the year of the alleged occurrence is not given by Brigham, although later writers often suggest (in contradiction to the contemporary newspaper report) that it occurred at the opening of the business.

No other informants say anything about the beach being roped off. No stories about roping off the beach have surfaced in the California Eagle or the Liberator. The story is unsupported.

From the report: "Multiple sources, however, did state that there were barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces' resort..."

But: while there was (1) the original 1912 Times article that said the beach was staked off with "No Trespassing" signs and patrolled by deputy constables." And there was (2) the post-Bruce's resort episode with Oscar Bessonette who also used "No Trespassing" signs. Otherwise, besides Lindsey's belated and unconfirmed hearsay story that the beach was roped off, there is only

Bowden née Prioleau's account of a "fence *at either end* of the beach in front of Bruce's Lodge." [italics added.] Brigham himself wrote that, "this informant was the only one who ever mentioned such a fence..."

Lindsey's and Bowden's stories are unsupported stories told decades later.

So, I cannot find the "Multiple sources" that stated that there were "barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces' resort."

"The Bruces' and their resort flourished," and photos show the beach being enjoyed extensively.

Re: Peck setting aside land for minority residents:

This story, noted on the current plaque, is also unsupported. The BBTF report correctly says that, "there is no verifiable evidence from primary or other sources that Peck actually set aside land for this purpose,,,"

Although Peck actively opposed incorporation of Manhattan Beach in 1912, and he wrote in opposition to the City's expenditures to build a new pier, he was silent on the matter of Bruce's Beach. This certainly does not support the story that he set land aside for minorities. It also does not inform as to his position either way on the eminent domain action.

### **The role of the KKK**

The BBTF report says, "It is also important to note that the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) was showing its influence in the area at that time. On January 12, 1924, The Redondo Breeze published an ad that invited readers to a free lecture on "The Principles of the KKK and Ideals of Pure Americanism." <sup>25</sup> The California Eagle, a prominent African-American newspaper from 1879-1964, reported on the front page of its July 4, 1924, issue that the KKK was operating unrestricted along the waterfront."

But, to be accurate, while the KKK was active in the South Bay area, and while The California Eagle suggested that the KKK had an "undue influence" on the MB Board of Trustees, even Alison R Jefferson wrote, "Based on current available evidence, we can only speculate whether the KKK's activities may have influenced the Manhattan Beach city council in the condemnation proceedings of the Bruce's Beach establishment..."

Or as stated in the BBTF report, "...there was no evidence directly linking acts of harassment to the KKK..."

The BBTF report then goes on to list several alleged racially-motivated incidents, both those supposedly KKK related and others not:

- air being let out of tires
- a mattress fire supposedly set by a Klansman at Bruce's Lodge
- a Black owned house partially burned by an angry neighbor
- "10 minutes only" parking signs posted to harass a Black homeowner
- a cross burned on a hill above a Black-owned house

The partially-burned house may be substantiated (I can't find the news article on the fire at the moment) but it is not attributed to the KKK.

Only the alleged incidents of a cross burning and the Bruce's Lodge fire are attributed to the KKK. None of the stories was recounted or corroborated by a second informant, or substantiated by a newspaper or other recorded account (except possibly the partially burned house occurred.)

Taking the **mattress fire story** specifically under examination, because it is popularly reported and exaggerated:

"A Manhattan resident who was a member of the Board of Trustees in 1924 tells of some of the activities of the Manhattan Klan. Possibly referring to the attempted burning mentioned previously in this chapter, he recounted a night in the early 1920's when he followed a siren to Bruce's Lodge where someone (supposedly a Klansman) had set fire to a mattress under the main building. This produced lots of smoke, but the only fire was in the eyes of Mrs. Bruce as she greeted the white spectators."

- Brigham pp 41-42 informant 12 - Cassius L. Robbins

The story told by Cassius Robbins about the smoldering mattress fire at the lodge is especially weak. It is completely unsubstantiated.

- It was told at least 30 years after the fact.
- There is no record or evidence of a "Manhattan Klan."
- There are no known contemporary newspaper accounts of this event, either in local papers or in Black-owned papers.

- The California Eagle wrote about a guy handing a KKK leaflet to three Blacks on the Redondo pier in 1924, but didn't report that the KKK tried to burn down the Bruce's Beach building. Why?
- The story of the fire and response by a fire department was not reported in the Manhattan Beach News, which at the time reported every fire that occurred, down to the most minor grass fires.
- It was not recounted by any other of Brigham's informants, Black or White.
- It was not mentioned by attorney Hugh E. Macbeth, who *did* report that Black resort-goers, "frequently returned from the beach to find that the air had been let out of their automobile tires."

It seems to me that unsubstantiated stories do not belong in a factual history.

But the BBTF report goes on to say, "**Despite this harassment**, Black residents and guests did not cease coming to the beach. According to reports from the California Eagle, it was just as popular as ever."

Which is a good point, **but assumes that "this harassment" actually happened**. The stories above are unsubstantiated.

In the end, Mrs. Bruce decided to settle.

BBTF report: "The California Eagle printed a letter from E. Burton Ceruti, Attorney for the L.A. Branch, N.A.A.C.P. on July 11, 1924, wherein he stated that Mrs. Bruce was "willing to sell her property and, even if a suit be instituted, would sell at a fair price at any time, and would abandon the suit at such time." By December, they had entered into the condemnation proceedings with Attorney Willis O. Tyler as their lawyer."

Mrs. Bruce had run a business that attracted hundreds of Black visitors on Sundays and holidays, and which had continued to expand for some 15 years. For the \$1235 she had paid for the two lots, she settled for a payment of \$14,500.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1912 survived until today.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1927 survived until today.

The city grew from a population of about 600 in 1912 to about 2500 in 1924. That's for the whole city, It is unknown how many MB residents today can claim that their family was living in MB in 1912. A few, but likely not many. Maybe a few more from 1924, but again, not many. That would be an interesting project.

Again, I understand that the BBTF history report is expected to be updated as research continues, and that is a good thing, It takes so much time to research these things, It's important, however, and a primary task of the task force, to separate the facts from the fiction.

This is a good start but it's necessary to let go of some of the uncorroborated stories.

Respectfully,  
Gary D. McAulay

This email is my own opinion and does not represent the position of any other person, group, or organization.

## **Resolution of Acknowledgement**

Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach.

Whereas the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were likely motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Susan GOO <susehil562@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:55 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Council Members

You can not apologize for something that happened 100 years ago, if you do you are encouraging the America is bad agenda. This reparations talk must stop. Save America us

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Lisa C Benacquista <lisacaterina@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:50 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

As a longtime resident and homeowner in Manhattan Beach, I request that the city issues a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" concerning the past of Bruces Beach and **NOT** issue an "apology". None of the current residence or city council members were alive or responsible for transpired almost 100 years ago and issuing an "apology" will only open up the city to further criticism and potential future issues such as lawsuits. There needs to be an Acknowledgement that condemns racism but it is important that this city does not position itself for future issues to arise on a past that we cannot change. No acknowledgement or apology will never change the past, therefore it is important to acknowledge the facts of what happened and that we need to look to a future of acceptance and inclusion for our city, moving forward while learning from our past.

I did not write the below statement however I do urge you to issue a "Resolution of Acknowledgement" similar to the below statement.

*Resolution of Acknowledgement:*

*Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach. Whereas the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were likely motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.*

Thank you for listening.

Have a wonderful Easter, Passover or Spring Holiday weekend!  
Best Regards,

Lisa Benacquista

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** ffields2502 <ffield2502@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:31 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; List - City Council  
**Cc:** seadesign131@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach YOUR RACIST COMMITTEE PLANS TO ADVERTISE AND PRESSURE YOU TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND APOLOGIZE

I voted for you and I am embarrassed to admit that. You are a self hating bigot who does not belong as a member to our city counsel. You should be an example of what should not respect our city.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

----- Original message -----

**From:** Steve Napolitano <snapolitano@citymb.info>  
**Date:** 3/30/21 7:59 PM (GMT-08:00)  
**To:** List - City Council <CityCouncil@citymb.info>, ffields2502@aol.com  
**Cc:** seadesign131@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach YOUR RACIST COMMITTEE PLANS TO ADVERTISE AND PRESSURE YOU TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND APOLOGIZE

Thanks, appreciate your input!

**Steve Napolitano**  
**Councilmember**  
City of Manhattan Beach



**STEVE NAPOLITANO**

COUNCILMEMBER

(310) 880-7500

snapolitano@citymb.info

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH** 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
Office Hours: M-Th 7:30 AM-5:30 PM | Fridays 7:30 AM-4:30 PM | Not Applicable to Public Safety  
Reach Manhattan Beach Here for you 24/7, use our click and fix it app  
Download the mobile app now



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**From:** ffields2502@aol.com <ffield2502@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:57 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; List - City Council  
**Cc:** seadesign131@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach YOUR RACIST COMMITTEE PLANS TO ADVERTISE AND PRESSURE YOU TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND APOLOGIZE

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Steve -

As noted in my letter and response to you on March 15th 2021.... This is NOT THE END BUT JUST THE BEGINNING. YOU AND THE REST OF THESE RACISTS WILL NEVER STOP AND YOU WILL RELENT TO THE PRESSURE OF THE FEW.

YOU ARE THE TRUE RACISTS WHO FAIL TO REPRESENT OUR CITY BUT INSTEAD HAVE AN AJENDA OF DESTRUCTION.

WE NOW HAVE A DIVERSITY COMMITTEE FOR OUR SCHOOLS TO TELL US WE ARE RACIST THERE AS WELL. WE DON'T EVEN NEED THEM TO WRITE THE REPORT AS EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT ITS GOING TO SAY. I COULD WRITE IT RIGHT NOW.

Stop with your lies and narrative of being misunderstood and misrepresented. We know who you are.

Simply answer what is the objective, WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE, WHAT IS THE TRUE OBJECTIVE????????? because the path you are on will benefit no one; not the community and not the minority flavor of the week. You and the rest of this counsel and the superintendent and the school board members pushing this should be ALL FIRED. And that disgusting THING that is the head of the TEACHERS UNION TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.... Its not about the kids or the teachers or our community ... ITS ALL ABOUT POLITICS.

TRULY DESPICABLE THATS WHAT YOU ARE TRULY DESPICABLE.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** ffields2502 <ffield2502@aol.com>  
**To:** Steve Napolitano <snapolitano@citymb.info>  
**Sent:** Mon, Mar 15, 2021 6:37 pm  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

So they threw out 25 non black owners as a cover but they took notes on their intentions. Something is not on the up and up and I have no problem with a general acknowledgement but the were jew and women and asians and every minority u can imagine and they were all treated like crap and targeted and discriminated against.

I feel it is inappropriate to have you put words in our mouth... we have kids that are now viewed as white supremacists and live in a Racist. You are opening a door and either u open it all the way and put the blame on those and their dependents that did AND YOU INCLUDE EVERY OTHER PERSON AND GROUP THAT HAS BEEN WRONGED OR U DON'T DO IT.

Tell me about all the other people impacted that got paid or the other back families that got money and bought new property. What did the Bruces' do with the money they got. Did they make money.

You are opening a hornets nest. I don't condone and racism. My family has been targeted on multiple levels.. this is not about equity of FIXING anything, it's about being politically correct to a specific group. That is not equity.

Its sounds like the decision has been made. Pathetic.. I think that YOU and each your family's should take responsibility and let them deal with repercussions.

YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THIS IS NOT THE END OF THIS BUT JUST THE BEGINNING AND WILL BE USED BY BLM AND EVERY OTHER GROUP A WAY CONTINUE.

LIKE I SAID WHY NOT MAKE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR MINORITIES IN THIS CITY... NO ONE BENEFITS OF YOUR BLAME GAME. PEOPLE WANT TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND BETTER THEMSELVES. BE THE CITY THAT DOES THAT AND NOT THE CITY THAT IS VIEWED AS A NEGATIVE. THAT IS THE BEST REPARATION.. BUT SHITTY POLITICIAN WANT TO BE ABLE TO SAY THEY TRASHED THE RICH WHITE FOLKS AND REALLY DO NOTHING.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: Steve Napolitano <snapolitano@citymb.info>

Date: 3/15/21 3:13 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: ffields2502@aol.com

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

Wow, there's a lot going on here! Let me see if I can answer a few things...

This is all about a very specific incident, it's the Bruce's Beach Task Force, not the End Racism in America Task Force. Yes, those who were displaced by the condemnation were compensated, but the facts show that the condemnation was made for discriminatory purposes, and that's a big no-no. The history shows this, as does the attached statement by a councilmember at the time.

The County didn't condemn the properties, the City did. The County didn't acquire the property until later.

Please understand that there's a lot of misinformation circulating out there about the Bruce's Beach Task Force, including the two page ad in the Beach Reporter this week. I apologize in advance for the long email, and if it sounds defensive, well, it's because I've been accused of saying and doing a lot of things I've never said or done, so here's my attempt to clarify some things in response to the fiction out there...

There's never been any delay tactics by me, that's just silly. Nobody wants to have this heard more than me at this point. The Task Force asked for some additional time to finish their report and we said ok. Wouldn't be much to talk about at a meeting if they hadn't completed their report.

Formation of the Task Force was unanimously approved by the City Council last year after a lot of input and a renewed interest in getting and sharing the real history behind Bruce's Beach. The members of the Task Force were also unanimously appointed and they all live in Manhattan Beach.

The Task Force did not exceed the scope of what it was tasked to do. It may have talked about things that some folks didn't want it to talk about, but Task Forces talk about things, that's what they do. Hildy and I helped facilitate the meetings and provided input based on our experience, however, the work of the task force is the work of the other 13 members of it. Neither Hildy nor I wrote any of their materials, nor did we vote to approve what they wrote. Sometimes they listened to my input, sometimes they didn't.

There's nothing in the Task Force's report or apology that explicitly states that Manhattan Beach is a racist city or calls anyone out as being racist. I publicly stated last September that we're not a racist city and I've restated

that again and again. It's also specifically stated in the Notes from the Co-Chairs and my version of an apology, both of which can be found in Tuesday's agenda.

The Task Force is not working with Supervisor Hahn on any of this. The Supervisor has made statements about giving back the Bruce's property which is currently County property. I have never talked to her about Bruce's Beach and at the end of the day, I think Supervisor Hahn knows that she can't give the property back because that would be a gift of public property.

To be clear, the Council has already stated it will not pay anyone for anything—no reparations, no restitution. We're not giving back any land or building housing on it either. The park stays a park.

I don't support the Task Force's version of an apology, I think it drags in other issues and instances that should not be included. My alternative apology is strictly focused on the City's involvement as a public agency in the racially motivated condemnation of the properties, all the properties, in the 1920's. It also says that we're not the same City today that we were then, that the current residents are not responsible for what happened then, and that today we stand against such racist actions. I'm not sure why anyone would be opposed to that. It's not a confession or assignment of blame or guilt, it's an acknowledgement of facts that we already know and our role in them at that time. And yes, I think that the City saying its sorry is a meaningful symbolic gesture that puts us on more solid ground going forward.

A social justice committee is not one of the Task Force recommendations. There are only 5 actual recommendations and that isn't one of them. The Task Force talks about wanting to work on putting one together in Appendix 5, but only with Council's permission. I don't agree that we need one and don't support it. However, even if it were created, this notion that it would have unfettered powers of oversight is complete nonsense. Commissions don't do anything but make recommendations. They're advisory. They have no power on their own to do anything. Only Council has that power.

If the racial motivations behind the condemnation are being questioned, I'd just advise you to read the history that the volunteers put together that deal with what happened and with the common misconceptions about Bruce's Beach as well. It's very well researched. Even one of the councilmembers at the time later admitted to it, saying they were advised by the City Attorney to never speak about the true reason behind it during the trial. The former Councilmember, Frank Dougherty said he thought it was the meanest thing he ever did and felt sorry for doing it. Attached is a copy of that.

I've heard it said that this is a power grab, but I don't know what that means. What power? Who's grabbing it? And why?

It's been said that the Task Force's apology states that "MB must make amends by building low income housing, and establishing a permanent commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice presiding over MBPD, city staff, businesses and schools." The Task Force's apology language does not state any of those things.

Again, sorry for the long email, but I don't think it serves anyone to be misinformed about these things. If, after reading all this, you still are against the Task Force and everything they've done or recommend, that's fine, I get it. I don't agree with a lot of what they've put down on paper either, but it's only fair that their efforts be seen through a clear lense rather than a purposely distorted one. Anyway, appreciate you reading all this and I hope it has clarified some of the issues for you. Thanks!

**Steve Napolitano**  
**Councilmember**  
City of Manhattan Beach



**STEVE NAPOLITANO**

COUNCILMEMBER

(310) 880-7500  
snapolitano@citymb.info

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH** 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
Office Hours: M-Th 7:30 AM-5:30 PM | Fridays 7:30 AM-4:30 PM | Not Applicable to Public Safety  
Reach Manhattan Beach Here for you 24/7, use our click and fix it app  
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**From:** ffields2502@aol.com <ffield2502@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 2:44 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

The absurdity of this is beyond comprehension.

What is the end game and who exactly is really connected with this destructive and divisive plan.

I have no idea what went on 100 years ago but what YOU are attempting to do is no fix.

As every one knows the Bruces' were compensated along with the overwhelming number of non black owners who had their land taken. It is Racist to compensate the Bruces' and not other owners. THAT IS A FACT! The 405 and the 10 and Rosecrans Ave .... let go back and see who lived on every piece of land that was taken and let's tie it all to RACISM - BUT ONLY RACISM TOWARDS BLACKS. YOU ARE DISINGENUOUS IN YOUR COMPASSION AND EQUITY.

Other Black owners at the time were compensated just like the Bruces' were and they relocated within the city as did many of the non blacks. The entire narrative that you are promoting is RACIST and destructive. What is wrong with you and who exactly are you representing.

I know for a fact that not just Blacks but Jews and other minorities were actively DENIED the right to even purchase property in many communities 100 years ago, let alone have the right to be compensated for the taking of their land by the government. I would say that all those who were denied the right to even invest in a community should have greater damages than those that purchased and were compensated.

What did the Bruces' and all the other owners pay for their land and how how of a gain or loss did occurred. If they made a gain they were less damaged than those who were denied the right to invest at all.

Who took the Bruces' land ..... well it was the county of LA and not MB but I guess those details do NOT matter when you are painting with your large brush and calling MB a racist community.

Those of you are are so driven to tar us all not just for with just apologies and money but you want to forever burden us with a RACIST oversight committee. You must have VERY dark pasts or are getting paid or pressure because NO GOOD CAN COME FROM YOUR PLAN. It is negative and has been from the outset.

Blacks and Jews and you name it were all damaged 100 years ago ... The Bruces' it sounds were fortunate in that they were ALLOWED to purchase along with other black families in this community and were not PROHIBITED like in most communities at THAT time.

This should NOT be something that you as a body decides as none of the residents who live here currently had anything to do with what occurred 100 years ago and there are not RACIST policies that are in effect at presently. Your actions on this will be in fact RACIST. This needs to be voted on by our community and NOT by a body with questionable motives.

I grew up in Beverly Hills and we as a community had voluntary bussing prior to enforced bussing. It was a wonderful and diverse opportunity for everyone involved. Zero negativity and to this day we continue to have diverse connections with those that were a part of that voluntary program. I had a girlfriend that was black and I have cousins that are black and latino. It sickens me to make those distinctions, but YOU RACISTS require people to be categorized. I am not racist and I for one will NOT live in a city that categorizes me as one. YOU ARE THE TRUE RACISTS.

Come clean, let us know the real reasons that you are so compelled.... are you RACISTS, are you pressured, are you being blackmailed, are you being paid. Why exactly would you push this down this community's throats. What exactly is the positive outcome you are seeking because I only see destruction and civil unrest.

My suggestion to the community is any member who votes in favor of this should be recalled and /or all legal action should be taken against them to remove them from office. I would also investigate them for their connections, contributions, get their tax returns and investigate their histories and their families.

Why don't you focus your attention getting our kids back to school and stores opened, getting minority owed businesses in our city and getting rid of a superintendent that is a political hack. You are all just that political hacks who can not think for themselves. If Janice Hahn is your who look up to god save us all.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mike Adams <madams123@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:44 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

No apology

I'm not my ancestors

Moved here in 1951

Permanently since 1981

The Bruce family was compensated in 1920 which they were happy with. The remaining landowners received less, black and white.

My parents sold their house in 1954 for \$12000 and were thrilled to get even.

You can't look back at what could have been.

Sand section 17th st

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Elise Johnson <elisejohnson5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:05 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] National news- again

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council members (AKA my neighbors and dedicated volunteers),

I appreciate you all so much. 2020 was rough and its little sister of 2021 appears to be challenging too. I know that you're giving so much to the city we all love.

But I have to say that I am ashamed of our city. By bowing to the red-font anonymous - who have \$3700 to take out an ad and crowd your inboxes, I'm afraid Council may have mis-read the pulse of our community.

I Zoomed in on the meeting led by the BB Task Force in which so many details were left incomplete due to research limitations created by COVID-19. I had emailed a list of questions to the task force prior to the meeting and while many were answered in that meeting, many were not so I asked them again in the Chat section. For example, I asked (twice) for a history/provenance of the transfer of the Bruce property to the County. That too was stated as unknown that night. I'm so disappointed to learn that, in fact, that data was known that night and could have easily been shared with the public.

I was looking forward to learning the results of the research.

Then, without ever fully completing it, you disbanded the Task Force. What the heck?  
These curious decisions contribute to a distrust of Council regarding Bruce's Beach.

Then, Janice Hahn, in just a matter of days, presents a transparent provenance. More impressive is her dedication to decency. She realized that the Bruces were wronged that the ethical thing to do is to make restitution to the heirs.

WOW, that's what leadership looks like!

Meanwhile our city is dithering about; debating whether or not we can even freakin' APOLOGIZE for our RACIST past. YES, "we" our city elders were racist.

WE, our city's heirs, cannot even muster the decency to apologize.

What the heck is wrong with us?

A simple apology. That costs nothing.

What an apology DOES do is acknowledge grave injustice and offer the opportunity to demonstrate that we have the capacity to interrogate our past and dedicate ourselves to a just future.

But no, we chose the coward's way out. And yes, in stark comparison to Hahn's swift response, we look bad. Really, really, really bad. The New York Times, L.A. Times and so many more are holding a mirror up to us.

We can't run from this. Nor should we.

Mayor Hadley, your comment in the recent L.A. Times (Front page, no less) article only added to our shame. We had an opportunity to do the right thing but chose not to. Now we DO bear a scarlet "R".  
Shame on us.

Stand up for honor. Stand up for justice. Stand up for decency. And at the very least, APOLOGIZE, for Pete's sake!

Sincerely,  
Elise Johnson (and clan)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Diane Hembacher <diane.hemb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 5:50 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

As long-time residents of Manhattan Beach, we strongly urge the Manhattan Beach City Council to adopt and promulgate the apology attached as Appendix 2 to the City's Bruce's Beach Task Force Progress Report to Council, dated March 16, 2021. We believe that such an apology does not mark us as a racist community, but rather shows that we are a caring, inclusive community, sensitive to the needs of all residents and visitors to our neighborhoods, willing to acknowledge past misdeeds as part of an effort to be the best we can be as we move forward in the 21st century.

Diane & Brian Hembacher

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Laura Santos <laura.santos@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 4:14 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach Continued

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Greetings to Mayor and Council,

Well, here we go again. Your next meeting is coming soon so I thought I would let you know what I think a little ahead of schedule. I have been watching and reading about BB. It seems that there are members of the Task Force who want to continue their quest (that is their right as individuals) even though the TF has been disbanded by you, the city council.

I believe you have listened, deliberated enough and made sufficient recognition of this issue. We all need to move along into our future. If you do anything other than stop everything now this will never end. An apology is absolutely out of the question. An acknowledgement might be tolerable but it will only encourage those who want to do more to keep pushing and this will never end.

You pretty much know how I think so I will keep this short since I'm anticipating you will have many more letters to read.

Thanks for your hard work.

Laura Santos

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** ffields2502@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:58 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; List - City Council  
**Cc:** seadesign131@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach YOUR RACIST COMMITTEE PLANS TO ADVERTISE AND PRESSURE YOU TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND APOLOGIZE

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Steve -

As noted in my letter and response to you on March 15th 2021.... This is NOT THE END BUT JUST THE BEGINNING. YOU AND THE REST OF THESE RACISTS WILL NEVER STOP AND YOU WILL RELENT TO THE PRESSURE OF THE FEW.

YOU ARE THE TRUE RACISTS WHO FAIL TO REPRESENT OUR CITY BUT INSTEAD HAVE AN AJENDA OF DESTRUCTION.

WE NOW HAVE A DIVERSITY COMMITTEE FOR OUR SCHOOLS TO TELL US WE ARE RACIST THERE AS WELL. WE DON'T EVEN NEED THEM TO WRITE THE REPORT AS EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT ITS GOING TO SAY. I COULD WRITE IT RIGHT NOW.

Stop with your lies and narrative of being misunderstood and misrepresented. We know who you are.

Simply answer what is the objective, WHAT IS THE OBJECTIVE, WHAT IS THE TRUE OBJECTIVE????????? because the path you are on will benefit no one; not the community and not the minority flavor of the week. You and the rest of this counsel and the superintendent and the school board members pushing this should be ALL FIRED. And that disgusting THING that is the head of the TEACHERS UNION TELLS THE WHOLE STORY.... Its not about the kids or the teachers or our community ... ITS ALL ABOUT POLITICS.

TRULY DESPICABLE THATS WHAT YOU ARE TRULY DESPICABLE.

-----Original Message-----

From: ffields2502 <ffield2502@aol.com>  
To: Steve Napolitano <snapolitano@citymb.info>  
Sent: Mon, Mar 15, 2021 6:37 pm  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

So they threw out 25 non black owners as a cover but they took notes on their intentions. Something is not on the up and up and I have no problem with a general acknowledgement but the were jew and women and asians and every minority u can imagine and they were all treated like crap and targeted and discriminated against.

I feel it is inappropriate to have you put words in our mouth... we have kids that are now viewed as white supremacists and live in a Racist. You are opening a door and either u open it all the way and put the blame on those and their dependents that did AND YOU INCLUDE EVERY OTHER PERSON AND GROUP THAT HAS BEEN WRONGED OR U DON'T DO IT.

Tell me about all the other people impacted that got paid or the other back families that got money and bought new property. What did the Bruces' do with the money they got. Did they make money.

You are opening a hornets nest. I don't condone and racism. My family has been targeted on multiple levels.. this is not about equity of FIXING anything, it's about being politically correct to a specific group. That is not equity.

Its sounds like the decision has been made. Pathetic.. I think that YOU and each your family's should take responsibility and let them deal with repercussions.

YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THIS IS NOT THE END OF THIS BUT JUST THE BEGINNING AND WILL BE USED BY BLM AND EVERY OTHER GROUP A WAY CONTINUE.

LIKE I SAID WHY NOT MAKE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR MINORITIES IN THIS CITY... NO ONE BENEFITS OF YOUR BLAME GAME. PEOPLE WANT TO BE SUCCESSFUL AND BETTER THEMSELVES. BE THE CITY THAT DOES THAT AND NOT THE CITY THAT IS VIEWED AS A NEGATIVE. THAT IS THE BEST REPARATION.. BUT SHITTY POLITICIAN WANT TO BE ABLE TO SAY THEY TRASHED THE RICH WHITE FOLKS AND REALLY DO NOTHING.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: Steve Napolitano <snapolitano@citymb.info>

Date: 3/15/21 3:13 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: ffields2502@aol.com

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

Wow, there's a lot going on here! Let me see if I can answer a few things...

This is all about a very specific incident, it's the Bruce's Beach Task Force, not the End Racism in America Task Force. Yes, those who were displaced by the condemnation were compensated, but the facts show that the condemnation was made for discriminatory purposes, and that's a big no-no. The history shows this, as does the attached statement by a councilmember at the time.

The County didn't condemn the properties, the City did. The County didn't acquire the property until later.

Please understand that there's a lot of misinformation circulating out there about the Bruce's Beach Task Force, including the two page ad in the Beach Reporter this week. I apologize in advance for the long email, and if it sounds defensive, well, it's because I've been accused of saying and doing a lot of things I've never said or done, so here's my attempt to clarify some things in response to the fiction out there...

There's never been any delay tactics by me, that's just silly. Nobody wants to have this heard more than me at this point. The Task Force asked for some additional time to finish their report and we said ok. Wouldn't be much to talk about at a meeting if they hadn't completed their report.

Formation of the Task Force was unanimously approved by the City Council last year after a lot of input and a renewed interest in getting and sharing the real history behind Bruce's Beach. The members of the Task Force were also unanimously appointed and they all live in Manhattan Beach.

The Task Force did not exceed the scope of what it was tasked to do. It may have talked about things that some folks didn't want it to talk about, but Task Forces talk about things, that's what they do. Hildy and I helped facilitate the meetings and provided input based on our experience, however, the work of the task force is the work of the other 13 members of it. Neither Hildy nor I wrote any of their materials, nor did we vote to approve what they wrote. Sometimes they listened to my input, sometimes they didn't.

There's nothing in the Task Force's report or apology that explicitly states that Manhattan Beach is a racist city or calls anyone out as being racist. I publicly stated last September that we're not a racist city and I've restated

that again and again. It's also specifically stated in the Notes from the Co-Chairs and my version of an apology, both of which can be found in Tuesday's agenda.

The Task Force is not working with Supervisor Hahn on any of this. The Supervisor has made statements about giving back the Bruce's property which is currently County property. I have never talked to her about Bruce's Beach and at the end of the day, I think Supervisor Hahn knows that she can't give the property back because that would be a gift of public property.

To be clear, the Council has already stated it will not pay anyone for anything—no reparations, no restitution. We're not giving back any land or building housing on it either. The park stays a park.

I don't support the Task Force's version of an apology, I think it drags in other issues and instances that should not be included. My alternative apology is strictly focused on the City's involvement as a public agency in the racially motivated condemnation of the properties, all the properties, in the 1920's. It also says that we're not the same City today that we were then, that the current residents are not responsible for what happened then, and that today we stand against such racist actions. I'm not sure why anyone would be opposed to that. It's not a confession or assignment of blame or guilt, it's an acknowledgement of facts that we already know and our role in them at that time. And yes, I think that the City saying its sorry is a meaningful symbolic gesture that puts us on more solid ground going forward.

A social justice committee is not one of the Task Force recommendations. There are only 5 actual recommendations and that isn't one of them. The Task Force talks about wanting to work on putting one together in Appendix 5, but only with Council's permission. I don't agree that we need one and don't support it. However, even if it were created, this notion that it would have unfettered powers of oversight is complete nonsense. Commissions don't do anything but make recommendations. They're advisory. They have no power on their own to do anything. Only Council has that power.

If the racial motivations behind the condemnation are being questioned, I'd just advise you to read the history that the volunteers put together that deal with what happened and with the common misconceptions about Bruce's Beach as well. It's very well researched. Even one of the councilmembers at the time later admitted to it, saying they were advised by the City Attorney to never speak about the true reason behind it during the trial. The former Councilmember, Frank Dougherty said he thought it was the meanest thing he ever did and felt sorry for doing it. Attached is a copy of that.

I've heard it said that this is a power grab, but I don't know what that means. What power? Who's grabbing it? And why?

It's been said that the Task Force's apology states that "MB must make amends by building low income housing, and establishing a permanent commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice presiding over MBPD, city staff, businesses and schools." The Task Force's apology language does not state any of those things.

Again, sorry for the long email, but I don't think it serves anyone to be misinformed about these things. If, after reading all this, you still are against the Task Force and everything they've done or recommend, that's fine, I get it. I don't agree with a lot of what they've put down on paper either, but it's only fair that their efforts be seen through a clear lense rather than a purposely distorted one. Anyway, appreciate you reading all this and I hope it has clarified some of the issues for you. Thanks!

**Steve Napolitano**  
**Councilmember**  
City of Manhattan Beach



**STEVE NAPOLITANO**

COUNCILMEMBER

(310) 880-7500  
snapolitano@citymb.info

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I grew up in Beverly Hills and we as a community had voluntary bussing prior to enforced bussing. It was a wonderful and diverse opportunity for everyone involved. Zero negativity and to this day we continue to have diverse connections with those that were a part of that voluntary program. I had a girlfriend that was black and I have cousins that are black and latino. It sickens me to make those distinctions, but YOU RACISTS require people to be categorized. I am not racist and I for one will NOT live in a city that categorizes me as one. YOU ARE THE TRUE RACISTS.

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Alex Beinfield <ab@blueduckcap.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pls strongly consider underappreciated Environmental risks ahead of summer

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi Council,

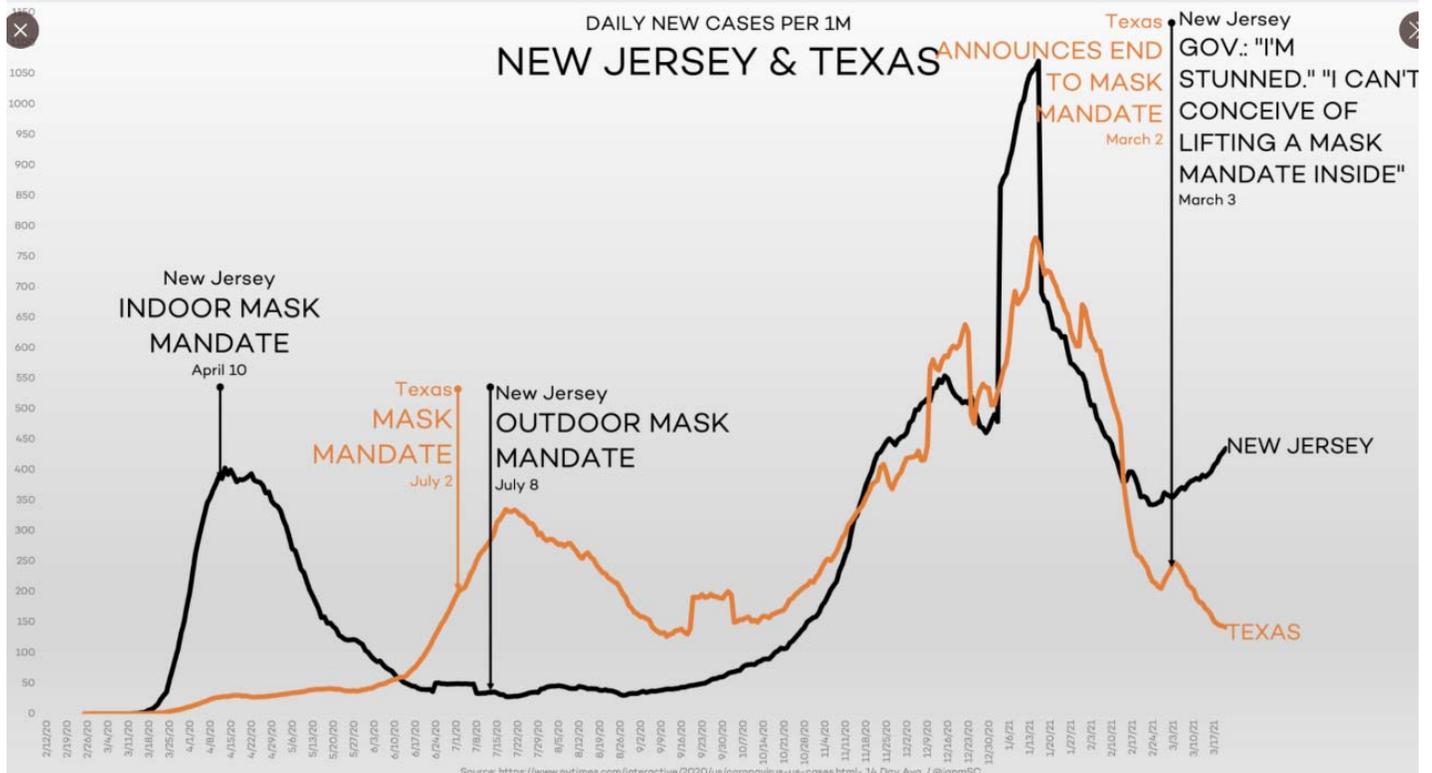
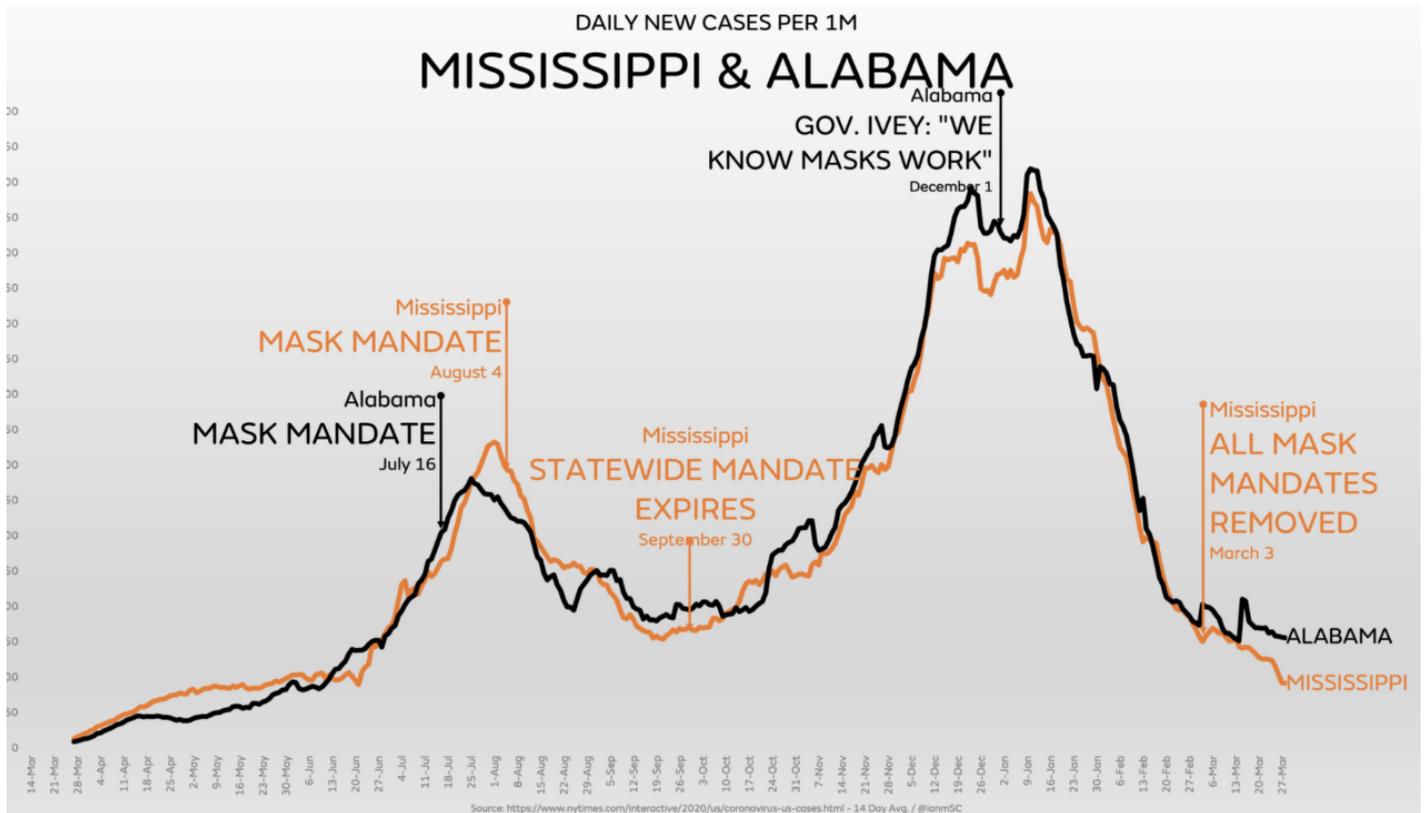
I am writing as a resident of Manhattan Beach, a homeowner, and a taxpayer, to advocate for the dialing back of mask mandate enforcement as we head into the summer beach season. The logic is simple:

1. Littered masks are causing an environmental disaster. "Researchers in the U.S. and Denmark estimated in a study in *Frontiers in Environmental Science* that '**an astounding 129 billion face masks [are] being used globally every month,**' a number that works out to three million every minute. 'Most are disposable face masks made from **plastic microfibers,**' the researchers note." ([source](#)).



2. Since people tend *not* to go to the bathroom where they eat - I would bet that most of the littered masks we see around town are actually coming from *non-residents*. **This means that mask littering is likely to get worse as we head into the seasonal summer beach/tourist season.** That is, unless we dial back enforcement of masks to begin with.
3. Contrary to political narratives, there's little evidence that masks are effective at slowing the spread of the virus. For example, 4 weeks ago Mississippi removed all mask mandates and cases dropped 39% since. Alabama kept mandates in place and their cases declined 23% (see graph below). The second graph looks at Texas and NJ. The conclusions are self-evident.
4. In summary - I submit that masks do little to slow the spread of the virus - but they do a lot of harm to our environment - **and that harm is compounding. Let's be leaders on this** as I suspect the

environmental risks of 3 billion masks getting discarded a month will begin to be more widely understood soon. In a year - we will regret not acting sooner.



See this article for sobering pictures:

<https://notthebee.com/article/3-million-face-masks-are-thrown-away-every-minute-and-its-killing-wildlife-worldwide>



3 million masks get tossed out every MINUTE and it's killing wildlife everywhere. Here are some photos of the damage. | Not the Bee

"Researchers in the U.S. and Denmark estimated in a study in *Frontiers in Environmental Science* that 'an astounding 129 billion face masks [are] being used globally every month,' a number that works out to three million every minute. 'Most are disposable face masks made from plastic microfibers,' the researchers note."

[notthebee.com](http://notthebee.com)

Sincerely,

Alex Beinfield  
Chief Investment Officer  
Blue Duck Capital Partners, LP  
[ab@blueduckcap.com](mailto:ab@blueduckcap.com)  
203-247-7228

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** bonefish27@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:27 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am 100% against an form of apology in this issue. How can I/we possibly know what went on in the minds of citizens 100 years ago and apologize on their behalf. Since I/we had nothing to do with or did in no way condone these actions how can we now apologize for something we had no involvement in.

Please take the proper action as city leaders and put an end to this situation.

John Whitaker

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bruce Kuch <bpkuch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:02 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Once again...

we ask that the city council does **not** issue an apology in the matter of the Bruce's Beach issue.

*We believe acknowledgement only of past events and we share the sentiment of regret for any racist intent there may have been in the past actions against the Bruce family.*

*Words to express this regret must be precise because those words have legal connotations and implications and can be used or manipulated in political pressure campaigns, or worse, in legal actions for reparations and restitution against the City of Manhattan Beach, **which you have been elected to protect.** Regret and apology are two different words, have two different meanings, and most importantly have two different legal implications.*

Bruce & Pamela Kuch  
1440 8th Street (residents for 33 years)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** dina doll <dolldina1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 1:42 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please Apologize to the Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

As a long-time resident of Manhattan Beach, I believe we should issue an apology for what our city did to the Bruce family many years ago.

1) I believe the apology should be done as soon as possible, because our delay makes our city appear callous on this issue. The more we delay, the bigger the apology/action will have to be because delays just increase frustration.

2) I believe the apology should be thorough and sincere and the city should consult leaders of communities of color to help the city in its phrasing of the apology. The city should also invest in a professional PR team to interact with the media because this has become a national issue and our reputation is at stake.

3) I believe an apology does not trigger any liability issues because the statute of limitations surrounding the city's actions have surely expired. The council should educate the public on this right away.

4) I believe the city has already acknowledged its actions relating to the Bruce family years ago with the plaque and renaming of the area as Bruce's Beach. Therefore, positing the choice as an "acknowledgment or apology" is actually a choice between doing nothing and doing something. That is obvious to those following this issue and why the delay by the city in offering a simple apology is creating so much strife not only in this city but across this county.

Sincerely,

Dina Doll

Doll Amir Eley, LLP

[www.dollamir.com](http://www.dollamir.com)

[dolldina1@gmail.com](mailto:dolldina1@gmail.com)

[310-951-8106](tel:310-951-8106)

66th District CADEM delegate

@Dina Doll1 on Twitter

Law & Crime Legal Analyst

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Mike Welsh <aewelsh@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 12:40 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council member,

I want to share my thoughts about the apology being demanded by the city of Manhattan Beach regarding Bruce's beach. Simply stated to issue an apology for something you did not do is preposterous and potentially harmful to the citizens of Manhattan Beach. There can be no reason for demanding this other than to use it against the city at a later date. It is as if a wife is asking her current husband to apologize for her ex husband being a jerk.... or receiving an apology from one of your children for the behavior of the other.... neither of these "apologies" would make the recipient feel any better and would be completely meaningless.

I am completely in favor of an acknowledgement of what happened in the past and if the facts clearly indicate wrongs were done I would be comfortable with condemning those past actions.... but you only apologize for something that you yourself did... an apology means you are sorry for your behavior not for the behavior of others... there is not a person alive who had anything to do with what went on at Bruces beach a century ago. This is a no brainer.

Best regards,

Mike Welsh

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Murphy/Perkins <murphyperkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:07 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apologizing

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Donald Trump has a game plan of never apologizing. This is apparently the chosen path for the MB City council but I would suggest it's a bad idea. Manhattan Beach has the opportunity to be a leader in a kind of Truth and Reconciliation project that the rest of the country is only just starting to realize really needs to happen. Taking responsibility for our history as a nation and a town is an admirable, honest and honorable thing to do. Picking up a sharpie with a Trumpian heavy hand and hoping to deceive the world into buying an excuse that "the evil was too long ago" or "We're totally different now" just won't work.

Please decide to be honest. Please apologize on behalf of a responsible and honorable Manhattan Beach.

Michelle Murphy  
310-545-6751  
4420 The Strand  
Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Murphy/Perkins <murphyperkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:07 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
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Please decide to be honest. Please apologize on behalf of a responsible and honorable Manhattan Beach.

Michelle Murphy  
310-545-6751  
4420 The Strand  
Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Karen Roseman <karen661@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:19 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

We are 40 year residents of Manhattan Beach. We strongly support the recommendations of the Bruce's Beach Task force and agree that the city should issue a Resolution of Apology (and not just an acknowledgement). This apology will help heal the mistakes made 100 years ago.

Alan and Karen Roseman

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Don Carpenter <don@carpenterconstruction.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:12 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB history

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Thank you very much for your dedication and service, your hard work is what makes MB such a great place to live! I support factual history, I do not support apologizing for it.

Sincerely,  
Don Carpenter

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mark Nelson (Home Gmail) <menelson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:10 AM  
**To:** cityclerk@redondo.org; citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov; CityClerk@torranceca.gov; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Next City Council Meeting

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayors and Councilmembers:

BCHD is proposing a 103-ft tall, nearly 800,000 sf campus redevelopment. Currently, only 0.3% of the campus is at 75-feet, with the vast majority at 49-feet or below and the average height of 32-feet. The current campus is 312,000 sf, so that represents nearly a tripling of size.

The primary addition is the \$12,000+ per month assisted living facility that is being targeted at 35% tenants from Palos Verdes Peninsula, 30% tenants from outside the South Bay and less than 20% tenants from the 3 beach cities that own BCHD. Furthermore, less than 5% of tenants are expected from the 90277 zip code that has suffered 60 years of environmental and economic damage already from the BCHD compound and is proposed to suffer an additional 50-100 years.

The project by BCHDs analysis will create 5 years of non-mitigated noise, outside the general plan standards. The project cannot be issued its required conditional use permit absent mitigation of the noise by capping the project at the AVERAGE height of the existing 514 N Prospect building, which is less than 35-feet.

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### 3.11.5 Project Impacts and Mitigation Measures

#### Impact Description (NOI-1)

- a) The project would generate a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies.*

**NOI-1**      **Construction activities associated with proposed Project – including the Phase 1 preliminary development plan and the more general Phase 2 development program – would result in a temporary, but prolonged increase in noise levels at the following noise-sensitive residential areas: 1) Beryl Street between North Prospect and Flagler Lane; 2) Flagler Lane and Flagler Alley between Beryl Street and North Prospect Avenue; 3) Diamond Street between Flagler Alley and North Prospect Avenue; and, 4) North Prospect Avenue between Diamond Street and Beryl Street. While compliance with the Redondo Beach and Torrance Noise Regulations and implementation of a Construction Noise Management Plan would reduce construction noise, construction noise levels would exceed Federal Transit Administration (FTA) thresholds and this impact would remain *significant and unavoidable* during both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the proposed Project.**

Mark Nelson

Expert Witness

3+ Year Volunteer, BCHD Community Working Group on the Health Living Campus

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Roy Gonella <royatbeach@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:39 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council:

Please apologize to the Bruce's for the City's actions in condemning their land under false pretenses, which were clearly racist.

Reagan apologized and provided reparations for the Japanese internment; the US government apologized for the Indian Removal Act; the Germans apologized to Jews for taking their property and the Holocaust. There is ample precedent for apologizing for long past wrongs.

If your grandparents had been lost their home or other wealth to a fraud, I am sure you would appreciate an apology from the family of that swindler.

Reparations is a substantially more complex issue which needs to be addressed; however, an apology is an important first step. The City's refusal so far to provide one is unwise, wrong, and should be corrected immediately. Failure to do so reflects poorly on our City (as evidenced by the continued press coverage), and this family, for one, is embarrassed and ashamed.

Roy and Julie Gonella

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jerry & Pat Kinnan <jkinnan436@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Decisions

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley and CC Members:

We commend you for the difficult work regarding the Bruce's Beach matter. We agree that there should be no reparations and/or land given to the Bruce descendants.

Further, no apology should be given by the city. What occurred 100 years ago was racist and wrong. Such devious action would not occur here today.

The \$350,000 designated for updated signage acknowledges the wrong doing of the 1920's. An apology for something none of us have done, is ludicrous. In our view, White Guilt is being used by activists to "gaslight" the current residents of our wonderful city.

Again, we express our sincere gratitude for the untold hours of conscientious and dedicated work you've spent on behalf of the citizens of Manhattan Beach. We are most grateful for your thoughtful decisions.

Sincerely,

Patricia and Jerry Kinnan  
Proud residents since 1974.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Carol Shafer <carolfinejewelry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 9:13 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BBTF

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**BBTF:**

**As I understand, our City is going to spend millions and millions of dollars to produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach. This should be done without embellishments. This happened 100 years ago!! We shouldn't apologize for something we (living residents of Manhattan Beach) didn't do!**

**If an apology is made, there will be many more toxic unconstructive agendas for the bleeding heart liberals to go forth with. They just don't stop with their thousands of harmful antics. We are already facing a total communistic takeover in this country. AGAIN, I DO NOT SUPPORT AN APOLOGY!**

**You BBTF people are morons and, by the way, totally discriminatory against Manhattan Beach residents.**

[Carol Elizabeth Shafer](#)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Joanne Ciancarelli <joanneciancarelli@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 8:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I support an acknowledgment of the city's role in the Bruce's Beach fiasco. NO APOLOGY.

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Laura Kiely <laurakiely@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Concerns about the "Concerned Residents of Manhattan Beach" where do CC members stand?

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

City Council members, where do you stand on the issues and statements coming from The "Concerned Residents of MB?" As your constituent, I want to know where you stand and if you are a member.

What the heck is going on in Manhattan Beach?!

I'm beyond dismayed that the anonymous, divisive, and either ill informed or dishonest "Concerned Residents of Manhattan Beach" (and other residents) are spreading unsubstantiated claims that the BBTF history report is riddled with falsehoods.

And they go further to attack the idea of anti-racism and the values of inclusion and diversity.

They attack the value of the "Stand-up Pledge" (adopted by CC in 2017, I believe).

They attack MBUSD for its efforts to listen to and address the concerns of students and families who have experienced racism and bigotry at school and in the community.

And they planted seeds of unfounded suspicion that someone who favored an apology committed a crime against Council member Franklin. This, as we know, turned out to be false. The culprit confessed, and had no connection with the Bruce's Beach apology.

It's a good thing to voice opinions, but it's wrong to spread false information and innuendo!

As your constituent, I feel it's necessary to share my thoughts:

1. I know many people who favor an apology. I and every one of those people condemn the disgraceful

2. I am opposed to the "Concerned Residents of MB's" rhetoric; their disdain for inclusion, anti-racism, and diversity; and their unsubstantiated accusations and innuendos.

3. I support the "Stand-up Pledge."

4. I support the MBUSD's efforts to create a more inclusive and anti-racist school district.

5. I ask each one of my City Council

Representatives to individually explain their opinions of the statements made by the “Concerned Residents of Manhattan Beach.”

This group is stoking fear, division and animosity.

Why?

I believe it's because voices are being raised to bring awareness to past and present racism and bigotry, to learn from it, to make amends for it in the spirit of moving forward to avoid it now and in the future. This scares some people, like others throughout the history of America have been scared when the less powerful and disenfranchised seek justice. Fear often leads to anger. Every social movement toward equality has faced push back from people like the “Concerned Residents of MB.”

It's sad that some of my neighbors are angered and scared by the ideas of anti-racism, diversity, racial justice. It's disheartening to see this group whipping up hysteria and division.

More importantly, I believe it's unconscionable for CC to sit by and allow the scared and angry to interfere in doing what's right. I hope CC says that racism, and all its short and long term effects, is wrong.

I hope CC issues an apology for the well documented racism that motivated eminent domain proceedings against the Bruce family.

We know that concerns of financial liability to the City and residents have been laid to rest by the City Attorney. Manhattan Beach doesn't even own the land now. Many other City Councils and governments have issued apologies for past injustices. This is not a novel idea.

Folks need to take a stand against the fear and anger that fuels the desire to fight efforts toward racial justice and inclusion. I hope my CC representatives will demonstrate courage to take a stand against racial injustice and my neighbors who dismiss its existence and harm.

Below are some of the “Concerned Residents of MB” statements from emails they sent. Many statements are outright false.

— CROfMB email:

“Dear Like-Minded MB Residents,

In the early hours this morning, Councilman Franklin's home was vandalized. An unidentified person threw a beer bottle through the front window of his home at approximately 5:00 AM.

Last night, Councilman Franklin issued his "Resolution of Acknowledgment" as an alternative to the "Resolution of Apology" issued by Council Members Stern and Napolitano.

In this morning's Beach Reporter, the Far Left published a 2-page ad claiming they support a "just and welcoming MB, and that includes an apology."

The ad was sponsored by some members of the BBTF, Council Member Stern, former Mayor Amy Howorth, residents, and non-locals.

Some residents may still be unaware that the seemingly benign word "apology" has a potential financial liability to the city and implied need for restitution or future actions.

They may also be unaware of the continued intimidation our city and residents will endure if the Council caves to pressure from the Far Left for an apology.

All judgment as to whether or not the vandalism is associated with the "pro-apology" group should be reserved until the police investigation is complete.

However, there has been a groundswell of support for Councilman Franklin throughout the city.

Several local Facebook groups posted numerous comments supporting Councilman Franklin.

Some posted #istandwithJoeFranklin, while others offered to be part of a community watch on his house, demonstrating courage to stand up against intimidation and bullying.

No Council Member is associated with our email account or the Network of like-minded residents, but we too support Councilman Franklin.

This is not the first time MB has rallied around residents who have been targeted and harassed, as it is the character of our little beach city.

But residents are well aware of the very real target they become if they speak out against the agenda of the Far Left.

On our email account, we have received vulgar emails as intimidation to stop informing residents and sharing POVs that oppose Far Left viewpoints.

Many, many residents have emailed us in support of us speaking up and standing up when they are too frightened to do so in today's cancel culture.

Public comments claiming people who say "they are not racist might be racists," or claiming opposing opinions are "fear-mongering" are meant to intimidate and silence our right to free speech.

And sadly, intimidation does work. Many residents remain silent out of fear of being "canceled" or physically targeted.

It is our hope that the bullying, intimidation, and false accusations about residents who have a differing opinion than those on the Far Left will cease.

We encourage the Far Left, and all residents, to engage in a reasonable and rational discussion on the subject of the city issuing an apology vs an acknowledgment.

Until that day comes from the Far Left, it is understandable many residents choose to either stay silent or anonymous.

The Concerned Residents of MB may have to stay anonymous, but we will not be silenced.

The Far Left always attacks our anonymity but almost never addresses the content of our message.

~Concerned Residents of MB

We are a Network of many."

\*\*\*\*\*

— Another CRofMB email:

"Dear Like-minded residents of MB,

[The Good News:](#) Our 300+ emails to City Council moved the members to disband the Bruce's Beach Task Force (BBTF).

[The Bad News:](#) Council punted making a decision on whether to "Apologize" or "Acknowledge" the eminent domain decision made over 100 years ago.

Members of the BBTF have ads in this week's Beach Reporter, demanding MB issue an Apology. They petitioned 500 residents and business owners to add their names to the ad. It will come out on April 1st.

**Stand up, Fight for our City, and Write to City Council...once again.**

**[ACTION:](#) Use this link to write to all 5 Council Members. Emails are made available to the public at this address [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)**

Or contact each Council Member individually. Emails are not public when sent individually: <https://www.citymb.info/government/city-council>

**Write to City Council and state the following:**

1. Council must [pass a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.](#)

2.

1. The "Resolution of Acknowledgment" must NOT include an "Anti-racism Pledge," as seen in Councilman Napolitano's Resolution. It calls on residents to snitch on their neighbors and smacks of Big Brother intrusion with possible legal ramifications.
2. *See attached sample Resolution of Acknowledgement suggested by members in our like-minded Network.*
3. Council must NOT issue an apology. It will never be enough for the "woke" and they will only come back for more.
4. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.
5.
  1. *We found a very good commentary letter sent to City Council regarding the BBTF Report called Fact vs Fiction. See attached.*
  2. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits. As long as these remain up, the mischaracterization of our city will continue to be used by the Left media and others to unfairly attack MB.
6. End all of this on April 6th!
7. Be sure to add how long you have been a resident!

## THE BACK STORY:

### Dealing with the Woke Mob:

- MB should not issue an "Apology"
  - - Trying to appease the woke with an apology will not work, it will not satisfy them.
    - To the woke, an apology means an admission of guilt, which they will use to justify ushering in every woke policy imaginable.
    - MB residents of today are not responsible for and cannot apologize for what others did 100 years ago.
    - The Bruce family will try to milk the apology for every dime they can get, including payment for the county-owned beach property where the Bruce business once stood.
- MB should issue an "Acknowledgment," recognizing the eminent domain decision was wrong, and continue our current culture of racial inclusion.
- Watch the 2-minute video illustrating the ideology of some of the individuals on the BBTF. <https://youtu.be/XGDOOAs6JL0>
  - - City Council put together a Task Force comprised of an ideologically aligned group of individuals, omitting a balanced cross-section representation of MB residents.
    - This has caused an unhealthy and sad division in our community, which could have been avoided if the Council was more inclusive and balanced in choosing Task Force members.

### The Woke Task Force wrote the biased history report sensationalized with rumors that is being used by others to mischaracterize MB:

- MB must demand all stories in the report told by a single person, uncorroborated by a second or any form of documentation, must be removed. They are unconfirmed stories and rumors, not facts.
  - - the KKK was in MB and harassing Blacks
    - a mattress fire under Bruce's Lodge
    - the beach was roped off to Blacks
    - "10 minute only" parking signs posted to harass a Black homeowner
    - air being let out of tires
    - a Black-owned house partially burned by an angry neighbor
    - a cross burned on a hill above a Black-owned house
- Council must not include any rumors or inflammatory language that mischaracterizes the city in its "Acknowledgement,"

### The history report and video posted on the City's website have already been used by the Woke Mob to spread rumors about MB:

- Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce%27s\\_Beach](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bruce%27s_Beach)
- The Left Media:
  -

- o <https://abc7.com/bruces-beach-manhattan-property-seized-from-black-family-in-1924-bruce-willa-and-charles/10389611/>
- o <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/11/us/bruce-family-manhattan-beach.html>
- o <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-03-28/how-should-manhattan-beach-atone-racist-past>
- o [https://www.reddit.com/r/worldnewsvideo/comments/m93rdq/bruces\\_beach\\_is\\_another\\_example\\_of\\_racism\\_kleeping/?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=ios\\_app&utm\\_name=iossmf](https://www.reddit.com/r/worldnewsvideo/comments/m93rdq/bruces_beach_is_another_example_of_racism_kleeping/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=ios_app&utm_name=iossmf)

MB School District just got "woke" by establishing an Equity, Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion Committee:

- The committee has contracted with an outside agency to conduct an audit of the staff, parents, and students to collect data to "uncover any racial injustices" in the school system.

The next City Council meeting is on April 6. In our next email, we will provide a link so you can tune in with the option of voicing your opinion.

Until then, email your letter to City Council and JUST SAY NO to the Woke Mob agenda.

~Concerned Residents of Manhattan Beach

We are a Network of like-minded MB residents.

To stay informed, email us a request to be added to our email list.

Forward to you MB like-minded friends and ask them to email City Council!!!! “

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for your attention. I look forward to hearing your thoughts about the statements issued by the “Concerned Residents of MB.” Are any of you members of this group?

As your constituent, I want to know where you stand. For example, do you agree that I and others who believe in racial justice and support an apology are part of a “woke mob?” A MOB? ?

Talk about sowing division ☐♀

Best,  
Laura Kiely  
Manhattan Beach Resident  
and Voter since 1994  
310 503-6245

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Andreas Koch <maxflaxak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 4:19 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] approve his statement of condemnation (Bruce's Beach)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City Council members

I'm shocked that councilman Joe Franklin's home was vandalized which looks obvious as an intimidation tactic. I submit to the Council to condemn this action and pursue justice for this agitator.

Re: the Bruce's Beach matter It is not credible that **any competent attorney** would write there is no risk in an apology when the city has been expressly and publicly threatened with a \$75 million dollar law suit for restoration, reparations, restitution, compensatory and punitive damages.

I express my solidarity with Joe Franklin and ask the city to approve his statement of condemnation-- not an apology.

thanks,  
Andreas K.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Stacy Myrose <msmyrose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 3:00 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Residents DO NOT Support an Apology

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

First and foremost, I would like to express my dismay about the recent [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I am ashamed of, and angered by, the members in our community who not only tolerate but celebrate this behavior against people with whom they disagree. I thought it impossible that I could be more emphatically opposed to the Resolution of Apology, but this cowardly and destructive act proved me wrong. In the 12 years we have lived in Manhattan Beach, we have never seen anything like that. Despite what you might see on social media, I do not believe for one second that it was a coincidence. I do believe that, had the beer bottle been thrown through the window of a supporter of the apology, we'd be hearing cries of racism from the same people who are shouting coincidence.

Since the inception of the BBTF, I have been closely watching their work. The behavior of some task force members towards others was sickening and on full public display. I have read every iteration of the proposed apology and while the latest one is not filled with as much divisive rhetoric as previous versions, it will still slap a racist brand on our City and its residents.

I ask the City Council to support an acknowledgement only. Some say that the apology serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders. An acknowledgement, by definition, serves that exact purpose. Yesterday's Beach Reporter ad says, among other misguided ideas, that an apology expresses regret, but fails to point out that it is also an expression of personal responsibility.

We can and should, as the ad goes on, show we "understand and reject a racist act from the City's history and, as a community, repudiate racism," but that should not require that we, as a community, accept the guilt that an apology explicitly implies.

Thank you,

Stacy Myrose

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Natalie Umof <natalieumof@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 10:17 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology / Vandalism

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]. This vandal appears to be terrorizing someone into signing an apology. That apology would hold this city and hardworking individuals, like myself and my husband, liable for something we had no part of.

The demands for an apology are only to hold us all liable for reparations and money. As a Mexican woman who lives and works in Manhattan Beach I wholeheartedly disagree with an apology. I do not believe the city to be racist. Those demanding an apology are publicly shaming and threatening all of us in this beautiful city that my husband and I are so proud to be live in. Their end goal is money and why should I, a woman of color who has worked my whole life to be a proud homeowner in this city, be held liable for the mistakes of the past? Why would we want to live in a city if it does not protect us, its current residents?

I support a condemnation and it's time to move forward together as a city to heal and stop the divisiveness the proponents of an apology have perpetuated.

Natalie Umof

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Judi Alves <judi.alves@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 4:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

[REDACTED]. There is no room for that in our society.

That being said, I would like to stand with Mr. Franklin and ask the council members to approve his statement of condemnation.

I also think it would be nice to hear from the city attorney that if an apology is given instead that reparations cannot be tied to an apology. BTW in some of my readings this is clearly not the case.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judith Alves

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lisa Benacquista <lisa@lisacaterina.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi Joe,

I am a long time homeowner/resident of Manhattan Beach and my husband and I had the pleasure of meeting you and your daughter at you event hosted by the Disser's in the fall. I wanted to reach out and tell you how sorry I am about your home being vandalized. How are you and your family doing? Im sure a bit shaken. Is there anything we can do for you? If there is please do not hesitate to ask!!

This is just terrible and I am very worried for our little MB bubble here as well as now concerned for all you council members. We need to stand up to these thugs that are keeping this narrative alive about Bruces Beach for their own agendas. Please do not give in to their tactics and be intimidated. Whomever did this is using the same threatening behavior that was allegedly used on the Bruce's almost a century ago. You have my families support and I will continue to urge the council to not issue an apology for what happened 100 years ago but nothing more than an acknowledgement. You all have a very very hard task ahead of you, where you need to find the right balance between condemning what happened in the past while protecting our future. Not a easy dance or comfortable dance however, I urge you to go forward with the acknowledgment that can end this narrative that can only point us to a positive future.

Again, I am very sorry that you and your family were the subject to this violation!! Please tell me if there is ANYTHING my family can do for you, as you provide so much to this city. I will literally stand out side your home and stand watch if called upon. This his a hateful crime that no-one in a public service position should endure.

Thank you for your service!  
Warmest Regards,

Lisa Benacquista  
(213) 309-6111

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ronald Milner <knowledgethebestmedicine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 8:04 AM  
**To:** Bruces Beach Task Force; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Accurate history  
**Attachments:** fact.history.pdf

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Also read the tone of the two paragraphs, the writer goes out of her way to research and disprove a positive comment about Peck. However, will rely on stories to support negative comments.

Manhattan Beach resident, Robert L. Brigham, whose 1956 thesis “Land Ownership and Occupancy By Negroes In Manhattan Beach, California”, has served as a primary resource on the history of Bruce’s Beach, reported that George H. Lindsey, a white realtor and Manhattan Beach Resident, claimed that there had been a series of telegrams between Peck and his business associate/son-in-law Herb Culler regarding the Bruces and their guests. Lindsey told Brigham that the use of a long rope as a fence was the “direct result of telegrams between Culler and Peck”, who at the time was back east for business and allegedly told Culler to “do what he thought best.”<sup>16</sup> It’s not possible to verify Lindsey’s accusation or Peck’s exact involvement, however, because we do not have access to those telegrams or any other record of such an exchange. Multiple sources, however, did state that there were barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces’ resort, which was owned by Peck at the time.

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But, to be accurate, while the KKK was active in the South Bay area, and while The California Eagle suggested that the KKK had an "undue influence" on the MB Board of Trustees, even Alison R Jefferson wrote, "Based on current available evidence, we can only speculate whether the KKK's activities may have influenced the Manhattan Beach city council in the condemnation proceedings of the Bruce's Beach establishment..."

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The story told by Cassius Robbins about the smoldering mattress fire at the lodge is especially weak. It is completely unsubstantiated.

- It was told at least 30 years after the fact.
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- The story of the fire and response by a fire department was not reported in the Manhattan Beach News, which at the time reported every fire that occurred, down to the most minor grass fires.
- It was not recounted by any other of Brigham's informants, Black or White.
- It was not mentioned by attorney Hugh E. Macbeth, who *did* report that Black resort-goers, "frequently returned from the beach to find that the air had been let out of their automobile tires."

It seems to me that unsubstantiated stories do not belong in a factual history.

But the BBTF report goes on to say, "**Despite this harassment**, Black residents and guests did not cease coming to the beach. According to reports from the California Eagle, it was just as popular as ever."

Which is a good point, *but assumes that "this harassment" actually happened*. The stories above are unsubstantiated.

In the end, Mrs. Bruce decided to settle.

BBTF report: "The California Eagle printed a letter from E. Burton Ceruti, Attorney for the L.A. Branch, N.A.A.C.P. on July 11, 1924, wherein he stated that Mrs. Bruce was "willing to sell her property and, even if a suit be instituted, would sell at a fair price at any time, and would abandon the suit at such time.' By December, they had entered into the condemnation proceedings with Attorney Willis O. Tyler as their lawyer."

Mrs. Bruce had run a business that attracted hundreds of Black visitors on Sundays and holidays, and which had continued to expand for some 15 years. For the \$1235 she had paid for the two lots, she settled for a payment of \$14,500.

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The city grew from a population of about 600 in 1912 to about 2500 in 1924. That's for the whole city, It is unknown how many MB residents today can claim that their family was living in MB in 1912. A few, but likely not many. Maybe a few more from 1924, but again, not many. That would be an interesting project.

Again, I understand that the BBTF history report is expected to be updated as research continues, and that is a good thing, It takes so much time to research these things, It's important, however, and a primary task of the task force, to separate the facts from the fiction.

This is a good start but it's necessary to let go of some of the uncorroborated stories.

Respectfully,  
Gary D. McAulay

This email is my own opinion and does not represent the position of any other person, group, or organization.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ronald Milner <knowledgethebestmedicine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 8:01 AM  
**To:** BrucesBeachTaskForce@citymb.inf  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Accurate history  
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- The story of the fire and response by a fire department was not reported in the Manhattan Beach News, which at the time reported every fire that occurred, down to the most minor grass fires.
- It was not recounted by any other of Brigham's informants, Black or White.
- It was not mentioned by attorney Hugh E. Macbeth, who *did* report that Black resort-goers, "frequently returned from the beach to find that the air had been let out of their automobile tires."

It seems to me that unsubstantiated stories do not belong in a factual history.

But the BBTF report goes on to say, "**Despite this harassment**, Black residents and guests did not cease coming to the beach. According to reports from the California Eagle, it was just as popular as ever."

Which is a good point, *but assumes that "this harassment" actually happened*. The stories above are unsubstantiated.

In the end, Mrs. Bruce decided to settle.

BBTF report: "The California Eagle printed a letter from E. Burton Ceruti, Attorney for the L.A. Branch, N.A.A.C.P. on July 11, 1924, wherein he stated that Mrs. Bruce was "willing to sell her property and, even if a suit be instituted, would sell at a fair price at any time, and would abandon the suit at such time.' By December, they had entered into the condemnation proceedings with Attorney Willis O. Tyler as their lawyer."

Mrs. Bruce had run a business that attracted hundreds of Black visitors on Sundays and holidays, and which had continued to expand for some 15 years. For the \$1235 she had paid for the two lots, she settled for a payment of \$14,500.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1912 survived until today.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1927 survived until today.

The city grew from a population of about 600 in 1912 to about 2500 in 1924. That's for the whole city, It is unknown how many MB residents today can claim that their family was living in MB in 1912. A few, but likely not many. Maybe a few more from 1924, but again, not many. That would be an interesting project.

Again, I understand that the BBTF history report is expected to be updated as research continues, and that is a good thing, It takes so much time to research these things, It's important, however, and a primary task of the task force, to separate the facts from the fiction.

This is a good start but it's necessary to let go of some of the uncorroborated stories.

Respectfully,  
Gary D. McAulay

This email is my own opinion and does not represent the position of any other person, group, or organization.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Richard MacKenzie <dr.rgmac@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 6:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement not Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I do not support an apology.

Richard MacKenzie  
Alma Ave

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Don Spencer <donspencer.art@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 12:16 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach derangement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

About the Bruce's Beach issue, Janice Hann, as reported in the LA Times, said that she is "going to right this wrong". Apparently, like the Hatfield's and the Mccoy's, she wants to revenge a (racist) crime of the past by punishing those who share the same skin color as the long dead culprits. Regardless the dangers of inflaming more of such stupidity, those of her mindset need to feel and show others their empathy with different races. This requires for them that race differences remain important.

I hope that my City Council is more mature. Stop feeding those whose dysfunctions need this monster of the past. Stop the family feuding and respect us as individuals, each with a right to be treated equally.

Don Spencer  
3901 Crest Drive  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

310 546 7913

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Daryl Nelson <darylnelson@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:59 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] LA Times and Expected Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

MB Council members:

I am appalled at today's LATimes front page Opine degrading Manhattan Beach past, present and future. The latter due to the absence of an anti-Racist Task Force.

I am a recent resident of the city, but though the Bruce's Beach controversy has reached the NYTimes, the LATimes is far closer to home and what they opine probably resonates more. It was a loaded article for sure.

We are in a period of great turmoil and Janice Hahn and the LATimes are trying to create more division! The Bruce's lost property via Eminent Domain, along with others. It is ludicrous to assign Value Lost. Even the Bruce's descendants can not do this. There are No Accidents and might this Front Page spread be a result of the failure of MBCC to prolong the life of the Bruce's Beach Task Force? The local papers decreed that the Task Force achieved all except for being continued. A small point?

Frankly, I respect the vote of MBCC on that issue and even Hildy Stern's; she would have been a hypocrite had she voted to not extend the Task Force.

Finally, Janice Hahn was mentioned in highest regard along with her indignation as to what has/had transpired. My only suggestion should you disagree with the over-all emphasis of the LATimes: Do not give your vote to Janice Hahn in the next election. A multitude of "one's" can influence an election; speak and be heard.

Finally, If you choose to apologize for the past? Weigh your words carefully and mean everything that you say.  
Daryl Nelson

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Charles Southey <charlessouthey@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:26 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO vote for apology

**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council,

I am writing again to urge you to vote NO on an apology at the City Council meeting. I am also unclear why this hasn't been put to bed.

I am 100% sure that no one in our current governance had anything to do with the Bruce's Beach eminent domain decision and fairly certain that at least 99% of our current population has nothing to do with it either. I am not in the habit of apologizing for other people's decisions and actions and do not want my city representatives doing it either.

I am also concerned about the possibility of liability concerning an apology. Just a cursory internet search shows that an apology can often be construed as an admission or guilt or wrongdoing. The legal line is far from clear.

In short, please vote NO.

"Am I expressly admitting fault in my statements? As mentioned above, 49 percent of jurisdictions with "I'm sorry" laws still allow for admissions of fault to be admitted into evidence. All federal jurisdictions allow these types of admission statements into evidence. Because of that, practitioners should craft crisis communications carefully. While this is a difficult task, practitioners may have the ability to craft communications that convey apology, sympathy, and empathy without fault. Of course, parsed statements of guilt may ring hollow; however, it is a legal reality that practitioners must live with."

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/hbr.org/amp/2012/06/why-im-sorry-doesnt-always-translate>

<https://instituteforpr.org/knowning-legally-safe-say-im-sorry-legal-effects-mortification-strategy/>

Sincerely,

Charles Southey

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rory OBrien <captainowow@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 8:16 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology, for what?

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Do not judge me for my fathers sin  
More to follow  
Rory O'Brien

Rory sent from iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Betty Freitag proton email account <betty.freitag2155@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 7:31 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Cc:** Tom Freitag  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

First, we want to thank you for serving our community and for being willing to lead in this difficult time of division. We appreciate what each of you bring to the leadership of our city.

We have been closely following the Bruce's Beach Task Force recommendations and the sad realization that almost 100 years ago the City of Manhattan Beach forced the Bruce family and other property owners to sell their property to the city through eminent domain. In reading Brigham's paper, we learned that the Judge required the City to allow all the families to buy property elsewhere in Manhattan Beach and the Bruce family chose not to. We can't really know their motives, but if we were treated as they were, we would have wanted to move out of the city as well.

We do not accept any of the letters of Apology which have been proposed as we do not agree that an apology, by the current residents of the current City Council, should be made. We do not subscribe to the Critical Race Theory proposition of collective/systemic guilt and racism. We believe in the Judeo-Christian worldview where individuals are responsible for their own actions. The individuals who were on the MB City Council at that time, and others who treated the black residents and their guests wrongly are responsible for what they did. Neither the current residents of MB nor the current city council are responsible for those actions.

We DO condemn the actions of the City Council 100 years ago and ask that the City Council do the same.

Thank you,

Tom and Betty Freitag

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kamala Horwitz <kamalamh@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 5:49 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley; Steve Napolitano; Joe Franklin; City Manager; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please help the city of Manhattan Beach move forward

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council

It's unfortunate that after living in Manhattan Beach for 27 years, I am growing more and more embarrassed of the city I called home for so long.

The Los Angeles Times has recently reported on the past and current displays of racism in Manhattan Beach on 3/27, 3/28 and again today, on the front page.

The Bruce's Beach Task Force was doing the important work necessary to acknowledge the past, paving the way to a brighter future. Apologizing is the path for Manhattan Beach to be the city it should be, one that is welcoming and stronger for acknowledging past and current painful events.

The recent decision to dismantle the Bruce's Beach Task Force and not issue an apology keeps Manhattan Beach locked in the past, tied to the actions committed long ago. An apology differentiates the current community of Manhattan Beach so that Manhattan Beach isn't tethered to the Manhattan Beach of over 100 years ago.

If Manhattan Beach isn't "racist", then there is nothing to fear by making an apology and acknowledging that there are opportunities to improve. By not apologizing, Manhattan Beach is in an unfortunate defensive position, making it easy to slap the label "racist" on the city.

Thanks for your attention to my thoughts on this issue.

Kamala Horwitz, M.A., LMFT  
2200 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 214  
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254  
424-241-0422  
[www.kamalahorwitztherapy.com](http://www.kamalahorwitztherapy.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Eric Gray <egray123@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 4:17 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council,

I do not support an apology.

Eric Gray  
725 31st, MB

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** James Harger <jamesnharger@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Members of the Manhattan Beach City Council.

I have been a resident of the City of Manhattan Beach for 62 years.

As to whether or not an apology or acknowledgment should be made regarding Bruce's Beach and the legal eminent domain procedures that took place nearly 100 years ago, my reply is very short and is as follows: NO APOLOGY or ACKNOWLEDGMENT should be made.

If Hildy and/or Steve support such an effort they can do so on their personal stationary. Let's not set the City up for a frivolous lawsuit. Most of the members of the BBTF are thugs who want nothing more than to extract money from the Manhattan Beach taxpayer.

So go finish the plaque and let's move on. We have much more important issues to deal with than rehash history.

Jim Harger  
Manhattan Beach Native

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Judi Alves <judi.alves@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

Once again, I am of the opinion that to apologize for something you played no part in is only an empty symbolic gesture.

An acknowledgment of something that took place a century ago and a vow to do better as a community, I believe, would be appropriate.

If the council is heading in the direction of an apology, however, which I sincerely hope is not the case, I believe that this issue needs to be presented to all Manhattan Beach residents, informing them of what is taking place in our city and informing them of all proposals. All the residents should vote on where they stand. I am quite sure quite a large percentage of residents aren't even aware of the discussions taking place. This is such a hot issue that I don't think such a big step should be taken without community input.

Please do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Judi Alves

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** lauren harger <lharger@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 3:12 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology Letter, No Unverified History Report

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council Members:

First, let me commend all the Members for making the correct decision at the last CC meeting to disband the Bruce's Beach Task Force. It was an important first step towards not allowing our City to be subject to a group of unelected committee members whose broader agenda seems to be to "remake" our city and to subject all future City policies to scrutiny based upon perceived racial grievances.

I wish the issue of the Apology Letter had been resolved at the same time. Since it will be discussed and resolved at the upcoming meeting, I wish to urge the Council to NOT issue a statement of Apology to the Bruce Family, but rather sign a general acknowledgement of past deeds, sympathy for those property owners affected, and affirm our current policy of non-discrimination and inclusion for all.

My concern is that any wording that includes an apology will open up the City to future litigation and/or reparations, for which the Bruce Family descendants are already on record as their intent. Furthermore, it may open up a Pandora's box of reparative litigation in the future in other cities.

Finally, the Task Force has completed, and the City has published on its website, a history report which evidently contains disputed "facts" and hearsay about the activities of the Board of Trustees and others at the time, according to our acknowledged town historian, Gary McAuley. This paints our city in a very bad light, and others are using it as leverage to sway public opinion towards reparations for the Bruce Family. Every week the Los Angeles Times seems to dredge up the Bruce's Beach story, citing the Task Force History Report as evidence. This is unacceptable. Until the report can be vetted and verified by qualified independent historians using primary sources, the report should, at the very least, be considered "unverified."

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauren Harger  
1420 6th Street, MB

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kathy and Wally <kpmiglin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 2:54 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I do not support an apology on the Bruce Beach situation.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

--  
*Kathy and Wally Miglin*

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Israeli <mikeisraeli@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 1:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi- I am a 10 Year resident of Manhattan Beach. I am voting to NOT issue an apology, give reparations or any more acknowledge of the past that happened at Bruce's beach that will cost current living taxpayers any more money.

Thanks,  
Mike - 19th st

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Don McCammack <dommc@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 1:35 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I do not support an apology.

I am disappointed that the argument against apology seems to be relying so heavily on the fear of a law suit. My argument is that the current MB citizenry should not be accountable for actions that took place 100 years ago and that they had nothing to do with.

I listened to about 2 hours of public testimony at the zoom city council meeting and only heard one argument suggesting that an apology could lead to a law suit. Most challenged the unfairness of extracting mea culpas for something we didn't do nor were we responsible for (my position). I'm sorry that this "fear of a lawsuit" argument has gotten legs as now the "apologists" can accuse "acknowledgists" of following our pocketbook instead of our conscience in refusing to apologize. The 3/29 issue of the LA Times picked up this reasoning in their front page article, "Many expressed concern that an apology would expose the city to potential lawsuits." Even the email of 3/28 requesting this response gives too much credence to the law suit fear.

I suggest you leave a potential law suit out of future discussions (and maybe even disclaim it) and stick to the reasons given by most MBers about BB acknowledgement.

Don McCammack  
Moved to MB in 1975, left for PV, 2002 to 2012, returned to MB in 2015

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Steve Fazio <stevefazio@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 1:23 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

At your meeting on April 6th, please vote in favor of an ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, not an apology for the city's actions that occurred almost 100 years ago. I do not support an apology. There is no reason for the current residents of Manhattan Beach to apologize for actions taken long before any of us were born.

Also, the acknowledgement should include mention of the white residents who were displaced at the same time as the Bruce family and other black residents.

Thank you,

Steve Fazio  
2516 Pine Avenue Homeowner

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Scott Wood <shakewood@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 12:29 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; cm.citymb.info@aol.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To the Council:

We commend the task force for their work on the complex issue of Bruce's Beach.

We agree with Mayor Hadley that "...we do not want it [the past] embroidered in a scarlet R upon our chest."

However, an apology, 2 plaques and an educational center are merely nods to history that perpetuate injustice. Manhattan Beach must join Supervisor Janice Hahn's commitment to financial justice.

A scarlet "J" for Justice would honor our beautiful city for generations to come.

Jeannie & Scott Wood  
Residents since 1973 & 1948, respectively

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Evan Itzkowitz <eitzkowitz@harris-ginsberg.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 12:23 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB Residents Support and Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Evan Itzkowitz and I am a Manhattan Beach resident for over 12 years.

I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which is not an apology.

This apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

**Evan C. Itzkowitz, Esq.**

*Certified Specialist, Family Law  
The California Board of Legal Specialization, State Bar of California  
Fellow, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers*

## HARRIS • GINSBERG LLP

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<b>LOS ANGELES</b> 6420 Wilshire Blvd. Sixteenth Floor Los Angeles, CA 90048 310-444-6333	<b>PASADENA</b> 790 E. Colorado Blvd. Ninth Floor Pasadena, CA 91101 626-463-7081	<b>SOUTH BAY</b> 2301 Rosecrans Ave. Suite 4194 El Segundo, CA 90245 310-444-6333	<b>ENCINO</b> 16133 Ventura Blvd. Suite 700 Encino, CA 91436 310-444-6333
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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Maureen Gillespie <mobgillespie@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 12:16 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I have been a resident of Manhattan Beach for 45 years. In regards to Bruce's Beach we do not want an apology. This took place a hundred years ago. Let's just move forward.

Sincerely,

Jack and Maureen Gillespie Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Louise Wolf <ldwolfpack@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 12:06 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Louise Wolf; Suzanne Hadley  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Letter of Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley and members of City Council

I would like to reiterate my opinion on the matter of apology. Please do not vote for apology. I feel the better word is acknowledge. One hundred years ago the people who did this deed were wrong. I'm not apologizing for them. I'm acknowledging they were in the wrong. I believe that apology implies guilt, and as someone said previously, and that becomes a slippery slope.

What I see today, as I walk the beach, the Strand, and visit downtown, is diversity. People are walking, frequenting restaurants and enjoying the beach with family. All are made to feel welcome. We are that kind of town. Let's continue with writing the correct history, acknowledging the past and welcoming all who come.

Sincerely, a resident since 1964, Louise Wolf Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Doreen Dice <ddice@tdaltd.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 11:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] no apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please get the facts and the names of all property owners not just Bruce family and please write a letter to the distorted reporting at the LA Times. This is not a racist city and I believe strongly that we need NOT TO apologize. History is not always pleasant but we are not what the LA Times and a select few are stating about us all so they can have financial gain.

*Doreen Dice*

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Holton <guardianbeyond@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 11:51 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Cc:** Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Hildy Stern; Suzanne Hadley; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Practice what we preach to our kids

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council and City Manager,

Let's do as a city what we teach our kids to do - apologize when you make a mistake. Manhattan Beach as a city and community treated the Bruce family and many other black property owners poorly years ago. No-one seems to dispute that, so we should show our children that the right thing to do at a minimum is apologize. What is the next thing we then teach our kids - to promise to do better next time. So we should apologize with a sincere affirmation that we will try our best to root out discrimination in our community and make everyone feel welcome and treated equally.

The opposition to this apology is bothered by any insinuation that our community is racist. Thus, they are shutting down the apology and future efforts by the city to continue to monitor and act on discrimination in our city (e.g. not moving forward with the recommended Spring Community Forum or a community committee like the EDSJI established by our School Board). Why shut all these good efforts down, instead of just focusing on the specific language owning racism that they dislike. Moreover, we are clearly a community that has benefited from "white privileges", which whether intentional or not, are not afforded many races/ethnicities and poorer working folks. These privileges may not be the "mean" racist words or actions of other communities, but it is a part of racism in America. We should help those less fortunate than ourselves and be willing to acknowledge that our roads may not have been as hard as some other's.

As a Manhattan Beach resident of 30 years with three kids that went through our school system and a wife who teaches in the elementary schools, it is important to me that we set a good example for our kids. The world they will inherit from us is not perfect, but if we instill good values in them such as recognizing wrongs and striving to avoid repeating them, then they just might create a better world.

Let's apologize!

Michael Holton  
1406 3rd Street  
Manhattan Beach CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kerry Wieder <kerryabout@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 11:07 AM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Resolution of Apology re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a Manhattan Beach resident of over 20 years, and I am writing to ask the Manhattan Beach City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” regarding the Bruce's Beach seizure of land. I do not support an acknowledgement of this injustice, because it falls short of an apology.

Issuing an apology for seizing the land at Bruce's Beach is an opportunity for Manhattan Beach to set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like, and to acknowledge a past injustice.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent the residents of Manhattan Beach.

Please do not let us down. Please issue an apology regarding the unjust seizure of land via eminent domain at Bruce's Beach,

Sincerely,  
Kerry Wieder

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kerry Wieder <kerryabout@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 11:07 AM  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Resolution of Apology re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a Manhattan Beach resident of over 20 years, and I am writing to ask the Manhattan Beach City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” regarding the Bruce's Beach seizure of land. I do not support an acknowledgement of this injustice, because it falls short of an apology.

Issuing an apology for seizing the land at Bruce's Beach is an opportunity for Manhattan Beach to set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like, and to acknowledge a past injustice.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent the residents of Manhattan Beach.

Please do not let us down. Please issue an apology regarding the unjust seizure of land via eminent domain at Bruce's Beach,

Sincerely,  
Kerry Wieder

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jerry McPherson <jmcperson13@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 10:53 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's.

I do not support an apology or reparations.

J McPherson

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Bob Perkins <bperkins@destinationcinema.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 10:52 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: Bruce's Beach Apology Letter

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

Further, I believe we should acknowledge the past and share the sentiment of regret for any racist intent there may have been in the past actions against the Bruce family as well as those which may have been against any other person, not only for his/her/their race, but for their heritage, religion, sex, and sexual orientation as well, anywhere that may have happened.

Thank you,  
Bob Perkins

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**From:** Bob Perkins  
**Sent:** Friday, February 26, 2021 2:43 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil@citymb.info  
**Subject:** Bruce's Beach Apology Letter

Dear City Council,

I oppose the concept of a Confession & Apology Letter. I've lived in MB for over 30 years. It's not a systemically racist town.

Bob Perkins

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Linda Merritt-Goldstein <manhattanbeachgirl@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 10:33 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I'm against a verbal or written apology.  
You are asking for a law suit.  
No reparations!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** debra consani <debraconsani@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 10:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Appose - Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I ask that the city council does not issue an apology in the matter of the Bruce's.

*I believe we should acknowledge the past and share the sentiment of regret for any racist intent there may have been in the past actions against the Bruce family as well as those which may have been against any other person, not only for his/her/their race, but for their heritage, religion, sex, and sexual orientation as well, anywhere that may have happened.*

*Words to express this regret must be precise because those words have legal connotations and implications and can be used or manipulated in political pressure campaigns, or worse, in legal actions for reparations and restitution against the City of Manhattan Beach, which you have been elected to protect. Regret and apology are two different words, have two different meanings, and most importantly have two different legal implications.*

*An apology is a necessary centerpiece for both litigation and reparations strategies against the City of Manhattan Beach and/or Los Angeles County, which would explain why the demand for it, from otherwise dis-interested parties, enjoys such fervor. To discount this risk would be grossly negligent. The city should offer regret or sympathy for ANY form of discrimination that may have happened in the past, anywhere it may have occurred. It is preferable that the Bruce family, or Bruce Beach situation, be referred to in the context of a general acknowledgment. The more generic it is, the less likely it is to be used in a court of law against the City. Simply put, an apology, however well-intentioned, creates a risk to the city by opening a door that is presently shut. Please, do not apologize.*

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** mary.montano2015@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:42 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Manhattan Beach is Tongva land and was stolen from the Tongva people.  
When will the apology or acknowledgement to the Tongva be issued.

Throughout history treaties with Native Americans have been broken.

Mary Montaña

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

## **Martha Alvarez**

---

**From:** Ellie Heffernan <esh7@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:43 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**PLEASE LISTEN TO THE RESIDENTS OF OUR CITY; NO APOLOGY IS NEEDED OR WARRANTED FOR WHAT HAPPENED**

**100 YEARS AGO REGARDING BRUCE'S BEACH!!!! ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, YES, SHORT AND SWEET.**

**WE HAVE LEVEL HEADED PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY THAT AGREE JUSTICE CAN NOT BE BOUGHT.**

**(OR CAN IT?) WHAT YOU DO TODAY MAY WIND UP GIVING YOU AND THE RESIDENTS OF MB NIGHTMARES WITHOUT END,**

**IF YOU DON'T MAKE A FIRM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND BRING THIS SAGA TO A CLOSE.**

**SO, DO THE RIGHT THING; BE BRAVE AND STAND UP FOR OUR CITY AND IT'S TAXPAYERS; YOU OWE THAT TO US.**

**Thanks to Suzanne, Richard, and Joe we can rely on you.**

**HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE.**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** CityOfManhattanBeach@citymb.info on behalf of City of Manhattan Beach  
<CityOfManhattanBeach@citymb.info>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 8:41 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] mannyguts@prodigy.net

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Message submitted from the <City of Manhattan Beach> website.

**Site Visitor Name:** manuel R Gutierrez  
**Site Visitor Email:** mannyguts@prodigy.net

You are wearing the plump trump mantle of no shame. Alas you pursue his lack of values, honesty. Give back, what was taken in the name of the law illegally. The Bruce family deserves better.



### CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

CITY ENOTIFICATION

(310) 802-5000  
CityofManhattanBeach@citymb.info

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH** 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Office Hours: M-Th 7:30 AM-5:30 PM | Fridays 7:30 AM-4:30 PM | Not Applicable to Public Safety

Reach Manhattan Beach Here for you 24/7, use our click and fix it app

Download the mobile app now



## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Cindystokes33 <cindystokes33@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 8:07 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I do not believe an apology is the right answer. Move forward please.

Cindy Stokes  
133 3rd Street

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** James Orland <jim@orlandlawgroup.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 7:42 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Council members. I urge you to vote NO regarding an apology at the upcoming City council meeting. You could be setting the city up for potential liability. I hope you are not persuaded by the vocal minority on this issue who do not have the best interests of Manhattan Beach at heart.

Thank you

Jim Orland, Esq.



2155 Campus Drive, Suite 140  
El Segundo, CA 90245  
310-492-5705 – Office  
310-598-3141 – Facsimile

AMERICAN  
BOARD  
OF TRIAL  
ADVOCATES



**WE HAVE MOVED! Orland Law Group has relocated it's California office to 2155 Campus Drive, Suite 140, El Segundo, CA 90245. We respectfully request that you make note of our firm's change of business address.**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Bruce Kuch <bpkuch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 7:33 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology for BBch

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Honorable Councilpersons:

Any apology and any acknowledgement of wrongdoing by current residents would be a violation of our rights and misrepresentation of our beliefs.

Bruce & Pamela Kuch  
1440 8th Street

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** herbertharger@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 6:43 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Members of the Manhattan Beach City Council.

I have been a resident of the City of Manhattan Beach for 70 years.

As to whether or not an apology should be made, my reply is very short and is as follows;

"No apology is required and none should be made"

Herbert L. Harger

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Denise Mazzotta <denisemazzotta33@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 6:11 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No authority or responsibility to apologize for other's actions 100 years ago

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I do not support an apology...the people who owed the apology are all dead...not current Manhattan Beach CC or residents! Thanks Denise

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Corinn Lavi <corrinn.lavi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 3:00 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Steve Napolitano  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] An Apology For Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To the City Counsel of Manhattan Beach:

First and foremost, thank you so much for your service to this city and community. I recognize that being a public servant is never easy, especially right now!

Some of you I know personally (hi!), but for those I don't know, I'm a life-long, 30-year resident of Manhattan Beach. I've grown up in the MBUSD school system as a student of Pacific, MBMS, and MCHS, and my parents have had the same address since I was born. My primary address this past year has returned to Manhattan Beach.

All this being said, I'm extremely embarrassed and disappointed in the lack of action taken by the city council to reconcile Manhattan Beach's past as it relates to Bruce's Beach. Not only do I urge the city to issue a public apology to the family, I also recommend putting actionable, tangible changes in place to ensure they are not empty words.

A condemnation, mural, and plaque are nothing more than superficial bandaids to a problem that hasn't and will not go away without proper handling.

I choose to believe that a majority of this city is not racist and welcome all walks of life to our city, however it's clear that's not representative of everyone who lives here (evident from those who call into the city council hearings). By disbanding the task force and doing the bare minimum, you're showing this second group that their hatred towards others within our 5 square miles is okay here.

Thank You,  
Corinn Lavi

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kay Schickler <kayschickler@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 11:37 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apologize for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council,

My name is Kay and I was born 22 years ago in Manhattan Beach. Over the past year I have realized the seriousness of crimes committed against Black folks in our country. I have also realized that the history of my own city is not as clean as I always believed it to be.

I ask the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” to recognize the hurtful actions of past city leaders and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

Manhattan Beach has the responsibility to demonstrate that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

**Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.**

Thank you,  
Kay Schickler

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Emily Stratton <emily.m.stratton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 10:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] We support a just and welcoming Manhattan Beach, and that includes an apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am writing in support of the following message. Please consider this request for an apology.

One hundred years ago, the City abused its power of eminent domain with a racist objective. To learn more about that, read the history compiled by the Bruce's Beach Task Force here:

[www.citymb.info/home/showpublisheddocument?id=45827](http://www.citymb.info/home/showpublisheddocument?id=45827)

### WHY APOLOGIZE?

\*An apology expresses regret for the impact that action had on the affected Bruce Family and other property owners.

\*An apology distinguishes our intentions for our City from that shameful action of our forebearers.

\*An apology demonstrates to our children that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice.

We are residents of Manhattan Beach who love this community. Our names are below. We urge our neighbors to reject anonymous fear-mongering ads and mailings. Join us as we build a more welcoming community. Join us in asking the City Council to adopt an apology, not as an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its residents, but as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

Thank you,  
Emily, Matt, Lily, and Hazel Stratton

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Neely Swanson <neelyswanson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 5:08 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I support the movement to apologize for past injustices to the Bruce family and others who, long ago, long before any of us were born, suffered from the racism of the day. This does not imply that Manhattan Beach is a racist city. To the contrary, this shows compassion and a recognition that an injustice occurred in the past, one that any person should be able to embrace. Such an apology does not bring with it monetary damages or an admission of present guilt. It's just an apology for something that should never have happened but was all too common in the past.

We hope you will take this request seriously.

Neely and Larry Swanson  
Manhattan Beach residents

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Susan Randolph <suetuttrandolph@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 4:05 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Fight the fear emanating from small souls and issue the apology. If Australia can do it for their Aboriginal population, Manhattan Beach can do it for the stupidity of removing a prosperous neighborhood. Show the country how it is done - uncountable other apologies are long overdue.

Thank you,  
Sue Randolph  
310-749-6521

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Sharon Arias <sharonarias@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 2:03 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Bruce's Beach - Manhattan Beach [ANOTHER TEMPLATE EMAIL]

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

FYI, Here's the source of these template emails:

**From:** Danielle Anderson <danielle.anderson96@gmail.com>  
**Date:** March 27, 2021 at 1:49:37 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Bruce's Beach - Manhattan Beach



ems



at end, we are contacting you to ask for your support regarding one final recommendation of the Bruce's Beach Task Force. Hilda & Hildy Stern, volunteered an extraordinary amount of their time to research the racial injustices of the past, and to create this report. To prepare for this meeting and to make sure all voices are heard, we are asking for your support in the following ways:

Each, add your name to the growing list of supporters, all of whom will appear in an advertisement next week in The Beach News.

Advertisement. Anyone 18 years or older in your family can sign up to be included.

Contact City Council at [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info), [citycouncil@citymbnfo](mailto:citycouncil@citymbnfo) and [cm@citymb.info](mailto:cm@citymb.info) to express support for the Resolution of Apology.

[Make a public comment](#) at the upcoming April 6th City Council meeting. If support for an apology via emails and public comments is not sufficient, we will seek a public apology.

Apology which falls short of an apology.

Apology, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders.

Apology, recognizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

Apology, an example of what a welcoming city looks like.

y plan to vote on the “Resolution of Apology”.

Zoom to assure your chance to speak, for up to 2 minutes, when your name is called.

[The Beach Reporter](#) In order to scare residents, the anonymous ad sensationalized and misrepresented findings of the

voices in the room, who were opposed to the BBTF recommendations. As a result, many important steps that our City Council regarding the injustices against the Bruces and other families of color. It is critical for any residents who support who experience racism and helps ensure our City Council will make a decision that positions our community as a welcoming

should apologize, and are providing the links above, so everyone who wants to, can be included.

or email [mbwelcomesall@gmail.com](mailto:mbwelcomesall@gmail.com)

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**Our mailing address is:**

Non-profit

2711 N. Sepulveda Blvd. #705

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-2725



## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ashley Craig <ashleycraig913@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 2:01 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Cc:** Robert Craig  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please issue an apology to the Bruce family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City Council members,

We are writing in support of an apology for the Bruce family. Our country is plagued with systemic racism. To truly become anti-racist, we must acknowledge our past mistakes and take ownership for the impact they have had on our communities. Even after the end of slavery, Black people have been treated like second class citizens. They have been denied loans to buy houses, denied the right to vote, and denied employment. The Black unemployment rate is consistently twice that for white people.

We can't undo the past, but we can accept responsibility and strive to do better. One of my favorite quotes is from Maya Angelou: "Do the best you can, until you know better. Then when you know better, do better." Manhattan Beach now knows better – please demonstrate that.

Thank you for considering our request to issue an apology to the Bruce family.

Kind regards,  
Ashley and Rob Craig  
225 7<sup>th</sup> Street

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Jennifer Salem <jensalem4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 12:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for apology for the racist actions our community took 100 years ago

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello all.

I have already written you before with my thoughts on a combined version of the Stern and Napolitano apology content, but with the new City Council meeting coming this week, I want to reiterate my support for an official city apology for the actions taken over 100 years ago.

I remind our nay-sayers that an apology does not mean that our city is racist, it does not imply that residents today are racist; it simply says that we recognize that the evidence exists that actions taken many years ago were racist and we as a community today are so sorry for that.

Secondly, as I wrote before, we have to not just say we are sorry but show a commitment to how our community will move forward. I personally know that there are residents within our community that hold very deep racist beliefs and they are in the minority; there are also many more who believe they are not racist but have biases that result in behavior that can be racist.

When a person of color describes a racist incident to a group of white residents and the responses range from "oh, that isn't so bad" to "well, if you didn't call the police it must not have been that bad" to "well, if you don't like it here then move" ... WE HAVE A PROBLEM. We have all seen these responses on NextDoor from people we know. When Russ Lesser writes in a letter to the editor that because his neighbor and their friend, who is black and new to MB, came over to dinner and that black person spoke about how much they loved the city, MB could NOT be racist, I just cringe... This is the ultimate sign of ignorance, no matter how wonderful Russ is.

Let's own this. We have an amazing city and we all still have a lot of growth to do.

Jennifer Salem

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Laurie Bohannon Angress <laurie.angress@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 12:01 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Resident Supports an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am a Manhattan Beach resident of 25 years.

I respectfully ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Laurie Angress  
Certified Yoga Therapist C-IAYT  
iRest Meditation Instructor  
[Mindful Yoga Therapy](#)

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Laurie Bohannon Angress <laurie.angress@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 12:01 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Resident Supports an Apology

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Dear City Council,

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An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Laurie Angress  
Certified Yoga Therapist C-IAYT  
iRest Meditation Instructor  
[Mindful Yoga Therapy](#)

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Nicole Brozost <nicolebrozost@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 12:20 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Members of the City Council,

My husband and I have lived in Manhattan Beach for the last ten years, and I grew up in the South Bay. We are raising our three children here, and are doing our best to instill in them a sense of decency as to how we act towards others.

I am writing to ask the City Council to please support a "Resolution of Apology" in lieu of an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize the wrongs of the past.

An apology demonstrates that when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

I cannot imagine asking one of my children to simply "acknowledge" that they did something wrong instead of apologizing if they caused someone harm or injustice.

Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,  
Nicole Schiff Brozost, D.V.M.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Diane Havenner <dianehavenner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 4:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am writing this letter for - and in memory of - my husband, John Havenner, whose family were lifelong residents of Manhattan Beach, and John was also a very talented surfer. From the 1950s through the 2000s, everyone knew the Havenner family.

John died in 2013 of cancer at age 59, so he never knew the story about Bruce's Beach, and neither did his parents or his siblings, because the truth was kept under wraps for so many years. But both of his siblings who now live out of state - and I can assure you John himself - if he were still here, as well as his parents who are also deceased, but lived in the same home on 23rd St. for over 50 years, are in favor of an apology and restitution from the city of Manhattan Beach to the descendants of the Bruce family. His sister is shocked that this has not already happened, and frankly, so am I. We have always believed Manhattan Beach to be the friendly, small town, inclusive, welcoming beach community we always thought it was.

I can assure you all of my in-laws in the Havenner family are ashamed and disgusted with the way this issue is being handled and how the task force is being treated by the City Council.

Yours truly,

Diane Havenner  
Redondo Beach

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Philip Kenney <philip.kenney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 4:41 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please Open Elementary Schools Immediately

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Good Afternoon,

First of all, I want to thank each of you for your efforts in what has been an extremely difficult situation over the last year. I know that you have been working tirelessly so thank you for that.

I am writing as a concerned parent of three (soon to be four) children attending Meadows Elementary School. My family moved to this community because of the schools and we have supported and continue to support the schools in myriad ways. Whatever the circumstances of the past year that brought us to this point, it is now no longer credible or acceptable to keep young elementary school children in a hybrid learning environment.

After watching distance learning up close for the past year, it is absolutely clear that it is not a substitute for in-person instruction. The teachers have worked tirelessly (and are even now doing double duty with hybrid learning), but we should not pretend that a 5-year old spending hours in front of a computer screen is comparable to learning in a classroom with a teacher and peers, not to mention the social effects of learning in an isolated environment for an extended period.

This is an urgent situation for all involved - young children, parents, and the entire community. I have not to date sensed the appropriate level of urgency from MBUSD to address what is a crisis situation. I respectfully ask you to urge the Superintendent and School Board to reconsider their stance and start pushing *aggressively* to get young children back into the classroom. There are still many weeks of school left before summer break, and every week makes a difference.

Sincerely,  
Phil Kenney

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Allison Compton <teamfreeda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 2:48 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Discrimination-Manhattan Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to you today to ask you to stop discriminating against MB residents and patrons. Everyone is so focused on Bruce's Beach they have not realized the real time discrimination taking place right now. I was waiting outside of Nick's restaurant and I did not have a mask on. I am exempt from wearing a mask. The city mask scouts harassed me for not having a mask on. As a resident I think it is sick that you are using our money to pay for that nonsense.

Maybe you have not realized that what you are doing is discrimination. Maybe you thought you were helping people but I am telling you that what you are allowing is in fact discrimination. I have referenced a few laws (see below) to remind you that what you are enforcing is unlawful. Please work as our voted in council members to end this discrimination.

Sincerely,

Allison Compton  
Born and Raised MB Resident

**Law #1: You cannot discriminate against or harass any individual.** Even if you wear a mask, and even if you want the patron to wear a mask, and even if you think it's a good idea for shoppers to wear a mask, the law states that you cannot refuse to serve a patron without a mask. **This law is called California Civil Code 51** and it requires you to serve each person without discrimination, and you must do so in the same and equal manner. That means you cannot make them be separated from others, and you must serve them like anyone else, regardless of whether they are wearing a mask or not. **If you violate this law, it is a \$12,000 fine against you every time you violate the civil rights of another person, even if you do it without intending to.**

**Law #2: The California Health Department states that some people are exempt from wearing a mask** because it makes it too hard for them to breathe. That means they don't have to wear one. Some people also do not wear a mask because it goes against their religious belief, and they don't have to wear one. These laws are from **the U.S. Title II and Title III of the Civil Right Act of 1964 that protects people from discrimination. You can get a fine for these violations.**

**Law #3: California Business and Professions Code § 16721** prohibits any person from being excluded from a business transaction on the basis of a policy expressed in any document or writing and imposed by a third party where that policy requires discrimination against that person. A violation of any provision of this section is a conspiracy against trade.

You are discriminating if you deny service to someone who is not wearing a mask. Just like you could not deny service to someone in a wheelchair or if they are wearing a turban or if they don't speak English, you cannot deny service to someone who is not wearing a mask.

**Law #4: By requiring masks, you are guilty of practicing medicine without a license**, which is a violation of CA Penal Code § 2052, if you tell someone they have to wear a mask, which is defined by the FDA as a Class II medical device.

**Law #5: By preventing someone's entry to your place of business, you are guilty of false imprisonment, Penal Code §236 PC.** "The unlawful violation of the personal liberty of another," if you prevent a person from shopping at your stall.

**Law #6: It is a crime to harass someone in the workplace.** Title VII of the U.S. Civil Right Act of 1964 prohibits harassment in the workplace.

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**Complaints will be filed with:**

[www.dfeh.ca.gov](http://www.dfeh.ca.gov) [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov)

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kim Brant-Lucich <kbrant007@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 10:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology  
**Attachments:** City and US Racism Apologies.docx

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley and City Council Members,

As a resident of Manhattan Beach, I continue to be concerned about the reputation and safety of the community where I live and plan to retire. I thoroughly enjoy all our community has to offer, especially my walks on the beach.

When the City Council met on March 16th to discuss the Bruce's Beach Task Force, it was a long and painful meeting. The cries of "we're not racist" coming from our white community members quite frankly screamed of White Fragility to me (for a good understanding of "White Fragility," I recommend reading Robin DiAngelo's book of the same title). Hearing that we are an "inclusive" community as long as you can afford to live here was an appalling statement and seems to miss the point. We are a tourist town, like it or not, and people from all over the country and the world come to visit our community. People need to feel safe visiting Manhattan Beach, whatever their race. As the media continues to publicize our racist past (Bruce's Beach) and even recent racist incidents, eyes will continue to be on our response to that as a community, and this will govern who decides to visit or live here.

While the Council voted to disband the Task Force, calling its work complete, the Council rejected the creation of any kind of diversity and inclusion committee and the question of an apology was deferred to a later meeting. I am writing today to urge the City Council to **vote in favor of Manhattan Beach issuing an apology**. An apology is not a statement of whether or not Manhattan Beach is a racist town. It is a means of stating that we, as a community and you, as Mayor and City Council Members, are SORRY for what happened in our town 100 years ago. It signals that we, as a community, do not support this type of action in our town, because we aim to be inclusive. I know some believe an "acknowledgment" is adequate, but that feels to me like a Nazi leader saying "I was only following orders...It wasn't me...." or "I didn't do it, it was before my time." Acknowledgment without apology insults me and will be offensive to many others. I even worry that it could lead to a rise in violence against our community. The optics of a failure to apologize will not provide good marketing for our charming beach enclave.

For your reference, to ensure that we would not be asking Manhattan Beach to venture into uncharted territory, I did some research on cities and towns that have issued apologies. Some of these include the Cities of Burbank, CA; Tampa, Florida; Austin, TX, Spartanburg, SC; Greensboro, NC; and Charlotte, NC. As you know, some of these latter cities are in former confederate states. I mention that only for perspective. If a City in a state that fought against the abolishment of slavery can issue an apology for it's racist past, we certainly can AND SHOULD do the same. (Links attached)

I stand with many who do not want to hang their heads in shame because we live in a racist community. Failing to acknowledge and apologize for our past will label us as racist. Please vote in support of a Bruce's Beach apology,

If the Council wishes to hear speakers at the meeting when the vote takes place, I would be happy to provide a concise statement in favor of an apology.

Regards,

Kim Brant-Lucich

Tampa City Council issues apology for city's racist past:

<https://www.tampabay.com/news/tampa/2020/09/03/tampa-city-council-member-calls-for-racial-apology-reconciliation/>

Greensboro, NC City Council issues apology for violent police racist act in Greensboro Massacre in 1979

Edinburgh City Council apologies for racism: <https://www.scotsman.com/education/council-leaders-apologies-for-racism-experienced-by-pupils-in-edinburgh-schools-3162526>

City of Nova Scotia apology for past racist abuse against children in a "colored school"

Austin City Council formally apologizes for systemic racism: <https://www.kut.org/austin/2021-03-04/city-council-apologizes-for-austins-systemic-racism-vows-to-invest-in-a-black-embassy>

Spartanburg, SC City Council apology for systemic racism: <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/spartanburg-s-c-city-council-apologizes-to-african-american-residents-for-past-systemic-racism/ar-BB19y3h9>

Charlotte, NC Mayor apologies for City's racism: <https://www.wbtv.com/2020/08/15/charlottes-mayor-apologized-citys-role-systemic-racism-what-comes-next/>

City of Burbank apology for racism: <https://www.wbtv.com/2020/08/15/charlottes-mayor-apologized-citys-role-systemic-racism-what-comes-next/>

City of Vancouver apology for racism: <https://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news/city-of-vancouver-formally-apologizes-for-komagata-maru-racism>

Five Times the U.S. has issued apologies: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/five-times-united-states-officially-apologized-180959254/>

US House Resolution 194 acknowledging and condemning slavery/our racist past:

<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/110/hres194/text>

Kansas City Star apologies for racism: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/21/us/kansas-city-star-apology.html>

LA Times Apology for biased reporting: <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-09-27/los-angeles-times-apology-racism>

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Tommy Nunan <tommy.ahlers.nunan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 10:17 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce family apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I grew up in Manhattan Beach and I love this city. It will always hold a special place in my heart. That is why I hope you will make me and thousands of other MB residents proud by apologizing for what the City did to the Bruce family and other families affected by its actions.

None of us personally contributed to this mistake at the time but this mistake affected several families for generations, and continues to affect how many people feel about the City. By accepting and acknowledging our history, we can show what it means to take responsibility and grow from past mistakes. I hope you will not be influenced by those who -- driven by fear -- suggest that we deny this past. Denial will not protect the City, it will only open our community to more scrutiny.

I hope that you will choose to make the difficult and courageous choice to admit that the City made a mistake. Apologizing will not make us weaker, it will show that we are strong enough to do the right thing, despite pressure to sweep it all under the rug. Apologizing will make us a model to other cities and future generations. Apologizing will reaffirm my love for Manhattan Beach.

Sincerely,  
Tommy Nunan

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Elizabeth Lynch <betsi.bell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology!!

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I (Elizabeth ) began MB residency in 2003 as a renter and became an owner in 2005. Tim moved to MB in 2012. WE ALWAYS VOTE!! Please do NOT make an apology. We are NOT a racist community. Thank you for listening.

Timothy & Elizabeth Lynch  
229 25th Place  
Cell 310-569-2355

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Shawn Chen <SChen@mbusd.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 8:20 AM  
**To:** Jensen Family; Michael Matthews; Jennifer Fenton; Sally Peel; Jason Boxer; Jennifer Cochran; Cathey Graves  
**Cc:** kidsneedclassrooms@gmail.com; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Thank you MBUSD Leaders

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Thank you Jensen family for your kind words and thoughtful note.  
Best of luck to all of us and I hope continued health and well being to you and your family and friends.  
Shawn Chen

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**From:** Jensen Family <emailthejensenfamily@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 12:01 AM  
**To:** Michael Matthews <MMatthews@mbusd.org>; Shawn Chen <SChen@mbusd.org>; Jennifer Fenton <JFenton@mbusd.org>; Sally Peel <SPeel@mbusd.org>; Jason Boxer <JBoxer@mbusd.org>; Jennifer Cochran <JCochran@mbusd.org>; Cathey Graves <CGraves@mbusd.org>  
**Cc:** kidsneedclassrooms@gmail.com <kidsneedclassrooms@gmail.com>; citycouncil@citymb.info <citycouncil@citymb.info>  
**Subject:** Thank you MBUSD Leaders

This email originated from outside of MBUSD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know t

Dear MBUSD leaders,

The recent "Kids Need Classrooms" propaganda included your email addresses with the direction to write to all of you, but instead of voicing my concerns about you not doing enough, I offer a whole-hearted THANK YOU for your efforts to protect our kids!

Perhaps these KNC people think we are living in an alternate Manhattan Beach universe, but many fellow parents I know are still being vigilant against COVID-19 and its variants and want to continue to keep our children safe and healthy.

Patience. Wisdom. Compassion. These traits benefit leaders, and we appreciate you applying them to make the right decisions, which are not always the easiest.

Thank you,

The Jensen Family  
[emailthejensenfamily@gmail.com](mailto:emailthejensenfamily@gmail.com)  
5 Marin Court  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** tj derrell <metalkore@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 7:49 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi,

I'm very disappointed in this city council disbanding the Bruce Beach Task Force. Just by looking at all of you members, and we can see why this isn't a priority to you. As a California resident, we have a choice in where we'd like to spend and invest our dollars within communities. If you will not advocate to be make things right to the best of your abilities, then there is no reason to support your community.

I am vehemently request that you take great care and action into forming the Bruce Beach Task Force again. Don't let an anonymous letter scare you again. Nothing bad can come from acknowledging painful history and doing what you can to make it right again. Be on the better side of history. Your contributions will be acknowledged. Until then, we will continue to share this information with others, demanding that action be taken.

Please - SERVE THE PEOPLE (yes, ALL people.... not just the ones that cower behind an anonymous letter refusing to acknowledge black history!)

-TJ

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jensen Family <emailthejensenfamily@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 12:02 AM  
**To:** Michael Matthews; schen@mbusd.org; jfenton@mbusd.org; speel@mbusd.org; jboxer@mbusd.org; jcochran@mbusd.org; cgraves@mbusd.org  
**Cc:** kidsneedclassrooms@gmail.com; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Thank you MBUSD Leaders

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MBUSD leaders,

The recent "Kids Need Classrooms" propaganda included your email addresses with the direction to write to all of you, but instead of voicing my concerns about you not doing enough, I offer a whole-hearted THANK YOU for your efforts to protect our kids!

Perhaps these KNC people think we are living in an alternate Manhattan Beach universe, but many fellow parents I know are still being vigilant against COVID-19 and its variants and want to continue to keep our children safe and healthy.

Patience. Wisdom. Compassion. These traits benefit leaders, and we appreciate you applying them to make the right decisions, which are not always the easiest.

Thank you,

The Jensen Family  
[emailthejensenfamily@gmail.com](mailto:emailthejensenfamily@gmail.com)  
5 Marin Court  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Zahir Surmawala <thisiszahir@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 3:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request to reinstate the Bruce's Beach task force

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi,

The Bruce's Beach Task Force was set up to thoughtfully consider how the community will reconcile with its own history of Bruce's Beach, which is an initiative I applaud for its integrity and determination to show this community stands on the right side of history. It's truly disappointing to see this task force disbanded due to the influence of an anonymous clandestine group that doesn't even want their name associated with the effort.

I hope this task force is reinstated and the work towards its goals are seen through

Best,  
Zahir Surmawala

Sent from my mobile device

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** JAMES BROOKS <beach90266@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Open Schools

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

There is absolutely no more excuses for our schools not being completely open. We drove by the Pennekamp campus yesterday and there were three kids playing outside. Three!! Why have our schools not opened???? What is holding us back??

Kindly respond.

Thank you,  
James and Kim Brooks

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Elyse Gura <evgura@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Elyse Gura  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I am so disappointed in the Manhattan Beach City Council

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have debated for a week on whether to send this email.

I am so very disappointed in City Council's decisions regarding Bruce's Beach and the Task Force that was brought together to study our history and make recommendations on how to move forward.

One of the arguments against meaningful action -- voiced by both residents, council members *and our current mayor* -- was that sending an apology would be an admission of the racism (implying *\*\*current racism\*\**) of our city.

That is an argument constructed to defend the decision -- *perhaps* made even before the Task Force proposal was presented -- to essentially do nothing.

An apology would not have been an admission of guilt or racism, **but rather a statement of empathy** for the Bruces and for the other families who were victims of bigotry in our past. It would have demonstrated and represented our evolution in awareness, in inclusion, in acceptance. In the context of history, it would have shown who we are now. A vote to keep the Task Force in place and adopt meaningful actions would have shown leadership.

Changing words on a plaque and an art installation are easy outs. Disbanding the Task Force is dismissing the history.

For shame for each of you who voted to reject the majority of the proposals and disband the Task Force.

Elyse Gura

The biggest communication problem is that we do not listen to understand...we listen to reply

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Chris Haith <chrishaith21@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:12 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City of Manhattan Beach,

Please give the land of Bruce's Beach back to the Bruce family and descendants.

--

Chris Haith  
Big Block Realty  
CA BRE 02005803  
(719)200-2239

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mark Nelson (Home Gmail) <menelson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 9:13 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Public Comments to Mayor and Councils, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Manhattan Beach for Upcoming Council Meetings

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please see public comment below for your Mayor and Council. I also provided to your City Clerk, however, I found these email addresses for the Councils as well. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Mark Nelson (Home Gmail) <[menelson@gmail.com](mailto:menelson@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 9:10 PM

**Subject:** Public Comments to Mayor and Councils, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Manhattan Beach for Upcoming Council Meetings

**To:** <[ltamura@citymb.info](mailto:ltamura@citymb.info)>, <[cityclerk@redondo.org](mailto:cityclerk@redondo.org)>, <[CityClerk@torranceca.gov](mailto:CityClerk@torranceca.gov)>

**Cc:** Communications <[communications@bchd.org](mailto:communications@bchd.org)>

Dear Mayors and Councils:

As the "owners" of Beach Cities Health District, I am communicating with you as both a 3+ year BCHD volunteer and as a property owner adjacent to BCHD.

Despite repeated lip service by BCHD of listening to the neighborhood, the revised BCHD 2020 campus plan is both TALLER and has more SQUARE FEET of surface buildings than did their 2019 proposal that drew over 1,200 surrounding residents to launch and sign a petition to downsize the proposal consistent with the surrounding residential neighborhoods that have 30 foot or lower maximum heights.

BCHD increased the height of their project from 60-feet, as stated in their EIR Notice of Preparation (NOP) in 2019 to 103-feet in their draft EIR. Surely that is not responding to neighbors seeking consistent sizing with the neighborhoods.

Further, BCHD removed 160,000 sqft of underground parking from their 2019 plan, and moved it to an 800-car parking ramp that could be between 8 and 10 stories according to BCHD's 2020 Draft EIR document. Again, that is surely not the response that residents expected. BCHD claims to have had over 1,300 comments. Given that 1,200 signatures came in on a single petition, and that over 150 comments were provided to their EIR NOP, and that over 100 comments were made on June 17, 2020 when BCHD provided only 3 business days for public input on their 2020 plan, I can only assume that BCHD discards comments that it disagrees with in order to arrive at its contrived 1,300 comment value.

In summary, BCHD **increased** the proposed height from 60-feet to 103-feet, and BCHD **increased** the proposed above ground square feet from 729,000 to 793,000 sqft, including an 8-10 story ramp at Prospect and Diamond. I ask that you rein in our wildly out of control local agency and force them to provide the surrounding neighborhood with a structure, like The Kensington, the meets the neighbor uses and does not negatively impact several thousand people for decades and generations. We have already suffered the environmental and economic injustice impacts of the failed South Bay Hospital that at least provided us with

local emergency room services as a quid pro quo for the sirens, traffic, noise, air emissions, glare, excessive night time lighting, reduced home values and other negative impacts.

Mark Nelson

3+ year BCHD Community Working Group volunteer

Redondo Beach property owner

cc: BCHD Board

# BCHD INCREASED BOTH THE HEIGHT AND ABOVE GROUND AREA OF ITS PROPOSED OVERDEVELOPMENT FROM 2019 to 2020

## 2019 PLAN



**Total Height: 60-feet**

**Total SqFt Above Ground 729,700 sf**

## 2020 PLAN



**Total Height: 103-feet  
+53 Ft Tall**

**Total SqFt Above Ground 792,520 sf  
+62,820 SqFt of Above Ground**

## What BCHD CEO Bakaly CLAIMED

"For the past three years we've collected more than 1,300 public comments during more than 70 meetings and worked with financial, construction and environmental experts to minimize impacts on local neighborhoods."

"We think it's more consistent with what we were hearing," Bakaly said. "We are a public agency, so we do want to be listening."

## What BCHD DID

**Increased the height of the overdevelopment from 60-feet to 103-feet (+88% INCREASE)**

**Increased the SqFt of above ground buildings by +62,820 sf**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** ric arrigoni <ricarrigoni@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 6:14 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I prefer an acknowledgment and not an apology. Been resident 30 years and downtown business owner 20 years.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kate Arrigoni <katearrigoni@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 5:54 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**I prefer an acknowledgement and not an apology. 47 year resident.**

Kate Arrigoni  
310.614.5154  
Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Laura Kiely <laurakiely@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 4:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Steve Napolitano's apology - Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,  
I have read Steve Napolitano's apology, and I hope Council will approve it.

I've also learned that it's been determined by legal counsel that neither the City nor current residents can be legally liable for damages if this apology is issued.

Joe Franklin has also offered his version of an apology, but I have not found a public record of it. Mr. Franklin, will you please send me a copy?

Let's get past the fear and excuses and do the right thing. Issue an apology for the racism that motivated eminent domain proceedings against the Bruces and other families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Laura Kiely  
Manhattan Beach resident since 1994  
310 503-6245

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** footfreymd@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 1:26 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council

It is very important that we preserve an accurate and honest history of the city of Manhattan Beach. I support a memorial at the site of Bruce Beach and believe it should be maintained as the destination green space that it is.

I do not support an on going task force.

I was born and raised in Manhattan Beach. My business and home are in the city. I attended Robinson, Center and Mira Costa. The best thing we can do to support and invest in our future and diverse young population is to open the schools!

Sincerely,  
C Frey MD

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lida Sandera <lidasbeach@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 9:41 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**I have been a Manhattan Beach resident for 47 years. If new plaques are going to go up, the city's appropriate response should be an ACKNOWLEDGEMENT...NOT AN APOLOGY!! This issue happened one hundred years ago. Almost all of the Manhattan Beach residents weren't even conceived yet!**

### **Task Force:**

**The TRUE apology needs to be from every person on the Task Force for the vicious, venomous, racist hate crime they brought forth to the Manhattan Beach residents. Whether or not any of you believe in God, you will still have to answer to Him. There are only two places where we will be sent. The Bible states in so many words that the smoking section isn't exactly a party and no, you won't be with your friends. Get a life, people, and try to be kind instead of malicious.**

Lida Sandera

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carol Shafer <carolfinejewelry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 9:38 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**I have been a Manhattan Beach resident for 37 years. If new plaques are going to go up, the city's appropriate response should be an ACKNOWLEDGEMENT...NOT AN APOLOGY!! This issue happened one hundred years ago. Almost all of the Manhattan Beach residents weren't even conceived yet!**

### **Task Force:**

**The TRUE apology needs to be from every person on the Task Farce for the vicious, venomous, racist hate crime they brought forth to the Manhattan Beach residents. Whether or not any of you believe in God, you will still have to answer to Him. There are only two places where we will be sent. The Bible states in so many words that the smoking section isn't exactly a party and no, you won't be with your friends. Get a life, people, and try to be kind instead of malicious.**

[Carol Elizabeth Shafer](#)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ann Gotthoffer <anngott@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 6:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Bruce Beach Task Force, Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach Council Members,

We regret not contacting you prior to your last meeting; we hesitated as we are Hermosa Beach residents. Our address is 3512 The Strand, so we are just about as close to MB as one can get. However, we believe this issue transcends exact zip codes, and it is important we speak out.

We were very offended by the anonymous Beach Reporter newspaper ad, and social media posts that were filled with false accusations and misinformation, and we are concerned that has caused undue influence in the community and on the Council.

We were also very disappointed to learn that the BBTF was disbanded. Our understanding from friends who tuned in to the meeting was that the majority of comments were in favor of the Task Force continuing; it seems the minority prevailed unfortunately.

We understand the question of issuing an apology was tabled and believe a clear and strong apology should be issued for the racist motivations that resulted in the imminent domain proceedings, and actions condoned by MB officials. The apology should include the City's understanding or clarification of the hurt/ harm caused, a pledge of never repeating it, the **actions** that will be taken to make things right, as well as saying "we're sorry", and "please forgive us". A good statement would be more along the lines of "making amends" vs. a simple, often hollow, apology. The City Council Attorney could serve as an oversight to help alleviate legal concerns that were raised.

We applaud the efforts of the Council and the Task Force for their attention and work on this matter. However, our community, and the City of Manhattan Beach can do better! We are not represented by nameless people hiding behind the banner of "Concerned Citizens" in flyers, ads and posts.

Sincerely,

Ann Gotthoffer  
Cedric (Mickey) McRae

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Laura Kiely <laurakiely@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 10:18 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology / legal concerns

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I write this in response to an email I received from Suzanne Hadley, whose fear of imagined legal consequences may interfere with taking official steps to unequivocally denounce and apologize for the City's past unconscionable racist behavior.

Perhaps the action taken by the City of Glendale (see attachment below) can assuage Council's concerns about legal fallout if Council issues an official apology about the racist motivations for eminent domain proceedings against the Bruce Family. Other City Councils have issued apologies for past wrongs.

We still have members in our community that deny the existence of past systemic racism as well as current racism in Manhattan Beach. I'm hopeful that Council will bravely take an official step to acknowledge and make amends for the ugly truth concerning the Bruce family, and lead our community to move forward to be better. Our community is worth it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Laura Kiely  
Manhattan Beach resident and  
voter since 1994  
310 503-6245

[https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_\\_https://spectrumnews1.com/share/ca/la-west/news/2020/10/09/glendale-becomes-first-ca-city-to-recognize-history-as-sundown-town-?cid=share\\_email\\_\\_;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!aDP5cExU0x7SY6kinvWa9VOWpsRb4yg83KyubPcIAaBK1xiUx2LxsTd3PXs1UsESpJqSNg\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://spectrumnews1.com/share/ca/la-west/news/2020/10/09/glendale-becomes-first-ca-city-to-recognize-history-as-sundown-town-?cid=share_email__;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!aDP5cExU0x7SY6kinvWa9VOWpsRb4yg83KyubPcIAaBK1xiUx2LxsTd3PXs1UsESpJqSNg$)

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Pablo <pprietto444@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 4:08 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; infocitycouncil@citymb.info  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City Council Members.

I am a frequent visitor/patron (restaurants, shops, parking) of Manhattan Beach. I have surfed there at least once a week for years, often at 26th Street, AKA Bruce's Beach. It is truly a beautiful city populated with lovely people.

Reading about the history of Bruce's Beach makes me sad, but also hopeful as I recognize that we are living in a different time. Making reparations to the Bruce family in the form of returning the property to the family, along with a formal apology, provides a unique opportunity for the City to show the world how much it has grown, and what a truly great and enlightened community Manhattan Beach has become. It is a sign of great maturity and courage for a person, or a city, to own up to earlier transgressions and to take responsibility for them. No one believes that any current Manhattan Beach residents are directly culpable for what transpired so many years ago. However, refusing to make a formal apology to the family, as well as descendants of other Black families, makes the City look complicit, or at least like the City condones the actions taken by past city leaders. Making the apology shows that the City wants to be on the right side of history and, yes, to atone for the mistakes of your predecessors. Do the correct thing. Make us all proud.

Thank you.

Pablo Prietto

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Jessica Erker <erker.j@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach Task Force

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello, it has come to my attention that the Bruce Beach Task Force was disbanded. It is unclear why this important task force, organized to address a decades old racial injustice committed by the city, would now, of all times, be voted down. Now is the time to address these grievous errors. Please appeal to your consciousness and bring back the task force to help cleanse this ugly and abhorrent stain on Manhattan Beach's history.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Erker  
Los Angeles Resident

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** justin hunger <jhunger1113@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 9:38 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi,

I am writing you to ask that you consider giving the land stolen from the Bruce family under eminent domain, known as Bruce's Beach, back to the descendants of the original owners. It is not right that the land was taken from them - most definitely for the fact that they were black - and that the family is being denied their inheritance. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Mr. Justin Hunger

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Deborah Roman <Anairy\_26@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 7:50 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern:

As a POC, it is my duty to write to this City Council and ask them to rectify a long history of exclusion by returning the deed of Bruce's Beach to their rightful owners - the descendents of Willa and Charles Bruce. A past of racial discrimination and exclusion has no place in our society.

Kind regards,  
Deborah Roman

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Alisa Alexander <alisa@alisainspires.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 7:36 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Racism has a history. Unfortunately, that history is alive and well with what should be family owned Bruce's beach. Generational wealth should've been inherited by the Bruce family. The family should be compensated at the very least. Please reconsider and do what's right.--

Let's connect!

Do you realize how valuable you are? Do you see your power and potential?

Be reminded today as you listen to #Greater, my debut single! #Greater on iTunes <https://apple.co/2WY6Zvj>

Register for the #Greater Empowerment Conference on December 5 at 10 am CST

<https://alisainspires.com/conference/>

IG @ajstaralex <https://bit.ly/2G8FFVp>

Twitter @ajstaralex <https://twitter.com/ajstaralex>

Facebook @Alisa Sample-Alexander II

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/user/ajstar1908>

Lastly, check out my website <https://alisainspires.com>

“Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” — 1 John 4:4

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Katy Hall <saltyblueocean@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 7:26 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Restore Bruce's Beach Task Force

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi,

I'm writing to ask that the disbanded Bruce's Beach Task Force be restored. Not often do we have the opportunity to reconcile with our country's racist history in a meaningful way but your team saw that it was necessary and attempted to do something about it. Please don't bend to pressure when something can be done.

Katy Hall

--

Katy Hall

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Renee Williams <renwills98@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 7:03 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach Task Force

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

Please reconsider the fate of the Bruce Beach Task Force. Restorative justice is so necessary, especially in this instance.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ashleigh K <ashleigh.knotts@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 6:01 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern,

Given the history of Bruce Park, I ask that you please reconsider the disbanding of the task force. The United States was built on racist structures and it doesn't make sense to uphold them in 2021. If the city hadn't forced Willa and Charles out, the family today would be the owners of this now \$72m property. The personal wealth of the surrounding area shouldn't be the key controller of this issue. The descendants of Willa and Charles Bruce deserve reparations for the harm done.

Regards,  
Ashleigh

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** kit kat <ksclist@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 6:00 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Hello

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please do the right thing and reconsider regarding Bruce's Beach. Either give the property back to descendants or pay them the fair price for the land.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Bryce William <smithbrycewilliam@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 12:35 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I've recently been made aware of the history of Bruce's beach and to say that I am disgusted is an understatement. If the city of Manhattan Beach cannot make this right by returning the land that was stolen or by paying the family reparations then I will never visit or do business in your beautiful city ever again. I will also do my part to share this story to ensure that others follow suit.

The history is absolutely shameful. You all have an opportunity to correct it. Do what's right.

With Great concern,  
Bryce Smith

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Antoinette Brown <antoinetteb716@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:30 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BRUCE FAMILY DESCENDANTS LAND BACK

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom this may concern I'm writing you in regard to the land that was taken from Bruce family years ago. Due to racial discrimination

I would love for the city to make history right by giving the Manhattan beach land back and provide reparations to the descendants of the Bruce Family.

The descendants would still own this land today there family and descendants would have wealth from what their parents bought if wasn't taken from them.

The racism and motives were intentional to do harm to many black family's. From murder to inequality And discrimination across all areas of life.

This family was able to overcome an purchase this land for it to later be taken from them.

Please please make it right

Thanks  
Antoinette

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Madeleine Shelton <mshelton93@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 9:57 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach Taskforce

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley and Manhattan Beach City Council:

What is your plan to reconcile Manhattan Beach's painful and exclusionary policies of stripping the Bruce Family of the land they purchased?

Is there an effort to reinstate the task force to right the antiquated and racist laws of the past?

Best regards,  
Madeleine Shelton

--  
Madeleine Shelton

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Adam Gottfried <adamtgottfried@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 9:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Task Force

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Bruce's Beach Task Force be reinstated.

I was appalled to learn about this situation from the following TikTok video:

<https://vm.tiktok.com/ZMeSEtKAy/>

Please rectify this situation and work to right the wrongs of the best.

Sincerely,  
Adam Gottfried

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Rachel Baylor <rachelmbaylor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:29 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach task force

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

I am a San Diego resident who recently learned about the history of Bruce's Beach on social media, including the plans the city council had made to form a task force and acknowledge the history of the beach. I learned that the beach was originally one of the only beaches in the area that wasn't restricted to white people, but the city forcibly took the land from the family through eminent domain and left it vacant for 40 years.

I understand a group of Manhattan Beach residents raised enough negative attention about the task force to cause the city council to reconsider. I would like to respectfully encourage your city council to try forming the task force again.

The history of our entire country is inseparable from the history of racism and countless acts of violence and injustice like what the city did with Bruce's Beach, and in my opinion our country will never be able to reconcile, live up to our values of freedom and liberty for all, and move forward together until we all take a serious look at our past and acknowledge what happened. I believe it is within your power as a city council to take an important and meaningful step toward racial justice and reconciliation in Manhattan Beach and I strongly and respectfully encourage you to take it.

Thanks very much for reading this,  
Rachel Baylor  
Pacific Beach, San Diego

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Government Affairs <GOVAFFAIRS@LISTSERV.PH.LACOUNTY.GOV> on behalf of Joshua Bobrowsky <jbobrowsky@PH.LACOUNTY.GOV>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 7:17 PM  
**To:** GOVAFFAIRS@LISTSERV.PH.LACOUNTY.GOV  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Revised Los Angeles County Health Officer Order, March 19, 2021 (Effective as of 12:01 AM 3/20/21)

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Officials and Staff,

Please see today's update to the Los Angeles County Health Officer Order<[The HOO was modified to reflect updates that allow breweries, distilleries, and wineries to reopen for outdoors only if not serving a bona fide meal; add a specific protocol for Limited Services, Appendix W<\[Public Health's HOO and sector protocols are available on our website<\\[\\\*\\\*Vaccination Eligibility\\\*\\\*\\]\\(https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_\\_http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/\\_\\_;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!Yj7RSFzB1goaJQKqpui1wHoqffkSqFytGhzWe64fY90qk4YmDMvD0PkXT8Qe0khHKACww\\$ > >.</a></p></div><div data-bbox=\\)\]\(https://urldefense.com/v3/\_\_http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/protocols/Reopening\_LimitedServices.pdf\_\_;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!Yj7RSFzB1goaJQKqpui1wHoqffkSqFytGhzWe64fY90qk4YmDMvD0PkXT8Qe0kOSljxg\$ > > and increase the number of participants obtaining in-person behavioral health or substance use disorder support in therapeutic small group meetings and obtaining in-person faith based small group counseling services, where the services cannot reasonably be practiced remotely.</a></p></div><div data-bbox=\)](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/HOO/HOO_SaferatHomeCommunity.pdf__;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!Yj7RSFzB1goaJQKqpui1wHoqffkSqFytGhzWe64fY90qk4YmDMvD0PkXT8Qe0k8_QB D_A$ > (HOO)(dated March 19, 2021), effective as of 12:01 AM Saturday, March 20, 2021.</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

For the latest information on vaccine eligibility and required documentation, please see the Vaccination Appointment<

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to protect the health of Los Angeles County residents.

Joshua Bobrowsky, J.D., M.P.H.  
He/Him/His  
Director, Government Affairs  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
313 N. Figueroa St., Suite 808, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-288-7871 (direct)  
jbobrowsky@ph.lacounty.gov<mailto:jbobrowsky@ph.lacounty.gov>

#####

To unsubscribe from the GOVAFFAIRS list, click the following link:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_\\_https://listserv.ph.lacounty.gov/scripts/wa.exe?TICKET=NzM3ODk4IENpdHIDb3VuY2lsQE NJVFINQi5JTkZPIEdPVkFGRkFJUIMglAK8fAxyTJci&c=SIGNOFF\\_\\_;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!Yj7RSFzB1goaJQKqpui1wHoqffkSqFytGhzWe64fY90qk4YmDMvD0PkXT8Qe0kiwtmjYA\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://listserv.ph.lacounty.gov/scripts/wa.exe?TICKET=NzM3ODk4IENpdHIDb3VuY2lsQE NJVFINQi5JTkZPIEdPVkFGRkFJUIMglAK8fAxyTJci&c=SIGNOFF__;!!AxJhxnnVZ8w!Yj7RSFzB1goaJQKqpui1wHoqffkSqFytGhzWe64fY90qk4YmDMvD0PkXT8Qe0kiwtmjYA$)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Molly McLean <mollyshea32@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 5:03 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I support the motion to give the Bruce's Beach land back to the Bruce family. Racist exclusion of the past has implications today. If you believe that racism is shameful, act ashamed and do something about this.

Molly McLean  
Resident of Los Angeles

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Rory OBrien <captainowow@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 4:43 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a 69 yr resident of Manhattan Beach

**I PREFER AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY.**

Racism starts with Good parenting and certainly character, integrity and morals doesn't hurt.

Rory O'Brien

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jane Franklin <janehomemail@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 3:29 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I bought my first house in Manhattan Beach in 1974. I vote in every election. I prefer an acknowledgement and not an apology.

Thank you all for your work on these very tough matters. I would like to see the City put this aside and move forward together.

Jane Franklin  
1009 11th St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Don McCammack <dommc@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 2:05 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I prefer an acknowledge and not an apology.  
I've been a resident for 43 years.

Don McCammack

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** bgriff616@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 2:03 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I prefer an acknowledgement and not an apology.

Barry Griffiths  
45 year resident

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Jill Lamkin <jill@downtownmanhattanbeach.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 1:36 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Mike Simms  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] White Lights on the Pier  
**Attachments:** Letter to Council - Changing Lights on Pier.pdf; ATT00001.htm

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

The DBPA would like to respectfully submit a letter to Council supporting only white lights on the Pier. Thank you for your time and have a wonderful weekend!



March 19, 2021

Mayor Suzanne Hadley  
Members of City Council  
City Manager Bruce Moe

City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Dear Mayor Hadley et al,

The DBPA discussed the changing colors of the pier lights at our most recent monthly membership meeting. There was a strong reaction from our businesses regarding changing the classic beauty of white lights on our iconic pier to a regular rotation of colors based on holidays or local events. The white lights are classic and timeless and enhance the aesthetics of our Downtown business district.

The MB Pier has a century of history and is recognizable as a landmark around the state, the country and even the world. So much has been done to maintain the historic integrity of the pier, and the current project replacing the pier railings is a perfect example of trying to maintain its historical character. Although the new materials for the railing will be different, Councilmember Napolitano asked for samples of the material to ensure the color is as exact a match as possible to ensure the consistent look of this iconic landmark.

Adding colored and/or changing lights not only detracts from its classic beauty, it could also pose safety issues when darker colors are used to light the pier.

The DBPA strongly advocates for the continued use of white lights year-round to maintain the classic ambiance of this historic monument. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Mike Simms  
President, DBPA

Jill Lamkin  
Executive Director, DBPA

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Laura Kiely <laurakiely@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 1:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Family Apology and Bruce's Beach Task Force

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

Please issue an apology on behalf of Manhattan Beach for the racially motivated eminent domain action taken against the Bruce Family. Acknowledging a wrong is the decent thing to do.

I'm very disappointed that the Bruce's Beach Task Force was not allowed to continue their efforts to advise CC on issues of equity, equality, and inclusion in our city. We obviously need to address these issues.

Thank you to those of you who spoke out against the misinformation being spread about the Bruce's Beach Task Force and its mission.

Thank you to those who spoke out against the anonymous and inaccurate mailings and newspaper ad. You did the right thing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Laura Kiely  
Manhattan Beach resident since 1994

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Janet Hilton <janethilton122@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 1:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please act rationally and vote for an acknowledgment of what prior residents and staff did 100 years ago.

Janet and Hugh Hilton

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Christy Barnes <Christy@btglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 1:17 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council

Please do whatever is in your power to force the MBUSD to open schools full time for all students K-12!

2 hours, twice a week for MBMS Students is not enough! Without bussing kids, how are they supposed to get to and from the school site in that short of time frame? What will they learn? It is more distracting than helpful.

CDC guidelines are now 3 feet apart! PUSH THEM TO OPEN ASAP!

Thank you,

Taxpayer, MB Resident, Mom of three MBUSD Students  
Christy Barnes

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Doreen Dice <ddice@tdaltd.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 12:35 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] no apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

No Apology and an acknowledgement if necessary but prefer neither.

*Doreen Dice*

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cynthia Stokes <cindystokes33@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 12:22 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] For Art committee

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As a "learning" project, perhaps we could use our MB schools to have a contest to design the art project.

Cindy Stokes

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cynthia Stokes <cindystokes33@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 12:18 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I prefer acknowledgement.

Cindy Stokes  
133 3rd Street

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jackie Ray <ray.house66@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:36 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I prefer an acknowledgement and not an apology.

Jackie Ray  
MB resident of 25 years.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jacob Gotta <jacobgotta@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 11:08 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To the City Council,

I am disappointed to hear about your recent decision to disband the Bruces Beach Task Force. The City of Manhattan Beach was doing the right thing in recognizing racism in the past, and by disbanding the task force and refusing its suggestions, this city council is only perpetuating the denial of systemic racism which makes said systems so difficult to overcome.

I urge you to reconsider. Do not let a group like 'concerned residents of MB,' too scared to put their actual names out in public, stand in the way of acknowledging the past or moving forward. They would rather pretend these things never happened than simply accept the legacy of racism and exclusion endemic to these United States.

You have the power and the responsibility to do the right thing. I hope that you will take that responsibility seriously and act instead of letting these 'concerned residents' intimidate your decisions.

Thank you,  
Jake Gotta

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ronald Milner <knowledgethebestmedicine@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** Bruces Beach Task Force  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Factual history  
**Attachments:** fact.history.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I would like the history subcommittee to consider the document attached as they update the history

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Gary McAulay <gary.mcaulay@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 6:58 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BBTF history report comments to council

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello Council

I offer some comments on the Bruce's Beach Task Force history subcommittee report of March 9, 2021. I personally know that the subcommittee has worked diligently on this report and Herculean efforts have been made on the research and documentation, in an attempt to meet the desired goal of getting the actual facts together about the Bruce's Beach story. I understand that the draft being presented on Tuesday is a "living document" that will be updated in the future, but the March 9 draft is the one being presented. So some thoughts:

The late 19th century and the early 20th century were a very different time from today. Much was changing. There were conflicts. Race relations across the United States deteriorated and the era from 1877 to 1901, 1923, or even 1940 has become known as the Nadir of American race relations. There were race riots, lynchings, court decisions legalizing segregation, racial property covenants, redlining, and more, across the whole US.

During this era, empty sand dunes saw the beginnings of a tiny town that eventually became today's Manhattan Beach. Willie Bruce bought a Strand lot in May, 1912. An LA Times article made the so far unconfirmed claim that she paid a high price compared to the cost of nearby lots. Whether or not this turns out to be correct, Mrs. Bruce was an astute businesswoman and she chose to make the investment, paying \$1225 for her first lot. A few years later she bought a second lot next-door for a mere \$10. Mrs. Bruce built a very successful business from a small start. That's something to remember.

Mrs. Willie Bruce (as she signed letters) opened her business June 17, 1912. The City of Manhattan Beach had not even been incorporated; this occurred in December, with a population estimated to be only about 600 people.

The subcommittee report on the history of Bruce's Beach carefully details and documents the story of the Bruce's resort. There is necessary reliance on the 1956 student thesis of Robert Brigham, who was completing his master's degree. Brigham interviewed several people who'd had some part in the story of Bruce's Beach. Brigham wrote several cautions about the interviews he conducted and often questioned the accuracy and even the reliability of his witnesses. Yet he included every anecdote in his paper, and through the years those stories have been repeated countless times, and are now regularly repeated as fact. But, Brigham's thesis contains a number of stories, assumptions, and conjectures that are simply not confirmed history, and some plain simple errors.

What is the standard for a fact in the BBTF history report? It seems to be appropriately high, but also there are stories repeated that don't meet the standard. Sometimes it is noted that they are unconfirmed stories, but there they are in this factual report, where they confuse the facts and the fiction.

There must be some standard applied before an incident can be considered a fact of history. A story told by a single individual, uncorroborated by a second witness or any form of documentation, is just a story. The

measure of a fact is not that it sounds like something that could have happened. For example, there is a story (that you may be familiar with) which claims that the beach at Waikiki was created with sand from Manhattan Beach. Regarding Bruce's Beach, there have been printed stories, told by somebody old enough to have been there, that Bruce's resort was burned down. These are just two examples of stories and embellishments that sound so good they must be true, except they are not.

There is evidence to disprove both of those stories. But, really, the burden of proof is on the assertion of fact. A single "witness" claim, unsupported by other witnesses or documentation, that something happened, cannot be called a fact.

Among possible corroborating witnesses, one of Brigham's informants was Hugh E. MacBeth, an attorney who represented some of the landowners during the eminent domain proceedings, as well as the NAACP after the swim-in. MacBeth informed Brigham that Blacks frequently found that air had been let out of their tires while at Bruce's Beach (this is the source of the exaggerated story that tires were "slashed"). However, MacBeth apparently did not repeat any of the stories of cross-burnings, or the alleged mattress fire, etc. His information to Brigham is only of the tires having the air let out, and of the trespass trial on the Bessonette leased beach property.

Please be aware that I can substantiate with sources everything that I am writing but such detail would make an even lengthier email. Please contact me if you have any questions on any item whatsoever.

### **The role of George H. Peck, Jr.**

The BBTF reports that around the time of the opening of the "Bruce Beach Front," there were "no trespassing" signs posted around a strip of beach property owned by George H. Peck, Jr. Visitors at the Bruce's had to walk around that property to access the ocean.

In other places you will read or hear it said that the LA Times article from June 27, 1912, "...reported that land owner George H Peck installed 'no trespassing' signs on the strip of land..."

This is not correct. The cited article says, "this strip has been staked off and 'no trespassing' signs put up..." The BBTF history report says that "it is unclear if the signs were placed at Peck's request or even with his knowledge."

More to the point: not unclear, but flat unknown.

And again, note that this occurred before the City was incorporated.

### **Roping off the beach:**

To be clear, only one person reported that the beach had ever been roped off. It was claimed thirty years after the fact by George H. Lindsey, and it involved an alleged series of telegrams, as related in the BBTF report. Brigham did not relate how Lindsey claimed to have knowledge of the story. Even the year of the alleged occurrence is not given by Brigham, although later writers often suggest (in contradiction to the contemporary newspaper report) that it occurred at the opening of the business.

No other informants say anything about the beach being roped off. No stories about roping off the beach have surfaced in the California Eagle or the Liberator. The story is unsupported.

From the report: "Multiple sources, however, did state that there were barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces' resort..."

But: while there was (1) the original 1912 Times article that said the beach was staked off with "No Trespassing" signs and patrolled by deputy constables." And there was (2) the post-Bruce's resort episode with Oscar Bessonette who also used "No Trespassing" signs. Otherwise, besides Lindsey's belated and unconfirmed hearsay story that the beach was roped off, there is only Bowden née Prioleau's account of a "fence *at either end* of the beach in front of Bruce's Lodge." [italics added.] Brigham himself wrote that, "this informant was the only one who ever mentioned such a fence..."

Lindsey's and Bowden's stories are unsupported stories told decades later.

So, I cannot find the "Multiple sources" that stated that there were "barriers impeding access to the water from the Strand near the Bruces' resort."

"The Bruces' and their resort flourished," and photos show the beach being enjoyed extensively.

Re: Peck setting aside land for minority residents:

This story, noted on the current plaque, is also unsupported, The BBTF report correctly says that, "there is no verifiable evidence from primary or other sources that Peck actually set aside land for this purpose,,,"

Although Peck actively opposed incorporation of Manhattan Beach in 1912, and he wrote in opposition to the City's expenditures to build a new pier, he was silent on the matter of Bruce's Beach. This certainly does not support the story that he set land aside for minorities. It also does not inform as to his position either way on the eminent domain action.

## **The role of the KKK**

The BBTF report says, "It is also important to note that the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) was showing its influence in the area at that time. On January 12, 1924, The Redondo Breeze published an ad that invited readers to a free lecture on "The Principles of the KKK and Ideals of Pure Americanism." <sup>25</sup> The California Eagle, a prominent African-American newspaper from 1879-1964, reported on the front page of its July 4, 1924, issue that the KKK was operating unrestricted along the waterfront."

But, to be accurate, while the KKK was active in the South Bay area, and while The California Eagle suggested that the KKK had an "undue influence" on the MB Board of Trustees, even Alison R Jefferson wrote, "Based on current available evidence, we can only speculate whether the KKK's activities may have influenced the Manhattan Beach city council in the condemnation proceedings of the Bruce's Beach establishment..."

Or as stated in the BBTF report, ".,.,there was no evidence directly linking acts of harassment to the KKK..."

The BBTF report then goes on to list several alleged racially-motivated incidents, both those supposedly KKK related and others not:

- air being let out of tires
- a mattress fire supposedly set by a Klansman at Bruce's Lodge
- a Black owned house partially burned by an angry neighbor
- "10 minutes only" parking signs posted to harass a Black homeowner
- a cross burned on a hill above a Black-owned house

The partially-burned house may be substantiated (I can't find the news article on the fire at the moment) but it is not attributed to the KKK.

Only the alleged incidents of a cross burning and the Bruce's Lodge fire are attributed to the KKK.

None of the stories was recounted or corroborated by a second informant, or substantiated by a newspaper or other recorded account (except possibly the partially burned house occurred.)

Taking the **mattress fire story** specifically under examination, because it is popularly reported and exaggerated:

"A Manhattan resident who was a member of the Board of Trustees in 1924 tells of some of the activities of the Manhattan Klan. Possibly referring to the attempted burning mentioned previously in this chapter, he recounted a night in the early 1920's when he followed a siren to Bruce's Lodge where someone (supposedly a Klansman) had set fire to a mattress under the main building. This produced lots of smoke, but the only fire was in the eyes of Mrs. Bruce as she greeted the white spectators."

- Brigham pp 41-42 informant 12 - Cassius L. Robbins

The story told by Cassius Robbins about the smoldering mattress fire at the lodge is especially weak. It is completely unsubstantiated.

- It was told at least 30 years after the fact.
- There is no record or evidence of a "Manhattan Klan."
- There are no known contemporary newspaper accounts of this event, either in local papers or in Black-owned papers.
- The California Eagle wrote about a guy handing a KKK leaflet to three Blacks on the Redondo pier in 1924, but didn't report that the KKK tried to burn down the Bruce's Beach building. Why?
- The story of the fire and response by a fire department was not reported in the Manhattan Beach News, which at the time reported every fire that occurred, down to the most minor grass fires.
- It was not recounted by any other of Brigham's informants, Black or White.
- It was not mentioned by attorney Hugh E. Macbeth, who *did* report that Black resort-goers, "frequently returned from the beach to find that the air had been let out of their automobile tires."

It seems to me that unsubstantiated stories do not belong in a factual history.

But the BBTF report goes on to say, "**Despite this harassment**, Black residents and guests did not cease coming to the beach. According to reports from the California Eagle, it was just as popular as ever."

Which is a good point, *but assumes that "this harassment" actually happened*. The stories above are unsubstantiated.

In the end, Mrs. Bruce decided to settle.

BBTF report: "The California Eagle printed a letter from E. Burton Ceruti, Attorney for the L.A. Branch, N.A.A.C.P. on July 11, 1924, wherein he stated that Mrs. Bruce was "willing to sell her property and, even if a suit be instituted, would sell at a fair price at any time, and would abandon the suit at such time.' By December, they had entered into the condemnation proceedings with Attorney Willis O. Tyler as their lawyer."

Mrs. Bruce had run a business that attracted hundreds of Black visitors on Sundays and holidays, and which had continued to expand for some 15 years. For the \$1235 she had paid for the two lots, she settled for a payment of \$14,500.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1912 survived until today.

No Manhattan Beach business that existed in 1927 survived until today.

The city grew from a population of about 600 in 1912 to about 2500 in 1924. That's for the whole city, It is unknown how many MB residents today can claim that their family was living in MB in 1912. A few, but likely not many. Maybe a few more from 1924, but again, not many. That would be an interesting project.

Again, I understand that the BBTF history report is expected to be updated as research continues, and that is a good thing, It takes so much time to research these things, It's important, however, and a primary task of the task force, to separate the facts from the fiction.

This is a good start but it's necessary to let go of some of the uncorroborated stories.

Respectfully,  
Gary D. McAulay

This email is my own opinion and does not represent the position of any other person, group, or organization.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** dnyznyk@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:54 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I wanted to thank the city council for taking the action it took regarding the termination of the task force. As stated in an earlier email, I am a 43 year resident of Manhattan Beach, and there is no question in my mind that we as a community are a loving, welcoming, non-racist group of which I am proud to be a part.

I stand firmly with acknowledgement of the pain and complete wrong of racism. I also acknowledge the historical reality that racism might have been a part of the city's and county's purpose in the condemnation of what we now refer to as Bruce's Beach. However, our society has come far, a credit to our wonderful national system, and I firmly believe that we as a Manhattan Beach community are not racist. I agree with acknowledgement of past racism, but disagree that there should be any apology.

Thank you.

Darryl Nyznyk.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Dana Rochowicz <drochowicz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:50 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As an almost 3 year resident of MB, I prefer an acknowledgment not an apology.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** anitamitchell90266 <anitamitchell90266@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:40 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members

I hope that you will write a letter of acknowledgment rather than a letter of apology concerning the Bruce's Beach incident which occurred 100 years ago. Apparently that type of action, as deplorable as it was, was happening all over the country. It definitely happened with beach front property in Santa Monica, according to a news story that aired a few days ago.

Before someone who has never met me accuses me of being racist, you should know that in 1982, the year we moved to MB, I married into a "blended" family. Those family members visited us regularly and never had any problems. This is because MB is NOT a racist community.

Thank you for ending the Bruce's Beach Taskforce, and all of the divisive comments and allegations.

Anita Mitchell

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Greg Range <rangegreg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:25 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Lynn Range  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

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I prefer an acknowledgment NOT an apology. I am a 35 year resident of our fine city.

Greg Range  
3209 Laurel Avenue

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Greta Kessel <greta.kessel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 10:21 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement, not Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council,

I appreciate the time that you all commit to the City of MB and the residents.

I am writing to let you know that I believe an acknowledgement for BB, not an apology, is appropriate.

Thank you and have a nice weekend.

Greta Kessel, MB resident 22 Years

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kathleen Cartier <kathleen.cartier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:44 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a 50+ year resident of Manhattan Beach. I prefer an acknowledgment and NOT an apology.  
Thank you  
KC

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kirsten Chen <kirsten.t.chen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:40 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilmembers,

RE: Bruce's Beach, I PREFER AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY.

I have been a manhattan beach homeowner for 9 years, and my husband was a resident before that. This city is not racist. In fact, our family is multicultural of Asian, Latino, and Caucasian descent. We have never observed any racist behavior in this community.

Thank you for supporting our community!

Warmly,  
Kirsten Chen



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Bethany Santos <bethanylynnsantos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:34 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

In regards to Bruce's Beach, as a resident of MB I request No formal apology be written but rather an acknowledgment. I am not racist and NO ONE should ever be forced to claim to be racist, regardless of their skin color or nationality. We can acknowledge the past and strive to do better in the future. But dwelling on the past and digging up hate only perpetuates the problem when so much progress has already been made. It's two steps forward then 10 steps backwards. Let's move forward in love as a city United!

Thank you  
Bethany Santos

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Jerry McPherson <jmcpherson13@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:32 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology BBTF

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

- **I PREFER AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, NOT AN APOLOGY.**
- **Our funds should be prioritized for essential services and to meet our pension obligations**
- **I have been a resident since 1994**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Rick Lesser <lizardbrane@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:30 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Rick Lesser  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Dear Council members- I prefer an acknowledgement of the actions by Manhattan Beach 100 years ago, not any apology for what none of us did (or ever would do)-

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

From Rick Lesser  
Lifetime resident of Manhattan Beach (74 years (and hopefully counting))  
310 374-4808

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Robb Stroyke <robb@stroykeproperties.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:25 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach city Reaponse

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

I applaud you on your rational and common sense dismissal of the radical task force. I was born in MB at 477 28th Street, MB in 1963 and I do not know one racist here. I have met some elsewhere but not here.

I strongly prefer an acknowledgement NOT an apology. There is a huge difference.

Thank you,

Robb Stroyke

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** William Parducci <bill@parducci.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:00 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach, moving forward

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Good morning,

As a resident of MB since 1998 I am proud to say that the town my wife and I have raised our children in has been able to strike a balance between "traditional family values" and the changes that a growing and dynamic population brings. While the demographics have changed significantly the ideals of community, respect and creating an environment where everyone is welcome and able to raise their children in a healthy and safe atmosphere has continued unabated. Of course there have been contentious situations, stemming from things as simple as AYSO or PTA squabbles to tense legal battles over property lines, trees and noise, but *not once in my experience has this ever been rooted in any racial, gender or religious bias*. Clearly this is anecdotal, but after raising 3 children through Grand View, MBMS, Mira Costa, AYSO, flag football, MB Basketball, MB Little League, a decade of dance classes and lacrosse I think it is not unreasonable to make the statement that if systemic racism existed in Manhattan Beach I would have witnessed it at least once or twice in the last 20 years.

In keeping with that spirit, I think the city council has struck a reasonable balance with its handling of the Bruce's Beach issue to date. The situation was explored in depth, suggestions were made in earnest, reviewed judiciously and awareness by the *current* citizenry has been raised. Further, I believe the establishment of permanent monuments will help to continue to promulgate the awareness of wrongs committed by residents/a city council that no longer play any role in Manhattan Beach. This form of acknowledgement shows that the City understands its past and that there is no place for such behavior *moving forward*.

And move forward is what we need to do.

In my opinion that means *sincere acknowledgement, not an ongoing apology*. The latter not only doesn't allow Manhattan Beach to look forward but prevents those who have been wronged from performing the act of forgiveness--should they too wish to do so--and perpetuates a two-side battle instead of a common understanding. The country has been pulled apart in the last few years for a variety of reasons and the only way we are going to come back together as a people will be by cities like Manhattan Beach demonstrating that we can overcome such powerful and contentious issues and move on *together*.

Thank you for your time and your thoughtful handling of this situation to date.

b

Tree Section Resident  
Occasional Typer Of The TL;DR Letter To City

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Steve Guidone <sguidonedds@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 6:16 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach.

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I was a resident and business owner in Manhattan Beach for 40 years. I down sized and moved to El Segundo. I hate to see the BLM movement bully beautiful communities and try to hold them responsible for other people's actions from a different time. I heard that somewhere in history, I had a very distant relative that was put in jail for stealing back in the day in Italy. Should I be punished and be responsible today for what he did a hundred years ago? Should all Japanese and German Americans be held accountable and punished for what their ancestors did in the 1940's. I don't think so.....that makes sense. Come on people.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ellie Heffernan <esh7@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:41 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BB Resolutions

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Mayor Hadley you kept everyone right on track!! (clap, clap)

Please NO APOLOGIES for the wrong done; an acknowledgement is fine. We didn't do it.

After 60+ years living in MB I dislike tax dollars being spent frivolously; why not fix our streets and make more parking at the beach instead?

Name it Bruce's Parking. (money set aside for art.....)

It was difficult watching from 6 pm to midnight----had to miss the closing. Council Meetings shouldn't be marathons, one gets punch drunk

just trying to keep up, but I'm glad we can move on. hopefully.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kimberly Burton <kimberlyblue@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:30 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**Dear Manhattan Beach City Council:**

**I am an attorney who has lived in Manhattan Beach for sixteen years. I greatly value and respect our community and all of my neighbors. I do not want to leave our city vulnerable to possible future litigation or for it to be nationally known as a racist city by giving an apology. As such, I PREFER AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY.**

**Kindest Regards,**

**Kimberly Burton, Esq.**

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Bruce Kuch <bpkuch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:55 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Honorable City Council Members:

Thanks for reaching closure Tuesday night.

Regarding your April 5 determination:

1. Do not issue an apology.
2. An "acknowledgement" is most appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce & Pamela Kuch  
Manhattan Beach Residents for 34 years

## **Martha Alvarez**

---

**From:** Michael Williams <michael\_4761@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:48 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB Council Results on BB Task Force

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**No apology. They had their say.**

**Resident 34 years.**

**JMW**

**address and**

**phone on request**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kim S <kasalzer5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:45 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I prefer an Acknowledgement and not an Apology. I've been a resident in MB a total of 23 yrs: 1990-1996 and 2004-present.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** John MacEachern <johnnymac123@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 9:09 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

WE PREFER AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY. John and Ann MacEachern, 540 4th Street Manhattan Beach. 54 year resident. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Gay Crowell <gaycrowell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:36 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I've been a resident of Manhattan Beach since 1948. I'm sick and tired of people who are stirring the pot trying to start race wars. We are not racist, and just because some crackpots keep saying we are does not make it so. Enough!

Regards,  
Gay Crowell  
1126-18th St

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Marvin Hixson <marvinhixson@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:35 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council,

I have three comments,

1. Thank you for looking forward and not backwards
2. As an owner and resident since 1973, **"I PREFER AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND NOT AN APOLOGY"**
3. Ex mayor Howorth and G. Fournell need to re think their logic. If a no means yes and a yes means yes. Then everyone is the nasty "R" word. Circular thinking at its best.

Best Regards,  
Marv Hixson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** aussietp310 <aussietp310@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:34 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgment Not Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To The Honorable Mayor and City Council,  
I prefer an acknowledgment, not an apology.

Sincerely,  
Terrell Brodnax, 30 year resident.  
Trish Pietrzak, 21 year resident and business owner.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Tom Rogers <tjr2nd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

CC-

I prefer an acknowledgment and not an apology! Mb resident for 52 years Regards, Thomas Rogers

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** CityOfManhattanBeach@citymb.info on behalf of City of Manhattan Beach  
<CityOfManhattanBeach@citymb.info>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 3:19 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Thank you for your handling of Bruce's Beach issue

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Message submitted from the <City of Manhattan Beach> website.

**Site Visitor Name:** Lynn Stevenson  
**Site Visitor Email:** kineticpx@aol.com

As a 20-year resident of Manhattan Beach, I wanted to thank you for not allowing the current negative climate in the country to influence your decision regarding the Bruce's Beach issue, and handling it the right way. I have always experienced MB to be welcoming to all, and never seen any negative actions toward blacks or people of other races. My neighbors include people of different races, and all coexist just fine. Many people have lost property due to eminent domain. Is the city supposed to return land lost to all of their descendants? it's sad this family lost their land, just as it's sad for all the others who have. been displaced by eminent domain. I support everything you agreed upon. Thank you for not letting your residents down. I appreciate every one of you!  
Thank you, Lynn



### CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

CITY ENOTIFICATION

(310) 802-5000

CityofManhattanBeach@citymb.info

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH** 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Office Hours: M-Th 7:30 AM-5:30 PM | Fridays 7:30 AM-4:30 PM | Not Applicable to Public Safety

Reach Manhattan Beach Here for you 24/7, use our click and fix it app

Download the mobile app now



## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Jon Chaykowski <rideformbef@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:51 PM  
**To:** Mark Leyman  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Renaming the park called "Bruce's Beach"

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mark,

I understand from the Council meeting that you are in charge of the task to create/design/wordsmith/erect two stonework signs for the park currently know as "Bruce's Beach".

Please take my comments below in consideration during your efforts.

Sincerely,  
Jon C.

P.S. I am "cc'ing this email to the Council members.

- - - -

My comments:

I have looked at the parks plus our City's website and found that every park in Manhattan Beach except ONE has a "Park/Parkette/Parkway" name. That exception is the park named "Bruce's Beach".

One letter in Beach Reporter stated, "the park is a monument to racial hatred ... because white supremacists won."

Wow! I do not know what he meant by his comment but when I drive/cycle along Highland and see the stonework sign, I have different thoughts and believe a name change is needed.

Regardless of opinions on sign, I STRONGLY believe the park NEEDS TO BE RENAMED. The location now is a park AND two blocks away from the beach. So, it is NOT A BEACH and should not be named "... BEACH." It should have a "park" name. AND, the park's name should be in the stonework at the top of this park. The second stonework sign regarding eminent domain action and the park would be best located near the Lifeguard building.

As I suggested in an earlier email to the City Council, "Reflection Park" would be a good name for this park. That name could suggest giving serious thought to our lives, other people and more.

NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME for the park be renamed - different than "Bruce's Beach". Remember, we should recognize that there were 18 families that sold 30 parcels that went into the making of this park. Some of those families do not wish to be (nor should be) slighted by a naming that is all about one family.

Please take this opportunity, which may not come again, to get a good name for this PARK.

Again, I suggest "Reflection Park".

Thanks, in advance.

Jon C.

\*\*\*\*\* NOTE: This email may contain PRIVILEGED and CONFIDENTIAL information intended only for communication to the specific individual(s) or entity(ies) named as addressee. If you know or believe that you are not an intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any unauthorized dissemination or copying of this email, or the information contained in it, is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone or email and delete the message.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Nicola Voorhees <nikki.bv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 11:47 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am interested to know the results of Tuesday's meeting. I was unable to attend the meeting. Thank you for any information you can provide. Sincerely, Nikki Voorhees  
I live at 511 6th St., Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lori Ford <lori@gumtreela.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 1:13 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Jill Lamkin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Lights on the Pier

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello Honorable City Council,

My name is Lori Ford, I own Gum Tree downtown Manhattan Beach, and I am the current Vice President of the DBPA. I'm writing today to express my support for keeping the lights on the pier white all year round.

The classic look of beautiful white lights is timeless, fits the character of our beautiful pier, and enhances the pier and downtown area beautifully at night. Changing colored lights, in my opinion, just doesn't fit with our downtown aesthetic.

Please consider keeping our classic twinkle lights on the pier white all year round.

Thank you,

Lori Ford

[www.gumtreela.com](http://www.gumtreela.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Stephanie Caridad <stephanielcaridad@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 5:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Favor of an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley, Mayor Pro Tem Stern, City Council Member Napolitano, City Council Member Montgomery, and City Council Member Franklin,

I write to encourage the City Council to adopt a Resolution of Apology to the Bruce Family and for the City's action in the 1920s in regards to Bruce's Beach.

I encourage you to be leaders for the city and its residents, to move beyond numbers games and pre-determined opinions, and to act in favor of what's best for Manhattan Beach.

Doing the best thing for Manhattan Beach does not just mean protecting the City's legal interests. That is the job of the City Attorney, who has determined that an apology will not bring legal vulnerability to the city.

Doing the best thing for Manhattan Beach does not just mean protecting the City's financial health, though in this case, this decision is in fact cost neutral. An apology does not hold the City to an opening of its coffers.

The best thing for Manhattan Beach is to live up to the principles and values that we want to define us as a neighborhood. When we raise children in this city, they are taught that to be their best self, they acknowledge wrongdoing, and they apologize. The City, in its long history, was part of a miscarriage of justice to the Bruce family and other Black Americans. Remorse, not neutral acknowledgement, is crucial to move forward in our history.

In issuing an apology, Manhattan Beach would be the 4th city in America to apologize for racism in its past. We would be among the first, a leader, in what will be an increasing number of cities taking a similar step towards expressing remorse and re-committing to the neighborly compassion we all value.

It has been an honor to serve with my fellow residents and Councilmembers Stern and Napolitano - a group that was engaged, thoughtful, dedicated to our city - on the Bruce's Beach Task Force. I urge the City Council to give weight to the work completed by those you chose to serve the City. We 15 stand unanimously, with hundreds others next us, asking for the City to take the step of an Apology together. I hope Manhattan Beach can be the leader it has the potential to be.

Best,

Stephanie Caridad  
Bruce's Beach Task Force Member

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** lynn mciver <lynnmciver90@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 4:49 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; lynn mciver  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce"s Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

NO to APOLOGY...We are NOT guilty of what happened 100 years ago.History is History; we are trying to learn from mistakes made. Let's go forward. Lynn and Tom McIver

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Don Spencer <donspencer.art@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 4:32 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Do not bolster unhealthy belief

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Yes, skin color remains important – but only to those who have an emotional (and possibly a political) need for it to seem important. Measured by social harmony, this psychological condition is an unhealthy dysfunction.

An “apology” for what skin-color “families” believed 100 years ago bolsters the idea that it is important to maintain an empathy with skin-color “families” today. It is time for us to diagnose this request as the fundamentally racist thing that it is - and rid ourselves of this primitive foolishness.

Do not cater to those who spread this virus, and someday we will be rid of this disease.

Don Spencer  
3901 Crest Drive  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
310 546 7913

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Janet Volpe <janetvolpe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 4:26 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members-

My husband and I are 30 year residents of Manhattan beach.

Please be very serious this week and confirm an acknowledgment rather than an apology regarding Bruce's Beach. This eminent domain decision was made 100 years ago, long before any of us was born. While wrong, we did not participate in this decision. Therefore, we should not be apologizing.

We know many people in Manhattan Beach and do not know anyone who wishes harm to others nor is a racist. This situation in our microcosm seems to reflect the madness that has taken over our country. The average citizen wants nothing more than to be left alone to live his or her life.

Please lead the way out of this by concluding the Bruce's Beach chapter with the original plan: acknowledgment with NO anti-racism pledge, and current history report to be looked at and edited for factual content by our MB Historical Society. In addition, all history/videos should be removed from the City website the historical society has completed the review.

Yours sincerely,  
Janet Volpe Vailokaitis

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Susan Goodlerner <susan@drgoodlerner.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 4:25 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Attn all City Council Members:

The history of the city of Manhattan Beach seizing the beach front resort of the Bruce family is shameful. As a 30-year resident of this city, I and many other citizens feel doing nothing is not an option.

A recent New York Times article quoted Mayor Hadley: "I do not want to apologize, do you?" This sentiment does not reflect my point of view or that of many Manhattan Beach citizens. As our mayor, Ms. Hadley has the responsibility to speak on behalf of all our city's residents. Recognizing and even apologizing for discriminatory acts of the past are the first steps in creating anti-racist policies now. Mayor Hadley's refusal to address this issue and the council's disbanding of the Bruce's Beach Task Force calls into question the council's commitment to serve all residents and help our city chart a brighter future. The city council needs to address the issue in a manner that shows we as a city have changed our attitude.

Last year on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, Angela Merkel made a moving speech in which she expressed a "deep sense of shame for the barbaric crimes that were committed by Germans." We can all learn from how the Germans have confronted and moved beyond their history.

The world is changing; correcting past wrongs is the morally right thing to do.

Susan Goodlerner MD  
Manhattan Beach resident since 1986

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jen Jenkins Dohner <jendohner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 3:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Steve Napolitano  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The Way Forward for MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council Members-  
CC: Office of the Manhattan Beach City Clerk,  
LA County Supervisor, Janice Hahn

First, I want to address a piece of news I heard that a bottle was thrown through the front window of Council Member Franklin's house early Thursday morning. Council Member Franklin, I want you to know that I'm so very sorry that happened to you and your family. I can't believe someone would do that, and I imagine it was a frightening experience for all involved. I dearly hope this was a random act and not one that was politically motivated, but in any case, I have contacted various leaders across the coalition supporting the cause I write about today asking them to reaffirm their commitments to non-violence. Anonymous acts like this are cowardly, menacing, toxic, and do not belong in civil discourse. For the record, I also think anonymous letters deeply insinuating attribution of this act when that information remains unknown are similarly cowardly, menacing, toxic, and uncivil, not to mention incredibly divisive.

By apologizing for what happened, I do not believe I have opened myself to any liability on the matter. I don't imagine my apology makes me a suspect in the crime. In fact, I believe it separates me from anyone who might wish harm to Council Member Franklin or his property. It is in the same vein that I write to advocate for Council Member Hildy Stern's version of the Resolution of Apology from the Manhattan Beach City Council to the Bruce family and other Black families for the wrongs done to them nearly 100 years ago. To apologize is simply to say "I'm sorry." To be "sorry" means to be filled with sorrow. It expresses the empathy, the humanity, and the compassion of saying "this pains me too." It does not necessarily mean to be "at fault" or to "admit guilt," though one could make an argument to that effect whether an apology is issued or not.

The Manhattan Beach Board of Trustees of the 1920's was the predecessor of the Manhattan Beach City Council of today. Both have had the power and discretion to make important decisions for the City of Manhattan Beach at large. As such, they are part of the same longstanding institution. When an institution takes up and perpetuates racist policies, that is called "institutional (also known as "systemic") racism." Part of what can perpetuate racism is the denial that it exists. I am grateful that the members of our City Council appear to be willing to acknowledge and condemn the fact that the policies enacted and the actions taken not only happened but were motivated by racism and, as such, were wrong.

Unfortunately, however, if you're willing to acknowledge that something happened and condemn it as wrong, but yet make a point to omit an actual apology; that is akin to saying "Yes, it happened, and yes, it was wrong, but, no... we're not really all that bothered by it." Again, you don't have to be at fault to be bothered by a thing like this. You just have to be human. Sadly, this issue seems to have become a bit of a local Rorschach test for racism. People fall into two buckets: those who want to cleanly break with the past and those who seek to defend or conceal it. The two refrains heard from a loud minority of the public commenters at last week's council meeting "We have nothing to apologize for," and "Manhattan Beach is not racist!" are in that second bucket. This stance, rife with white fragility, refuses to acknowledge that vestiges of racism in MB's past extend into the current day. It is akin to saying that nothing bad ever happened or happens at all. I am saddened by the fact that a couple of you did a version of this by pointing to families of color who claim not to have experienced no racism in our town. Not only could these exceptions to the rule be examples of internalized racism, but they just simply have no bearing on the experiences of the Black families living here 100 years ago,

nor are they respectful to the lived experience of the majority of commenters of color who interact with our city today.

In Proverbs 28:13 of the Bible it says “People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.” I believe that attempts to deny, minimize, whitewash, or “balance” the truth of this history will have the opposite of the intended effect. While I’m heartened by MB residents having rallied around the Clinton family and the Black Sands Peace Paddle in support of Justin Howze, the City did not organize these events, so they do not provide cover against the charge of institutional or systemic racism. When the land ownership history of Bruce’s Beach is discussed, it’s rarely mentioned that only ten white land owners held those 25 lots and the only structures on the land belonged to black families. A white land developer reimbursed for his re-zoned batch of lots is a different thing altogether than a black family threatened, harassed, and forced from their home. I’ve noticed that no current version of a city resolution mentions the fact that a cross was burned on the hill above a black-owned home. Please, for a moment, let it sink in that *a cross was burned* on the hill above a black-owned home, here in Manhattan Beach. When I learned this one simple fact, it changed how I perceived all the other actions, big and small, taken against the Black residents of Manhattan Beach at that time. This is because they were done against a backdrop of intimidation and terror associated with the KKK and amidst the very real threat of unspeakable acts that organization might have also been willing to commit. By neglecting to apologize on behalf of its own institution in favor of acknowledgement and condemnation, the City Council will only achieve a headline that reads “City of Manhattan Beach Refuses to Apologize for Its Racist Past,” thus perpetuating that racist past into this very day.

Sometimes, when I’ve asked one of my kids to apologize to the other, it is for pain they did not personally intend to cause. We focus on the impact to the injured party and not the intent of the one who caused the harm, and an apology is still given. It’s also standard practice in our society to apologize to people for hardships you sympathize with but had nothing at all to do with causing. Think of what you might say to a friend upon hearing of a loss or an unfavorable health diagnosis. You might say something like “Gosh, I’m so sorry!” In that situation, a natural next step might be to find out if there’s something you can do to ameliorate the pain or right the situation. A compassionate person would do this without attributing fault or blame. 2 Corinthians 7:11 reads “See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter.”

If indeed as an institution, the Manhattan Beach City Council of 2021 truly wishes to “turn from” its racist past, and “prove (itself) innocent in this matter”, a result that seems desirable and important to all residents; then the logical next step would be to lay out positive intentions for the future. I was disappointed to see both the Forums Committee and Task Force at large disbanded as these would have been perfectly adequate and relatively low-cost vessels for ongoing commitment, awareness, and education on equity and inclusion. Even if you do make an apology, without some attempt to set things right, or at the very least, ensure that they never happen again, you are essentially saying, “It happened, it was wrong, and we feel bad about it, but we’re not going to really try to change anything except park decor.”

In conversations with friends regarding this topic, we’ve explored meaningful solutions like monetary and land compensation, or the establishment of a historical museum on the former Bruce property, which could collect a donation income for the descendents of the displaced families. While I support the consideration of solutions like these, I sense this level of expenditure is really what all the faux outrage is designed and manufactured to avoid. In the grand scheme of things, an apology and ongoing awareness education is minimal compared to that. I understand the desire to mitigate risk, but pursuing that to the neglect of what’s right seems like a recipe for a public relations disaster of national media proportions. Your own City Attorney has said that the fact of an apology does not in itself give rise to a liability exposure, so why bow to a small group of loud voices? I counted the e- and live comments from the last meeting and those supporting the Task Force outnumbered its detractors two to one.

Please. Make an apology: a real one, like the one authored by Hildy Stern, that empathizes with the targets of our racist past, and includes a detailed description of how your institution will ensure that it never happens again. Promise and deliver real action instead of paying empty lip service to the problem. Future efforts to raise

awareness can reference past resolutions and examples of positive and inclusive community developments, but must also build on those things to have institutional impact. The defensiveness and fragility of so many in our town on this issue is evidence that ongoing work in this area is sorely needed. When you know better, you do better; so please do better. Make the apology. Reconstitute the Forums Subcommittee at the very least. Give our city a way forward. It's time.

Sincerely,

**Jen Jenkins Dohner**

20 Year Resident

Manhattan Beach



**JEN JENKINS DOHNER**

TEXT: 310.780.1780

ArtWithHeartByJenksy on Etsy



## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Laura Kiely <laurakiely@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 3:19 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for an apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I support either Hildy Stern's or Steve Napolitano's apology, not Joe Franklin's acknowledgement and condemnation, for the racism that motivated eminent domain proceedings against the Bruce family.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Laura Kiely  
Manhattan Beach resident since 1994  
310 503-6245

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jill Lamkin <jill@downtownmanhattanbeach.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 2:45 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Mike Simms  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology Letter re. Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am on vacation and just had time to sit down and read this week's Beach Reporter. I was shocked to find The Lamkin Family among the list of supporters of a letter of apology from the City of Manhattan Beach.

Sam, my 18-year old son would like to provide his support to this cause, but the rest of the Lamkin Family is not making any public comment regarding the appropriateness of an apology letter from the City of Manhattan Beach. I apologize for any confusion this may have caused.



### Jill Lamkin

Executive Director, Downtown Manhattan Beach Business + Professional Association

PHONE 310-379-9901 | CELL 310-261-5555 | [jill@downtownmanhattanbeach.com](mailto:jill@downtownmanhattanbeach.com)

[www.downtownmanhattanbeach.com](http://www.downtownmanhattanbeach.com)



## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Joan and Ed <edandjoan@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 3:07 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilmembers:

I write in support of a full apology, as recommended by “The Daily Breeze”. Actually, as they and our County Supervisor Janet Hahn say, we owe the Bruce family more than just an apology. Apologies have been issued at the governmental level before without inviting lawsuits, as opponents have feared (as if that were a valid reason to evade trying to rectify to a minor degree a past wrongdoing!) The U.S. government has issued an apology to the Japanese-Americans interned during WWII and to the survivors of the infamous Tuskegee experiment. Apologies have also been issued by the governments of Australia and Japan.

Opponents of an apology, in addition to expressing fears of engendering lawsuits, feel that focus on the Bruce’s Beach injustice is racially divisive and would label Manhattan Beach as a racist city. Sorry—that horse is already out of the stable. Newspapers as far away as “The New York Times” are painting my city as precisely that and largely because of the City Council’s waffling on whether or not to issue an apology. Let’s prove them wrong, step up to the plate, and take this anti-racism step. I’ve lived in Manhattan Beach for 35 years and would like to be proud of my city.

Best regards,

Joan Engelhaupt  
1751 Gates Ave.  
Manhattan Beach



This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.  
[www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Wolfe, Bob <mail.wolfe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 2:52 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; hstem@citymb.info; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item #4 - April 6, 2021 Virtual Council Meeting - Bruce's Beach Resolution of Apology  
**Attachments:** Bruce's-Beach-ltr.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilmembers and City Staff,

Attached is a .pdf of a letter for your consideration in conjunction with the April 6, 2021 meeting regarding Bruce's Beach. As I explain in the letter, I support the alternative resolutions proposed by Councilmember Stern and Councilmember Napolitano.

I also provide the Council with one very specific example of an apology by the State of California for a racially motivated government action, which apology is codified in Government Code section 8722, as signed into law by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Wolfe

# ROBERT S. WOLFE

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April 3, 2021

Councilmembers, City Manager, City Clerk & City Attorney  
City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Re: City Council Virtual Meeting, April 6, 2021  
Item #4 – Consider Bruce’s Beach Task Force Recommendation 1.4  
(Resolution of Apology) & Alternative Options

I write to urge the Council to adopt either Councilmember Hildy Stern’s alternative resolution of apology or the alternative resolution offered by Councilmember Steve Napolitano. Both alternative resolutions contain two key elements: (1) they expressly acknowledge the racially motivated wrongs committed by Manhattan Beach to Black homeowners and visitors to Bruce’s Beach, and (2) they formally apologize for such wrongs while pledging to promote racial equality and inclusion in the future.

A formal apology is a critical element to any actions undertaken by the Manhattan Beach City Council and whether, as Councilmember Napolitano’s alternative resolution asserts, “[t]he Manhattan Beach of today is not the Manhattan Beach of one hundred years ago.”

Are we? Sadly, such an assertion is belied by the two-page anonymously sourced “Concerned Residents of MB” *Beach Reporter* advertisement from March 11, 2021. Some of the language used in the ongoing public discourse since then is the antithesis of a community which is “loving, tolerant and welcoming to all.”

This makes an express apology more important than ever. Under these circumstances, Councilmember Napolitano’s alternative resolution may be more of an aspirational statement of our hopes, rather than an expression of current realities. There still is much work to be done.

There is well-settled precedent to support an apology rather than a mere acknowledgment of past wrongs. As Councilmember Napolitano has pointed out, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act, formally apologizing to Japanese Americans who were interned in camps during World War II.

Let me provide other, equally cogent examples of a formal apology by a governmental body.

Beginning in 1929 and continuing through the early 1930s, federal, state and local authorities began a concerted effort to forcibly repatriate persons of Mexican ancestry, including legal residents and even U.S. citizens, to Mexico. Consequently, more than 400,000 legal Californians were pushed out of the U.S. and into Mexico against their will.

It's a little-known part of our history, euphemistically called the "Great Migration," but it in reality was a form of ethnic cleansing with the resultant family separation, property loss, and deprivation of fundamental constitutional rights. By 1936, L.A. had lost nearly one-third of its Latino residents.

In 2005, the California Legislature enacted Government Code sections 8721 and 8722 to formally apologize for these "illegal" activities. (Stats.2005, c. 663 (S.B. 670.)

Here is what Govt. Code, § 8722 says, in its entirety:

"§ 8722. **Apology.** The State of California apologizes to those individuals described in Section 8721 for the fundamental violations of their basic civil liberties and constitutional rights committed during the period of illegal deportation and coerced emigration. The State of California regrets the suffering and hardship those individuals and their families endured as a direct result of the government sponsored Repatriation Program of the 1930s."

The apology legislation was enacted in 2005 and signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. As directed by statute, the State erected a commemorative plaque at El Pueblo in Downtown Los Angeles to describe what happened and why it was wrong. (Govt. Code, §8723.) The plaque contains the state's public apology in English and Spanish.

The world did not end with this legislation. There has been no ensuing litigation or damage actions by descendants of the original victims.

## ROBERT S. WOLFE

Re: Manhattan Beach City Council Virtual Meeting, April 6, 2021

Page 3

In like fashion, the California Supreme Court in 2015 issued a published opinion to expressly acknowledge the court's "grievous wrong" and "sordid chapter" in 1890 when it refused to allow a Chinese-American lawyer to practice law in California simply because he was born in China. "Even if we cannot undo history, we can acknowledge it." (*In re Hong Yen Chang on Admission* (2015) 60 Cal.4th 1169 [posthumously admitting Chinese-American applicant to California State Bar].)

In 1993, the 103rd Congress passed a joint resolution apologizing to Native Hawaiians for the U.S. role in overthrowing the Kingdom of Hawaii on January 17, 1893.

President George H.W. Bush wrote a letter to the Japanese-American WWII internees and their families: "In . . . offering a sincere apology, your fellow Americans have, in a very real sense, renewed their traditional commitment to the ideals of freedom, equity and justice."

These are but a few examples of the use and power of an apology. The current Manhattan Beach city councilmembers obviously did not vote back in the 1920s to institute an inverse condemnation actions against the Black property owners in Bruce's Beach.

But the Manhattan Beach councilmembers are voting today. And they, like Manhattan Beach, and indeed the entire South Bay, will be judged not only by their actions, but also by failure to act. There is a clear, moral obligation to do so.

While I now reside in Hermosa Beach, I have lived in Manhattan Beach for nearly 25 years and grew up in the area, including attending Inglewood High School. I am an appellate attorney, and have worked for some two decades as a supervising attorney for the California Court of Appeal. I now write and lecture on L.A. legal history and am a board member of the leading legal history nonprofit in the State of California.

I urge you to join public figures like Presidents Reagan and Bush and Governor Schwarzenegger – no radicals they – to issue a long-deserved flat-out apology, without qualification. Let's do it not for anyone else's sake, but for our own.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Bob Wolfe

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Garry Viohl <sophie.viohl@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 2:32 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council,

My name is Sophie Viohl and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family and other affected property owners and their families and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders. An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred. This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sophie Viohl

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Patricia Torrey <trish.torrey@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 12:56 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Cc:** Trish Torrey (danatrish@aol.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Request for Apology and helpful link regarding past political apologies

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members and City Manager,

I am writing this e-mail to show my support for the community of Manhattan Beach by requesting that the Manhattan Beach City Council show their ***courage, strength and humility*** by adopting an ***apology*** for the abuse of City power in regards to the acquisition of Bruce's Beach over 100 years ago.

I am saddened that this is a "decision" that needs to be made as opposed to a ***privilege*** you have as ***stewards of the City of Manhattan Beach***.

I realize you have all been inundated with e-mails and I hope the following article can help you view your decision from a historical perspective:

<https://www.justsecurity.org/75340/its-never-too-late-to-say-im-sorry-sovereign-apologies-over-the-years/>

When students read about the history of Manhattan Beach 100 years from now, what role do you want to play in that story?

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Riordan Torrey  
2400 John Street

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

[trish.torrey@me.com](mailto:trish.torrey@me.com)

(310) 739-0038 cell

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Drew Martin <speedylad49@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 12:24 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern,

The amount of time it has taken to even consider taking action for the original owners of Bruce's Beach is wild and denying them just an apology and continuing to spread falsification would be ridiculous. So I stand for the apology on behalf of all of the South Bay and following through with this urgent matter would be a step in the right direction.

Yee,

Drew Martin

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mike Simpson <mike.simpson@macromicro.us>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 11:41 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Acknowledgement by City of Manhattan Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City of Manhattan Beach Council Members,

I am a Manhattan Beach resident since 1988. In connection with the Bruce's Beach controversy, I am in favor of the City of Manhattan Beach passing a Resolution of Acknowledgement, but not an apology with its implication of guilt and attendant liabilities that could impact current and future residents of Manhattan Beach. The Resolution should cite only corroborated historical facts and express sympathy while making it clear that it is not an admission of guilt. It should include a re-affirmation that today Manhattan Beach is a welcoming and tolerant city opposed to any acts of racism or bigotry toward any people.

The dictionary definition of apology is:

"A written or spoken expression of one's regret, remorse, or sorrow for having insulted, failed, injured, or wronged another: e.g. *He demanded an apology from me for calling him a crook.*"

It is arguably not possible for a person or group of people that did not commit an offense to apologize for an offense committed by another person or group of people.

Many people don't understand the legal difference between expressing regret through an acknowledgement versus an apology. This confusion is understandable, and potentially includes some, perhaps most of those who agreed for their names to be included in the double-page ad in the April 1, 2021 Beach Reporter. The spirit of those named in the ad is laudable, and I believe shared by most residents of Manhattan Beach, including myself.

The best way I can put this is that if in the Beach Reporter ad wherever the word "apology" occurs it was replaced with "acknowledgement" where it's a noun and "acknowledge" when a verb; and "apologize for its failings" was changed to "acknowledge its prior failings", it would be an ad to which I would add my name.

Best,

Mike Simpson  
101 N Dianthus St  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
+1 (310) 567-9990 mobile

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Danny Olivas <jdo@oms117.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 10:19 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear leaders,

As a resident of MB, I'm writing to express my support for our city issuing an apology for the acts committed by the former leaders of our city, in the actions taken against the Bruce family to obtain the land now known as Bruce's Beach.

Let's be clear, no one here today participated in the actions taken in the 1920's. However, it is undeniable that those actions were then, and remain today, an injustice inflicted on a family, and generations thereafter, based on race. To think that the passage of time has removed racial bias from the community is naive at best. We stand today at the crossroads of an opportunity to acknowledge the pain these actions caused, as well as publicly recognize the role our community played in that unjust past. To do nothing and say nothing can leave no doubt in the mind of our residents, and the world in general, that Manhattan Beach remains a place where only certain people are welcome. Inconvenience should not be the determining factor for doing what is right.

I moved my family to MB in 2010 after serving our country for 12 years as a US astronaut. I am an American who is proud of my Mexican heritage as well as my brown skin. We are a mixed-race family. Through our community involvement in Boys Scouts, American Martyrs, Costa sports, and arts, we have actively engaged in this community to make it a better place for all of us. I can tell you from first-hand experience, that racism remains alive and well in some within our community. Please don't squander this opportunity to send a clear message to all: What we were before, is not who we are today, and not who we will be in the future.

I am Manhattan Beach. I am so sorry for what my city did to the Bruce family. I can't right the wrong that was done, but I can say "I'm sorry" and pledge to do my part to make amends, and fight to never let it happen again.

Thank you for receiving my input and hope that all of us have the courage to do what we can to heal.

Danny

--

John "Danny" Olivas, PhD, PE  
310-926-4821



[www.oms117.com](http://www.oms117.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jay Simpson <dirgraphic@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 9:43 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We recommend the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach.

Whereas the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were likely motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.

People that live in MB today were not responsible for misdeeds of the past. Condemnation, yes, but no apology should be issued.

Jay and Barbra Simpson  
Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Liz Glozman <lizglozman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 8:28 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I support an apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council members,

I fully support an apology regarding Bruce's Beach. I think it is a necessary step to moving forward. Please allow us all to move forward and do the right thing.

Liz Glozman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Joanne Hadley <joanne@hadleybiz.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 8:48 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] An Apology- all upside, no downside. Right to do.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor & Councilmembers,  
Thank you for your commitment to our town, our reputation and justice for all.

Please continue with our issuance of an apology for the injustice done that still hangs over us. Anything else falls short. Those who oppose an apology continue to push a false narrative and unsubstantiated claims. An apology, vs an acknowledgment, has no actual downside.

And now, think how you'd feel if someone says, "Gee, sure, our town caused you (yes you, because it was done to be your ancestors) harm, but we refuse to apologize". It's easy to do when the harm is to a stranger...but they are harmed (even to this day) just the same.

Our children are watching and will read about what we did...hoping they will be proud, not disappointed in what you decide.

Thank you,  
Joanne Hadley  
Bret Hadley

"There is always light

If we are brave enough to see it

If we are brave enough to be it."

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Jenkins <mjenkins1230@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 8:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Mayor Hadley and Council:

I regret that this discussion has been reduced to a debate between an “apology” and an “acknowledgement,” when what we really need in this community is a continuing dialogue on equity and inclusion. The anonymous messaging generated in response to the Task Force report certainly signals the need to reconcile sharp divisions among residents on the subject of race.

Some people contend that an apology could create liability. Liability flows from the act that causes the underlying harm, not an expression of remorse towards those who were harmed. If there is any liability for a 100-year old act, which seems doubtful, it is for the unlawful act itself, not the apology. If any of you doubt that, please ask the City Attorney to provide an opinion in the public meeting, citing to authority.

By accepting the history report, the Council has already acknowledged that the City committed a wrong when it abused its eminent domain powers with racist intent and a pretextual public purpose. That ship has sailed.

The bible teaches us that healing comes from repentance for our sins, not acknowledgement. As the custodians of our government, you are uniquely situated to repudiate past actions of our government. President Reagan did so in 1988 when he signed legislation apologizing to Japanese-Americans for their forced internment during World War II. Your community is counting on you to rise to the occasion.

Mike Jenkins

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 29, 2021, at 10:55 AM, Jayne Horowitz <[jaynehorowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jaynehorowitz@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Mike

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Christi Hogin <Christi.Hogin@bbklaw.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 7:08 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I'm sorry

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am sorry that our city's history, like American history, has been marked by racism. Aren't you?

I believe that we, as a community and a country, can move past that history. Don't you?

An apology by this council is your opportunity to say "there's a new sheriff in town", that this government distinguishes itself from that past.

Please do it. It is the right thing to do.

Word parsing over "apology" and "acknowledgement" makes you look petty and unwilling to confront the shameful act of our forebearers.

Please rise to the occasion. Be the leaders we elected you to be and show our children that the truth matters and that redemption is always worth pursuing.

Christi



[Christi Hogin](#)  
Of Counsel  
christi.hogin@bbklaw.com  
T: (310) 220-2173  
[www.BBKlaw.com](http://www.BBKlaw.com) [in](#) [t](#)

*Stay at home and public health orders issued in multiple counties across the U.S. require our offices to be physically closed. Because all staff are working remotely, all documents (including correspondence, pleadings, and discovery) will be served via e-mail until further notice. Because we may not receive regular mail or other deliveries during this period of time, please e-mail copies of anything you send by regular mail or delivery. Send all e-served documents in your case to the e-mail addresses for any Best Best & Krieger LLP attorney who has appeared in your case, or who has communicated with you by e-mail on your matter.*

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Wendy Zacuto <wendy.zacuto@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 4:54 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for the Resolution of Apology to the Bruce family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To the City Council and Residents of Manhattan Beach,  
I begin my career as a teacher in the Manhattan Beach School District and moved to Westchester/Playa del Rey when I started a family. Manhattan Beach is and has always been part of our family life, and we spend time and money in your community. When I retired as an educator, I became a consultant who recommends schools for children and have spoken highly of your schools, especially those which address the needs of special students.

The recent discussion about Bruce's Beach and follow-up to the tragic history of the beach and the Bruce family have grown not from a predisposed antipathy towards Manhattan Beach but rather from an awareness of the systemic racism that permeates our country from every vantage point. It is our job as citizens to right our historical wrongs. We in Los Angeles have to ensure that redlining is no longer in force; we all need to be sure that our lives support those among us who are not white when the color of skin is a benchmark for how freedoms are allotted.

It is by the grace of God that Manhattan Beach finds itself in a situation that allows it to so publically right the wrong, a wrong born out of our shameful past that in many ways continues the tradition of standing on the necks of others.

As a former MBUSD teacher, I wholeheartedly encourage your governing body to stand up tall for children, and for all other citizens, boldly displaying your willingness to lead in a manner that provides a model for preserving our freedoms.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Please know that we who enjoy your community are watching.

Wendy Zacuto  
Educational Consultant  
[www.wendyzacuto.com](http://www.wendyzacuto.com)

*Creating a safe and loving world ...*

Writing from the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Tongva People.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sharon Arias <sharonarias@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 3:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement & Condemnation; NO Apology!

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilpersons,

Please don't issue an unwarranted/unnecessary apology to further someone's political agenda and subject the city to liability and residents to ridicule! A simple acknowledgement and condemnation will suffice. It's time to move on.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Arias  
Manhattan Beach resident

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** William Arledge <wdarledge@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:49 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement vs Apology  
**Attachments:** City Council April 2.docx

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

April 2, 2021

Dear Council Members

The open issue of how to formally recognize injustices occurring generations ago at Bruce's Beach must surely be on your minds this week.

With quite obviously no mention of the word **acknowledgement** in this week's Beach Reporter article, I can't help but wonder if the majority of the good natured people who signed on to it were made aware of the issues surrounding the careful choice of words being considered.

However, clearly there are some people who feel a strong need to specifically use the term **apologize** for the past even though it inherently must imply an endless **burden of responsibility** for the future of Manhattan Beach, morally and otherwise. I strongly oppose this notion.

I have to believe that **honest acknowledgement, appropriate amends, and sincere regret** for past injustices must surely satisfy most reasonable people in **reconciling our City's distant past with its current vibrant civic culture**.

Please do not use this moment to create something of a permanently enshrined burden of guilt on our City, and by association, on our current and future residents by having the City formally apologize for injustice a century ago and then reading all about it in the national newspapers.

Respectfully

Bill Arledge 50 yr resident

April 2, 2021

Dear Council Members

The open issue of how to formally recognize injustices occurring generations ago at Bruce's Beach must surely be on your minds this week.

With quite obviously no mention of the word **acknowledgement** in this week's Beach Reporter article, I can't help but wonder if the majority of the good natured people who signed on to it were made aware of the issues surrounding the careful choice of words being considered.

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Respectfully

Bill Arledge 50 yr resident

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Kirsten Chen <kirsten.t.chen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:28 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement - NOT Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

Council must pass a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.

The "Resolution of Acknowledgment" must NOT include an "Anti-racism Pledge," as seen in Councilman Napolitano's Resolution.

I believe these kinds of pledges encroach in my civil liberties.

We have been residents of Manhattan Beach for nearly a decade. My children are bi-racial and we have NEVER sensed any racist sentiments in this community. In fact, this community is so welcoming, my children's race is treated no different as a personal characteristic than we treat someone by the color of their hair, or eyes or shoes. In other words, its a non-issue here!

It is only when I see the news, documentaries on race, and hear about other communities that I am reminded race is an issue in history and in other communities.

Look - we are taxpaying voting citizens here. Should I demand an apology or reparations for my tax dollars when my kids didn't receive an education due to COVID for many months? NO. Should we demand reparations and apology for the Asian Exclusion Act of CA? NO - I dont believe so - even if my husband and children are Chinese.

Respectfully,  
Kirsten Chen

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Richard McClure <mcclure.richard@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:26 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledge vs Apologize

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I was taken aback by the latest 2-pager in the Beach Reporter recommending that the City apologize for racist actions taken by our city approx 100 years ago. Totally unnecessary and potentially damaging, I believe, although I will leave the legal ramifications of this to others.

What's next? Do we apologize to Mexico? After the Mexican–American War of 1846–48, Mexico was forced to relinquish any claim to California to the United States. Do we apologize to Native Americans, who still suffer? (Native Americans still suffer higher rates of poverty, poor educational achievement, substandard housing, and higher rates of disease and illness. Native Americans continue to rank at or near the bottom of nearly every social, health, and economic indicator.)

Hold firm, Council. You were right in your original decision not to apologize, but instead recognize and acknowledge. Perfectly appropriate.

Richard McClure  
461 32 Street

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Atilio Santamaria <atiliogs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:15 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I'm a long time resident of Manhattan Beach.

I live on Lynngorve drive.

I would like to express my opinion of why the city owes an apology to the Bruce's.

First and foremost when people as a city took something from someone that was not in good faith and to this day said entity is profiting from that action it is just to acknowledge it. If an apology will simply make people feel like there's closure, that would take off so much pressure and anger so many feel. Think about it, once you have hurt someone and you apologize, the person you're apologizing to feels so much better. It isn't any different in this case.

The city which so long ago did something that didn't age well due to times becoming more accepting and inclusive, must do the right thing.

You can put an end to this. You can create a nicer environment by simply issuing an apology.

I stand with the residents who want a more inclusive city. If that's not what you want, I can't really say I am proud to live here.

It's about time and it's the right thing to do.

A. Santamaria  
1801 Lynngrove Dr

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jane Franklin <janehomemail@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:05 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

This issue is dividing the City and causing us to focus on bad things that happened in the past. We need to move forward and spend our energy on improving the moving the City forward. Focus on the City we have become and strive to make our City, better going forward. The past can not be undone.

Jane Franklin  
resident since 1974

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Launi Nathan <launirun@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear council members,

Please consider passing the Resolution of Acknowledgement and NOT an apology.

I have lived in Manhattan Beach for over 20 years and it saddens me to see this town so divided. Unfortunately, the past has had many wrongs. We live in different times. It's time to move forward.

Thank you for your service,

Ross and Launi Nathan

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gordon Williams <gordonwill047@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 12:29 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We are Bobbie and R. Gordon Williams at 1467 18th Street. We ask that you do not apologize for the action taken one hundred years ago.

Thank you, the Williams Family

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** bvbatbeach@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:55 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Proposals - April 6, 2021 City Agenda Item F.4.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I urge the Manhattan Beach City Council to adopt the Statement of Acknowledgment and Condemnation proposed by Council member Joe Franklin. It is appropriate at this time, and presents the least risk to the city regarding any potential future claims or actions of others.

For the reasons set forth in my email message to you of March 14, 2021 (copied below), I strongly urge you to reject any suggestion that the City of Manhattan Beach should apologize for the actions of others that occurred 100 years ago. Any such apology would be a very slippery slope, regardless of the rationale or "good" intentions that may prompt some to consider it.

I think an Acknowledgment and Condemnation is the best course the City can follow to try to put an end to this divisive discussion and seemingly endless debate, not to mention potential violence and civil disobedience. Please take steps to put an end to this debate.

Thank you for all you do for our great city.

Sincerely,

Bill von Behren  
Resident of MB for 40 years

-----Original Message-----

From: bvbatbeach@aol.com  
To: CityCouncil@citymb.info <CityCouncil@citymb.info> <CityCouncil@citymb.info>; cm@citymb.info <cm@citymb.info>  
Sent: Sun, Mar 14, 2021 2:30 pm  
Subject: BBTF Report and March 16, 2021 City Council Agenda Item 12

Dear Council Members,

I have read the Bruce's Beach Task Force's ("BBTF") report and recommendations. While I appreciate the efforts of the BBTF on this topic, I believe that it has essentially ignored the directions of the City Council regarding its charges and role surrounding this matter.

First, I do not believe it is the role of the BBTF to judge our community and imply that Manhattan Beach is a racist community. I disagree with any such suggestion. While there are certainly racist individuals in our community, as there are in every community, that does not mean that our city as a whole is racist. In fact, I believe that as a community, Manhattan Beach is an inclusive and understanding city and its residents are generally open minded and tolerant of all races and religions. So I take offense to any suggestion by the BBTF that the residents of Manhattan Beach, as a whole, are racists. And I believe that misguided premise has created a circumstance in which many of the so called BBTF "findings" are nothing more than unsupportable opinions of a few individuals, who are not well informed or in a position to judge our community as a whole. More importantly, with the exception of the BBTF co-chairs, none of the task force members have been elected by the residents of Manhattan Beach and have no right to speak on behalf of our city.

Second, the BBTF's suggestion that it remain an active group with the power to advise and assist our city employees and leaders in formulating future policy as to any city issue is an improper "power grab". The BBTF has been charged with a very limited purpose. How dare it attempt to perpetuate its role in matters for which it was not been authorized to act or

even express unwanted opinions. Again, most members of this task force are not elected officials and they should have no right or role in speaking for our fine city.

Third, please disregard any suggestion that the City of Manhattan Beach should apologize for any acts or conduct of some residents of this city who are long gone. What happened 90 years ago is not the responsibility of our current residents. And any apology in 2021 is a very slippery slope. I have no doubt that if there is any apology from the city at this time, that apology will be misinterpreted by others in the future, will be used as a sword against the city in a manner that may not even seem possible today, and will turn out to be a huge mistake. Just look at the well-intended efforts of the city back in 2006 to rename Bruce's Beach and erect a plaque to honor the Bruce family and the history of the park site. Today, those well intended efforts have been characterized as further examples of racism in Manhattan Beach, and the plaque has been labeled by some as a "monument to white supremacy". We may not be able to predict how future progressives or antagonists may characterize a 2021 apology from the city regarding Bruce's Beach, but I suggest you consider the possibilities of how any such apology may be spun or used against the city in the future, perhaps many years after you have completed your term in office. And please be mindful that any such apology is extremely dangerous, and will likely be used against the city in the future in ways that you probably cannot even imagine today. And any such apology may end up being a negative legacy for this Council if it chooses to surrender to social pressures from a few outspoken residents to placate the views of a significant minority of our residents. Please reject any suggestion that the city must apologize for conduct that occurred long before any of us were born.

Finally, on the subject of reparations, I want to remind the City that the payments made to the Bruce family in 1929 was a result of a negotiated settlement of an eminent domain action. The Bruce family agreed to accept \$14,500 to settle any and all disputes with the city, including all known and unknown claims, arising out of or relating to the acquisition of the Bruce family properties as a result of this settlement. There was no reservation of rights to pursue future claims. The agreement was a negotiated compromise, which the Bruce family, with the advice of counsel, freely agreed to. Why would any responsible city representative ignore this legally binding agreement, and voluntarily agree to even consider further consideration for this negotiated settlement? I am sure the City Attorney will agree that this settlement has been fully satisfied, and the Bruce family and their descendants have zero legal right to seek or obtain reparations or monetary damages. It seems to me that any agreement by the current City Council to pay further reparations to the Bruce family at this time, would not only be dangerous precedent but would likely be a gross violation of the Council Members' responsibilities to their constituents, the current residents of Manhattan Beach.

In closing, please consider the BBTF's recommendations regarding a new plaque at Bruce's Beach, perhaps an art piece for the premises and perhaps the acceptance of a historical record of events, if one can be verified as accurately depicting such events. And nothing more! And, please terminate the BBTF and thank its members for their efforts.

Perhaps our community will then be able to move on and continue to be a proud, welcoming and inclusive city that is focused on building a bright future for our residents and guests.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill von Behren  
MB Resident since 1980

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Pat Cutler <ilovemahlermb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:46 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I read the the signed article regarding an apology in the Beach Reporter and agree whole heartedly with the article.  
Pat Cutler  
Manhattan Beach Citizen

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** bethmbca@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 11:15 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology for Bruce's Beach Eminent Domain takeover

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Yes! The city needs to apologize about it's past history concerning Bruce's Beach and the other lots involved. I would happily have signed the ad in yesterday's Beach Reporter if I knew about it. Add my name to your list of residents who believe in an apology!

Beth Bernucci  
3609 Pacific Avenue

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Susan GOO <susehil562@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 10:22 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

You cannot give in to the progressive movement, it will never stop if you do. This cancel culture is ruining our country and taking away free speech. If you disagree with someone that is your right you shouldn't have to fear for you life or reputation. This is not China

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sheila Virgin <thevirgins@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 9:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

*Dear Council Members:*

*We believe we should acknowledge the past and share the sentiment of regret for any racist intent there may have been in the past actions against the Bruce family as well as those which may have been against any other person, not only for his/her/their race, but for their heritage, religion, sex, and sexual orientation as well, anywhere that may have happened.*

*Words to express this regret must be precise because those words have legal connotations and implications and can be used or manipulated in political pressure campaigns, or worse, in legal actions for reparations and restitution against the City of Manhattan Beach, which you have been elected to protect. Regret and apology are two different words, have two different meanings, and most importantly have two different legal implications.*

*An apology is a necessary centerpiece for both litigation and reparations strategies against the City of Manhattan Beach and/or Los Angeles County, which would explain why the demand for it, from otherwise dis-interested parties, enjoys such fervor. To discount this risk would be grossly negligent. The city should offer regret or sympathy for ANY form of discrimination that may have happened in the past, anywhere it may have occurred. It is preferable that the Bruce family, or Bruce Beach situation, be referred to in the context of a general acknowledgment. The more generic it is, the less likely it is to be used in a court of law against the City. Simply put, an apology, however well-intentioned, creates a risk to the city by opening a door that is presently shut.*

*Please, do not apologize.*

Wayne & Sheila Virgin  
54 year residents

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Karen Klink <klinky2@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 9:52 AM  
**To:** City Manager; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

- a. I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.
- b. This apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders.
- c. An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.
- d. This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Like my friend Jen:

In conversations with friends regarding this topic, we've explored meaningful solutions like monetary and land compensation, or the establishment of a historical museum on the former Bruce property, which could collect a donation income for the descendents of the displaced families. While I support the consideration of solutions like these, I sense this level of expenditure is really what all the faux outrage is designed and manufactured to avoid. In the grand scheme of things, an apology and ongoing awareness education is minimal compared to that. I understand the desire to mitigate risk, but pursuing that to the neglect of what's right seems like a recipe for a public relations disaster of national media proportions. Your own City Attorney has said that the fact of an apology does not in itself, give rise to a liability exposure, so why bow to a small group of loud voices? I counted the e- and live comments from the last meeting and those supporting the Task Force outnumbered its detractors two to one.

Please. Make an apology: a real one, like the one authored by Hildy Stern, that empathizes with the targets of our racist past, and includes a detailed description of how your institution will ensure that it never happens again. Promise and deliver real action instead of paying empty lip service to the problem. Future efforts to raise awareness can reference past resolutions and examples of positive and inclusive organic community developments, but must also build on those things to have institutional impact. The defensiveness and fragility of so many in our town on this issue is evidence that ongoing work in this area is sorely needed. When you know better, you do better; so please do better. Make the apology. Reconstitute the Forums Subcommittee at the very least. Give our city a way forward. It's time.

We are making "Good Trouble" We are fighting the Good Fight and we will be heard. This is important. This speaks for the whole South Bay not just Manhattan Beach!

Much Gratitude,

Karen Klink  
South Bay Cares  
310-339-9761

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kim S <kasalzer5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 9:42 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council

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I support the Resolution of Acknowledgement

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** bob.ambrose@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 8:26 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] DO NOT APPOLOGIZE

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi City Council,

DO NOT APPOLOGIZE  
DO NOT APPOLOGIZE  
DO NOT APPOLOGIZE  
DO NOT APPOLOGIZE

GET ACCURATE HISTORY. AND FACT CHECK IT  
GET ACCURATE HISTORY. AND FACT CHECK IT  
GET ACCURATE HISTORY. AND FACT CHECK IT  
GET ACCURATE HISTORY. AND FACT CHECK IT

Robert Ambrose  
310-904-8927

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carol MacFarlane <carolmacfarlane1@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 11:15 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Task Force (BBTF)----OPPOSED TO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a 10-year resident of Manhattan Beach and my spouse has live here for over 20 years. As long time residents of Manhattan Beach, we have followed the evolution of the discussion surrounding Bruce's Beach. I've personally made a concerted effort to educate myself on the topic and have read the following:

- BBTF report presented on 3/16/21
- Robert Brigham's Master thesis on Manhattan Beach history written in 1955
- The ongoing opinion pages/reports, both national and local
- Local City Council Meeting minutes
- The history of Manhattan Beach, written by Jan Dennis, published by Arcadia Publishing, 2001
- And, lastly, listened to the clear majority of MB residents NOT in favor of the recommendations, including apology, made by the BBTF on the meeting on 3/16/21

**Given the hours of independent research, I have reached the conclusion THAT I DO NOT SUPPORT AN APOLOGY TO THE BRUCE FAMILY, however, I am open to a general ACKNOWLEDGEMENT that the lots owned by the Bruce Family as well as 25 other lots owned by both black and white families were condemned as part of an Eminent Domain proceeding.** As I shared in my email to you on 3/15/21, my family too was subject to eminent domain proceedings in the 1970's and our family business had to close so I am not insensitive to the outcome that impacted the Bruce family 100 years ago. The fact is, legally speaking in the Bruce's Beach scenario, all parties had legal representation, 4 ½ years tied up in court, the litigation was resolved, including a substantial award at Final Verdict. The final verdict also demanded the displaced families be allowed to repurchase property within Manhattan Beach. Some did. The Bruce family did not. While it may not be fair in it's outcome 100 years ago, the Bruce family was compensated. The case is done----res judicata. No one alive today in Manhattan Beach was a part of the community 100 years ago nor does the culture exist today in our city which may have made the lives of the Bruce family or black families of the time more challenging.

An acknowledgement of this case (to ALL of the families impacted) may be appropriate, and perhaps even a damning condemnation on Eminent Domain in our country in general, but an apology specifically to the Bruce family is not due. The RESOLUTION of APOLOGY (and the other recommendations made by the BBTF) as presented by the BBTF in Appendix 2 of the report clearly showed a biased interpretation and resolution of the facts. I oppose the apology for many reasons, including opening up MB and the County of LA to political pressure to pay restitution demands or return of the land to the Bruce family. Janice Hahn has already stated that she is looking into "compensating the Bruce family", which would essentially be gifting the Bruce family with taxpayer dollars for a case that has already been resolved. I emphatically oppose this because it is ILLEGAL!

I'm particularly troubled by the lack of diverse resources and documentation used in the BBTF report. Many of the points were anecdotal stories, lacking legal documentation, and/or having second hand witnesses, but all seemed to have a point of view. Also, I compared the timeline and narrative presented in the BBTF report against the "Images of America: History of Manhattan Beach", published by Arcadia Publishing in 2001. The dates/timeline tell a more nuanced story than the one presented by the BBTF. The development goals for the city (early 1900's-1930's) seemed to have changed over the time from when Howard Peck (the land developer) first bought the 3-mile oceanfront area from Playa Del Rey to Redondo Beach, started removing enormous sand dunes along the oceanfront (including grading the streets between 23<sup>rd</sup> St and 37<sup>th</sup> St, Highland Ave to the railroad tracks), laid out housing tract and parcel numbers for building single family cottages, to when Eminent Domain proceedings began and were finalized, thus closing down the Bruce resort. One fact that was not developed in the report was that Willa Bruce was selected at one time to be Deputy Marshall of the North end of MB by the Board of Trustees of MB. I would be very interested in learning more about Willa Bruce as the Deputy Marshall of the North end of MB and what the position entailed. Any discussion of her influence in the community as the Deputy Marshall and her interactions with the Chamber of Commerce and the other city leadership was not included in the BBTF report. This is just one of several interesting pieces of information that shifts the narrative a bit and could give more understanding to the history of the area.

One comment in the particular stands out in my mind in the "Images of America: History of Manhattan Beach" book (page 68):

"At the beginning of the decade (1910's), it was a resort town, at the end of the Jazz age, many summer visitors became year round residents" and the community began. Again, the Bruce family and other black and white families displaced by the Eminent Domain proceedings were given the right to stay to purchase property in MB and be a part of the city. Several families did, but the Bruce family did not.

To this day, Manhattan Beach is a small beach town, not a resort town, as evidenced by single family homes throughout the town and along the beachfront, and a complete lack of "resorts" along the Strand or west of Sepulveda Blvd (with the exception of The Shade Hotel and The Sea View Inn). One does not see Terranea, or the Ritz Carlton, or the Monarch Beach Resort along the shoreline in Manhattan Beach. Somehow the Bruce family believes that would have been the case had Bruce's Lodge continued and therefore they should be compensated for lost generational wealth.

There is so much more to this story in the development of Manhattan Beach than the one being presented in the BBTF. I would be happy to provide you with some counter points that just don't seem to be in lock step with the narrative provided by the BBTF report, but that would make for a very long email. I have concerns that the plaque verbiage being developed by the BBTF historical subcommittee and the resultant art installation will present a particularly narrow point of view reflective more of our time in 2021 post a summer of social unrest, than what actually occurred in the 1920's. Will you please consider any plaque verbiage and/or art installation be reviewed by the Manhattan Beach Historical Society and/or a balanced, unbiased independent historian? If the BBTF is looking for a local historian, I would like to recommend Jan Dennis, a 50 year resident of Manhattan Beach who has written numerous books about our city.

Manhattan Beach is an inviting and highly desirable place to live. As Steve Napolitano put it best, the bar is high to live here and that bar is money, not race. We welcome all new residents to our communities and visitors to enjoy our downtown laid back vibe and beautiful surf and sand. Mahalo!

Thank you for your consideration.

Carol MacFarlane

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** GWPOP Talk <gwpop-talk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 10:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Thank you all for the long and thoughtful review re: Bruce's Beach

The City's responsibility is clearly to respect and protect the majority of its residents.

The Bruce Family residency in our fair City was over 100 years ago. They sold the property along with the other families in the area to make way for the Midway LA County LifeGuard Station and a beautiful public park, open for all to enjoy. The Bruce's could have bought another piece of property in MB and did not choose to do so.

It is abusive the way the press and certain members of our community have tried to vilify MB residents as being something we are not. The participants that will benefit from all these attempts at public shaming are the attorneys. A public apology will no doubt lead to a long and lengthy lawsuit. Shutting this down now and refusing to entertain any further discussions may be a good way to clear the air.

We need to show we will not be bullied or be the poster child of trying to rewrite history. Life was not easy for a lot of Americans a 100 years ago and the Bruce Family is not the first or last family that will be bought out under a Public Domain Decree. It's done. Let's move on.

There are really a number of pressing issues the City needs to address now that the Pandemic is coming to an end. No apology is necessary and could prove to be, if issued, just the ticket to keep this proverbial pot boiling. Let's turn down the heat.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Hunter

**Amanda Hunter**  
**Manhattan Beach**  
**GWPOP, INC**

[EMAIL](#) | [GWPOP.org](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#)  
GWPOP, INC is a non profit tax exempt 501(c)3 corporation

On Thu, Mar 11, 2021 at 3:32 PM GWPOP Talk <[gwpop-talk@gmail.com](mailto:gwpop-talk@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Hello City Council Members:

No more delay tactics. The BBTF report should be heard on 3/16/21 and considered final.

The "History Report" is not accurate. We are not a racist community and we do not need a Social Justice Commission.

The facts are, the 2 lot property in question was sold at a fair market value along with 28 other lots, owned by both white and black persons. The Bruce's agreed to sell and were fairly compensated for their property. If the Bruce's wanted to continue living in MB they could have bought another property in MB. They chose not to do so.

We do not need a Declaration of Apology because there is nothing to apologize for now and certainly not for a fair priced property sale 100 years ago that was readily agreed to by the Bruce family.

This is a waste of the City's taxpayers dollars, council time and good energy of it's citizens. MB has always been a friendly city and still is a great place to live no matter you skin color, religious beliefs or sexual preference. We are a diversified and tolerant little beach city, let's go forward, not backward in time.

Thank you and good luck bringing this challenging attack on the character of our citizens to a swift halt. If you want a good life and want to live in this beach city, you've got to work for it, just like everyone else. I think we all know that and it's time to stand up for our rights.

Sincerely,  
Amanda Hunter  
1230 6th Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

[EMAIL](#) | [GWPOP.org](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#)  
GWPOP, INC is a non profit tax exempt 501(c)3 corporation

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** mmacheret <mmacheret@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Request for Reflection

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I see that pressure is being applied on all members of the CC regarding the upcoming session and a proposed "apology". I hope you allow yourselves some breathing time to reflect on the process that brought you to this juncture.

The BBTF was initially formed to research the history of what is now named Bruce's Beach Park. Rather than produce a full and unadorned history, it seemed they chose to spend their time on a political and divisive agenda.

So, it seems to me that it is the BBTF that should apologize for wasting everyone's time.

It isn't clear with all the evidence that has become public (and clearly there are still many historical facts still in question or entirely missing) that anything at this point qualifies for an apology. While it's true that Eminent Domain was enacted, there are many instances of Eminent Domain enforced around the country and these are all resolved in the courts as in the case of the Bruce's.

The requested "apology" is a politically motivated maneuver driven by groups and money from outsiders primarily to create disunity in our community. They count on our feelings of guilt and remorse for incidents in our history, but their view of our history is distorted and targeted toward their own twisted point of view. This movement includes BLM, ARM, Anifa and others who want to vilify and tear down while providing nothing positive to replace the society and systems we have.

Fact: BLM does not care about black lives. If they did, why aren't they protesting the hundreds of African Americans being slaughtered in Chicago, Baltimore and other cities that have seen a drastic increase in homicides since defunding the police? If Antifa was truly anti-fascist, why are they burning and looting like Nazi brown shirts and censoring speakers they oppose like any fascist would do?

Show us that you value your intelligent leadership and proudly display your self-respect. Look clearly at the issue and refuse to be fooled by the these subversive forces seeking to destroy our community.

Michael Macheret  
27 year resident and homeowner in Manhattan Beach

Sent from Michael's iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Schmale <mschmale@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:55 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Joe Franklin; Hildy Stern  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB Property Owner in Favor of Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council Members,

My name is Michael Schmale and I'm writing to voice my support for Manhattan Beach formalizing an apology to the Bruces and other families who were forced to sell their property one hundred years ago, as well as making financial amends.

I grew up in Manhattan Beach. I attended Sand Tots, Pacific Elementary, Grand View Elementary, and Manhattan Beach Middle School. In addition, my family owns approximately \$20 million worth of real estate in Manhattan Beach, which is to say we have a very real financial interest in decisions made by the city.

I know it feels unfair that Manhattan Beach is being called out for its racist past, when the same critique applies to virtually every other community in the United States. That doesn't mean we shouldn't recognize this history and make amends for it. If that means that current property owners will end up footing the bill, so be it, it's the right thing to do.

My family didn't purchase property in Manhattan Beach until around 1980. The vast majority of our holdings there we didn't purchase until after 2000. There is an argument sometimes made on behalf of people in our circumstances that we shouldn't be held responsible for actions that occurred decades before we were around. And yet, this is the same reasoning that has forced Black and other minority communities to continue as a permanent underclass in a wealthy nation that pays noisy and empty lip service to the ideas of equal opportunity and justice for all.

Whatever the facts may be, and however individual people may feel, the city's current, defensive posture on this issue is a reputational disaster. How long before the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post follow where the Los Angeles Times and New York Times have already gone? It's possible that the reputational damage has already exceeded what might have been paid in restitution. The time to act is now.

Rather than being treated as a threat, this issue should be treated as an opportunity. If the city takes a proactive, leadership role, serving as a model for how municipalities can reckon with past wrongs, Manhattan Beach will not only be doing the right thing, but also will raise the pressure on other communities to follow suit. There is a chance to make a real difference in the history of our country. Reckoning with past racism isn't a passing fad. It's an issue whose salience will only be growing across the country in coming years. Putting off that reckoning will only compound the damage and pain that has already occurred.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,  
Michael Schmale  
2812 The Strand

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Hamilton <mikeham610@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City council. As a member of the city for over 27 years, I believe an acknowledgement serves the city better.

I also believe the council members that picked the group did so with an agenda. Thank you for your time.

Michael Hamilton

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Juliana Edwards <julianaedwardsla@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:49 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach - NO APOLOGY please

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City Council members,

Through this email I want to ask Council members to NOT issue an apology regarding Bruce's Beach. The legal liability that would follow an Apology would be a disgrace to our town's finances. The city should issue an Acknowledgment of the wrong decision taken in the past. As a minority resident of MB, who has lived here since 2005, I see out town as being inclusive with a few isolated incidents. Let's not allow pressure from people with higher financial interest and a left agenda to force our city to be labeled something we are not.

You are representing all of us, so please make the wise decision to issue an Acknowledgement recognizing the eminent decision was wrong, and let's spend energy in continuing our current culture of racial inclusion.

Thank you,

Juliana Edwards

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ray Joseph <Ray@rjfinehomes.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:41 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] STOP ALL Bruce's Beach NOW

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

What happened to Joe Franklin's house is exactly what our residents fear. This is the reason why so many people told me they would not talk during the 2 minute comments. These people shut down our country and destroyed so many cities and businesses. PLEASE PUT AN END TO THIS!!!!!!

We are in a world of cancel culture, so cancel Bruce's Beach and rename it 26th ST Park.

Joe is a good guy and we need to stand by him.

Ray Joseph  
Manhattan Beach CA 90266  
310-545-7295

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Debbie Denise <ddmbeach@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I vote for Acknowledgement

Deborah Denise  
16 year resident

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ulrich, Laurel A <Laurel.Ulrich@marsh.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach-NO APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council Members-

This City Council needs to take a long look in the mirror. You are dividing our community like never before and it keeps continuing and getting worse with the actions of Stern and Napiltano with Howorth in the background having a voice. This drum beat for the issuance of an "apology" letter is really a loophole for the Bruce family to be able to then file a lawsuit against MB and receive reparations. Can you just stop! Look at what happened to Joe Franklins house this morning??!! Are you proud of the divide you have caused-yes your ad is an example of causing division??!! I would support a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" as an alternative to the "Resolution of Apology" as I am not apologizing for something that happened 100 years ago and was not done with racist intentions-that is your narrative. Can you focus on the actual citizens in this community that live here now and pay taxes for this city now? There are members of this community of all creeds and colors. Joe-very sorry to you and your family and I hope you are not intimidated by this horrendous act but rather fueled to fight against their tactics.

Laurel Ulrich

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\*\*\*\*\*  
This e-mail, including any attachments that accompany it, may contain information that is confidential or privileged. This e-mail is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) to whom it was intended to be addressed. If you have received this e-mail and are not an intended recipient, any disclosure, distribution, copying or other use or retention of this email or information contained within it are prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please immediately reply to the sender via e-mail and also permanently delete all copies of the original message together with any of its attachments from your computer or device.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Jacqueline Zuanich-Ferrell <jzuanichferrell@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 6:33 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My husband and I would like to share some thoughts on future action by Manhattan Beach City Council.

It is completely unnecessary for the City Council on behalf of our entire citizenry to apologize for actions taken by a City Council in 1924. It is unlikely that any resident still living today was an adult who agreed with the decision. Eminent Domain should not have been used as it was, and its use affected both black and white homeowners.

The history of this part of MB history needs to be factually supported.

Please only acknowledge and condemn the wrong that took place in 1924.

To blame a citizen living in MB today is akin to a young child in Japan having to apologize for Pearl Harbor.

Jacqueline Zuanich-Ferrell

Joe Ferrell

Residents of Manhattan Beach since 1971

1018 Duncan Avenue

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** PAMELA DAVIDSON <davidson@ucla.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 5:32 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Approve Joe Franklin's statement of condemnation!

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Respectfully, please approve Joe Franklin's statement of condemnation!

We need to do this from a **societal perspective** to end the debate for all time in our City Council.

- In 2006-07, the 26th Street Park was renamed, "Bruce's Beach" in honor and memory of the Bruce Family; along with the other 30 families, eminent domain payment was made and accepted 100 years ago.
- Now almost 25 years later, another \$350,000 was allocated for an art expression in memory of the historical events. But when does the shakedown end? It needs to end on April 6th.

From a **legal and financial perspective**, it is the responsibility of the MB City Council Leaders to protect the viability of our beloved City. **Vote for condemnation!**

Sincerely, Pamela Davidson

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Birkel, Julia L. <jbirkel@hfbllp.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 4:59 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting April 6th: Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Distinguished Mayor and City Councilmembers:

My husband and I have owned our home in Manhattan Beach for 25 years, and rented for 5 years before that. I have twin 17-year old boys. I love it here, but for the first time my eyes are open that this is not a perfect place.

I write in support of Hildy Stern's proposed resolution of apology, with Steve Napolitano's being a close second. I do not support an "acknowledgment," which would do more harm than good.

As a Manhattan Beach resident bringing children up, it is extremely important to me that we welcome people of color, whether to visit (including surfing), or to live here (without fear of having a flaming tire thrown at your house). We all gain from getting to know people of different ethnicities, cultures, etc. I think a child's innocent vantage point is helpful, as we all teach our children the same things:

1. If you've done wrong, apologize. Nothing heals better than a heartfelt apology, and both sides feel better afterwards.
2. Be good, and learn to tell the difference between good and bad:
  - Bad: calling other people names, being mean, feeling entitled
  - Good: Being kind regardless of skin color

- Bad: Racist history and refusal to apologize for it
- Good: Embrace and welcome people who are different from you; learn from each other.

I've seen a lot of disingenuous objections to an apology on Nextdoor and other posts, which are thinly disguised white fear, except one:

- An apology will open us up to liability
  - This is the one objection that was legitimate, but it is now moot. The City has an eminently well qualified City Attorney, who has opined that the apologies drafted by Ms. Stern and Mr. Napolitano do not create legal risk to the City. Your constituents need to be told that.
- I'm not racist, I shouldn't have to apologize
  - The apology comes from the City, for its past racist actions. The apologies proposed to date specifically state: "An apology can't change the events of one hundred years ago, nor are today's residents responsible for the past acts of others."
  - NOT apologizing, given the opportunity, and the immense publicity of our racist history and the very debate over whether to even issue an apology, will appear racist. The world is watching. The world will perceive us as racist if we're unwilling to allow the City to

apologize. If you're really not racist – prove it.

- It was 100 years ago. Let's just move on since we're not racist now.
  - The illegal, pretextual taking of the Bruce's property was done 100 years ago. The damage continues through today. By running Black families out of our community, we evolved into a privileged white enclave, the "fruit of the poisonous tree" as it were. Our neighbors who say they aren't racist nonetheless don't want anything to change (i.e., "this whole Bruce's Beach madness is bringing inner-city troublemakers here. We want the right kind of people in Manhattan Beach," (quote from article about City Council meeting); "has anyone stopped to consider that what happened was actually good for Manhattan Beach?" (paraphrasing from Nextdoor)). Respectfully, you will be judged. Do you want to go down in history on the same side as these people?  
The way to start making things right is to make clear that we welcome people of color. That starts with an apology.
  
- The acts recited in the history and proposed apologies are unsubstantiated rumors, inflammatory, untrue
  - They offer no proof that anything is untrue and, indeed, the history is extremely well documented. Saying facts are false does not make them so.
  - The resolutions of apology I've seen are carefully worded:
    - C. Beginning in 1912, historians have documented....
  
- An apology amounts to an admission of guilt
  - The City Attorney has approved the proposed resolutions. Moreover, the City was guilty. The guilt is well publicized. An apology mitigates, whereas the refusal to issue an apology looks like we're digging in on what has now become our nationwide reputation as a privileged white community
  
- An apology will never be enough for the leftists, communists, socialists, liberals, etc.
  - The only thing on the table is whether to apologize.
  
- The purported mischaracterization of our City by way of an apology will just be used as ammunition by the leftists, communists, socialists, liberals, etc. to attack our City
  - The opposite is true. The very fact that Manhattan Beach is so strongly engaged in a debate over whether to so much as muster an apology provides the fodder. And not just to the "left," either, but to middle of the road people. An apology takes ammunition away from critics. Consider the current articles by the NY Time and LA Times, among social media and other publications. What headline would you prefer on April 7th if you don't resolve to issue an apology:
    - Manhattan Beach City Council Perpetuates Its Racist History by Refusing to Apologize for Racist Actions that have Excluded People of Color for the Past 100 Years; or
    - Manhattan Beach City Council Takes a Stand Against Its Racist History
  
- The Bruce family will milk an apology for every dime they can get

- The Bruce family would have every right to milk it if the City *refuses* to apologize. Our disgraceful history is already out there to be “milked.” I also find this objection particularly dispiriting, because there is no understanding or empathy about what the City did to these Black families, and their descendants. What if the City took their house for pretextual reasons?
- An apology, as mentioned, tends to mitigate the potential damages; refusal to apologize falls into the proof of racism column.
- Wouldn't any claim be barred by the statute of limitations?

Thank you for your consideration of the foregoing. Please join with the citizens who want Manhattan Beach to be a welcoming community.

Regards,

Julie Birkel



**Julia L. Birkel** | Partner | Hill, Farrer & Burrill LLP

One California Plaza | 300 So. Grand Ave., 37th Fl. | Los Angeles, CA 90071

Dir: 213.621.0857 | Main: 213.620.0460

[jbirkel@hillfarrer.com](mailto:jbirkel@hillfarrer.com) | [www.hillfarrer.com](http://www.hillfarrer.com) | [v card](#) | 

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Anna Moore <anna\_in\_la2003@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 4:50 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology or condemnation

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City council,

My husband and I stand with Joe Franklin. The city SHOULD NOT offer an apology!!

Thank you,

Jim and Anna Moore

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lea Ann King <leaannking1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 4:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; rmontgomery@mbcity.info; jfranklin@mbcity.info  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] PLEASE APOLOGIZE

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To our City Elected Leaders,

Please take this opportunity to address the errors of the past and set an example for our young people that history and injustice matter. It's not OK to target Black surfers or students now just as it's not OK to deny that racial incidents have not continued to happen since the Bruce family and others were driven out of their homes. They have.

We need to acknowledge that our city is diverse and we must be inclusive. We must repudiate racism. I regret that the task force was disbanded because the continuity of study and recognition of our imperfect conduct is a through line to improving our welcome, acceptance and inclusiveness moving forward. There are positive actions, programs and activities that can bring a community together. I know and I have.

I served on the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations for over 20 years, founded a Visions of Unity Arts Contest for high school students in Torrance now in it's 22nd year, and chaired a Multicultural Committee on the Palos Verdes Peninsula for 15 years. Yes, there are many and varied ways a community can celebrate it's diversity and build common bonds.

23 year Manhattan Beach Resident  
Lea Ann King  
229 17th Street

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** John Randolph <johnrando@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 3:41 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BBTF & a City Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I support a "just" Manhattan Beach and a City apology to the Bruces' regarding our forefathers handling of their families livelihood and property. I was not here then as well as many of the people stating "I didn't do it, why apologize", but that does not mean an apology should not be forthcoming.

Suzanne Hadley states that an apology would be a "scarlet letter" for the City. Quite the opposite is true, NOT apologizing would put a scarlet letter on the City. For example, politically speaking (which I am not concerned with but I imagine some Council Members are), a headline reading "rich majority-white city refusing to apologize for past mistreatment of Blacks" would not help the City image, and THAT is a scarlet letter. But imminently more important than politics, as I previously stated, it's the right thing to do. Thank you.

John Randolph  
Manhattan Beach Resident, since 2004, South Bay Resident since 1994.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** MARILYN ANDERSON <lola007@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 3:18 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] asking the City Council to adopt an apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am asking the City Council of Manhattan Beach to compose and deliver an apology to the Bruce family that expresses regret for the impact the City Council of 100 years ago had on this family and distinguishes our intentions for our city from the shameful action by our forebearers and that demonstrates to our children that, when an institution acts unjustly, it should seek the truth, apologize for its failings, and re-commit to justice.

Marilyn Anderson  
328 17th Street  
Manhattan Beach 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ken <ken.haydis@att.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 2:40 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach  
**Attachments:** image0.jpeg; ATT00001.txt

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I would sure like to get/hear some facts.

I read the LA Times front page MB "split on rectifying racist past." Article DID NOT have a lot of facts to support RACIST past. Article should have been in the opinion section.

LA Times ..."MB ran out Black property owners "....

I have been a resident of MB for 46+ years starting with a purchase of 120-122 26th Street in 1975. I paid \$85,500 for a dump, I overpaid! But with a LOT of sweet equity I made some money. There was a black couple who owned the property just West of my property. They had owned their property since the 20's. Nobody ran them out!! If MB was so racist how come they survived??

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** M B <MICHAELBARK@live.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 2:13 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledge, no apology please!

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City council members:

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE and empathize with all of the property owners, whose property was taken in the 1920's. I DO NOT support an apology.

We have lived in Manhattan Beach for over 20 years and currently have 2 sons enrolled at Mira Costa High School.

Sincerely,

Michael Bark

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Katrina Matthews Real Estate Agent <matthews.katrina@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:14 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Do the right thing. --

Please see my article in the Los Angeles Times.

[The next financial crisis... its time to make your move.](#)

To Search for Homes, Visit [My Website](#).



Katrina "Kat" Matthews  
Real Estate Consultant  
B.S | Paralegal | Short Sale Negotiator  
Calbre#1810519

310.617.3411  
Matthews.Katrina@Gmail.com

PalmRealtyBoutique.com  
401 Manhattan Beach Blvd Ste. B  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

The image is a business card for Katrina "Kat" Matthews. It features a portrait of her on the left, wearing a blue top and a pearl necklace. To the right of the portrait is her contact information. At the bottom left of the card is the Palm Realty Boutique logo, which includes a palm tree icon and the text "PALM REALTY BOUTIQUE". At the bottom right are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jennifer Salem <jensalem4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 11:57 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In support of an apology for the past re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have written to all city council members but just in case, I wanted to go on record for this meeting that I am writing again in support of issuing an apology for what occurred within our community with regards to Bruce's Beach (as well as acknowledging that as great as our community, some residents still continue to behave in overt racist ways or in subtle unintentional racist manners). Our community made mistakes back in the 1920s and although I don't believe any of us were alive back then, this does not mean we should not recognize and acknowledge and apologize for what occurred here, and vow to make sure nothing like that happens again.

I have spoken to several attorneys who have assured me that there are ways to make such an apology and a commitment to future justice that do NOT expose the city to liability. On the other hand, should our city continue to deny that anything racist ever happened, or try and dismiss what occurred as being minor or any other number of excuses that have been raised, I believe the outcome financially for our city will be far greater with drop in tourism and negative PR in media across the US, potential ongoing protests, and potential lawsuits.

Jennifer Salem  
27 Lafayette Court  
Manhattan Beach CA

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Zena Fong <zeefong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Issue formal apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Whom It May concern,

I would like to encourage the city council to issue a formal apology for the wrongful actions taken by the city of Manhattan Beach regarding the Bruce family and other black families in the 1920s. As a resident of Manhattan Beach, I feel this is an important step in showing the world that these actions were unjust and this would help in the healing of our community. It would show that Manhattan Beach is committed to justice and want to make all members of our community feel welcome.

Sincerely,

Zena Fong

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Leland Dolley <ldolley1@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:05 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Council meeting, April 5, 2021  
**Attachments:** LCD THE CONDEMNAION OF 1912.docx

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I have attached a letter which I respectfully ask you to consider.

Leland C Dolley

APRIL 4. 2021

FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MANHATTAN BEACH AND THE MEMBERS OF OUR CITY COUNCIL

THE CONDEMNATION OF 1912

At this time of year, with the advent of spring, the joy and hope and yearning for peace by so many, many human beings in all the world and especially here of the United States of America – is it not ironic that tomorrow night our town will again see the spectacle of division?

I write with no malice and with kindness and respect for my neighbors and for all.

For liberty, faith, freedom, equality, free speech, and grace. For all things which make up the goodness of humankind.

In that spirit a few things need to be said.

In a recent newspaper clipping some of our residents and others aver that for all of us to find ways to work together and in harmony on matters which, in part, divide us, our town must first apologize for an event which occurred over 100 years ago by which the property of a black family was condemned. (I am not even sure that a town can apologize or that the City Council has any authority based on law to – apologize.)

To demand such at a time when no one living here or who passed through here was born. No one today is responsible for and no one would tolerate that condemnation today.

A table can be set, and civil discourse can be in evidence, where both sides of an issues can be heard, and a common path forward reached.

But I would not wish to be at that table if the only way I am invited is to apologize for something I did not do, nor did anyone alive do.

My hand of friendship is extended, but the prerequisite of apology is not acceptable.

Please let me review:

Did our businesses board their windows as a gesture? I think not. Were we at least concerned about what we saw on the news? I think so. The windows were covered because there was palpable fear that violence would occur. Violence which swept the country and destroyed lives and property – even just nearby in Los Angeles. Was or is violence ever justified?

Does anyone realize that just after those events, the issue of the 1912 condemnation of yesteryear was raised once again? (As if it had not been raised many times over the years.)

Can anyone separate those two facts?

Can anyone truthfully ignore that for all purposes the proponents now more loudly demand an apology because this is the only claim they have left? Were their efforts really about finding a way to divide this community by inferring that this community is today raciest because of the condemnation of 1912? There is scant proof if any. But the demands nonetheless infer just that.

Consider: The demands were originally for reparations (likely dropped as a plain and simple gift of public funds.) For an apology and other demands. Most striking was the demand the formation of a committee to be the arbiter of history (a history which is now intended to be a living document – which in itself is not reliable until final conclusions are fairly reached by independent body.) This committee would investigate the condemnation and recommend a course of action. The inference was and is that something was wrong with our town, that the 100-year-old condemnation reflected in some way that our town is raciest and in need of discipline.

Just as the concept of reparations disappeared, the concept of the committee continuing into the future was rejected. While there may be disagreement, this committee was proposing in essence that it would, if it remained in existence, police us to make sure we toed the line. A line of which they were to be the arbiter, judge and jury. To use an old western phrase: vigilantes.

Can anyone really wonder or deny that many of us felt that these demands were an affront at best. Were we not worried that these efforts were made, in main, so that some non-elected judges might just consider that one or many residents were and/or are raciest?

I am sure that it has not escaped anyone that the term raciest is now used to accuse anyone who is not in agreement with the speaker to be on the other side, an enemy.

How tragic is it really when the highest (and lowest) officials of this country have the audacity to throw about the raciest chant when they seek to diminish and shame others with whom they disagree. Not much civil discourse there.

Has anyone noticed that these efforts have already divided us? Have the proponents actually divided us already under the unproven notion that we are raciest? A notion that we are so because of the 1912 condemnation? Is it likely that raising this ancient issue of condemnation was simply a starting point to justify their demands extant? Was there some sleight of hand involved? A 100+ year leap from an event to recommending investigating a whole town.

We are all better than being divided because of unreasonable demands.

I will be at the table of reconciliation to further the course of humanity and because of my deep-seated beliefs of friendship, fairness, liberty, justice, equality and yes, love. It is so much better to recall what is a universal truth: to find ways to love one another.

I will strive to be at the table in any event, but I do not wish to be there as a result of the extant demand for an apology for something none of us did.

That does not make me – any of us raciest. We are not.

I know where the table is and we can set it.

It is the time of spring, of flowering, renewal, strength and peace. Let us go about dusting and coming together willingly and in good faith.

Leland C Dolley

(Just to note again – I was born here, my wife’s family and my family moved here in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Our mothers were members of early charitable organizations and working for the good of the community. So did our dads who were members of the school Board and Councilmen who built schools, help fund the building of their churches, organized the finances of the city, and planned for the future. Good and decent and loving – real people doing real things.)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Molly b <mollyjbeaumont@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 9:27 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology for Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Molly Beaumont and I am a student at Mira Costa. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism. Thank you for reading this.

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Maureen Denitz <modenitz@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 9:12 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Oppose an apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**Dear Council**

**I've been a resident in this town for over 34 years. We've raised our family here and my adult children are now raising their families here as well. It says something about your community when your children want to come back and do the same. This is why it hurts so much to see our town, our police dept, it's residents smeared by media and outside groups as being racist. It's not true. We are being divided by color and politics not character. We've all worked very hard to be able to live here and all of us have moved here because of how safe and welcoming this community is.**

**For the past year, our beautiful town has been a target over Bruce's Beach.**

**A few years ago City Council and then Mayor Mitch Ward addressed the regretful history of the Bruce's complete with a ceremony to celebrate the renaming and installation of a new plaque at the park. That was well done and deserved. Since we've already addressed the issue, why are we continuing this discussion of the past with a needed apology? An apology makes you culpable. We are not culpable of what happened a century ago by others. I don't think we should go down this road. Can the City Atty guarantee an apology would not be used against our city. I'm sure not.**

**In addition, I don't see a need for a future oversight committee(DEIC) or special pledge. We are a very inclusive and welcoming town.**

**Thankfully, we have laws against all discrimination and we already have a wonderful pledge... the pledge of allegiance..."for liberty and justice for all".**

**Lets make sure the BB history is factual and vetted thru MB Historical Society before it goes up on the city website and on a new plaque/ art piece.**

**I'm hopeful that we can get back to living the beach life and untangled ourselves from this divisiveness. Its in the councils hands as to where our city goes from here. Please let's get back to other city business and put an end to this April 6th.**

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michelle Minier <minier.michelle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 9:01 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BBTF Resolution of Apology - Not in Support

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my view that I do **not** believe that a Resolution of Apology nor Acknowledgment is warranted. However, it's clear at this point, that doing "nothing" is likely no longer an option. Therefore, here are my comments:

1. If necessary, I would support a **Resolution of Acknowledgement** the simply states:

**Resolution of Acknowledgement**

Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach to the extent the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.

a. Do NOT include other information, i.e. false history, detailed history, DEI statements, future action, etc.

2. **I do NOT support an Apology.**

a. An apology is an admission of guilt, and MB residents of today are not responsible for and cannot apologize for what others did 100 years ago.

3. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.

a. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits.

On a side note, during the last city council meeting, member's of BBTF and other participants called those that do not agree with them of being "white supremacists", "white fragility", "racists" and "Conservative terrorists", to name a few. These statements are racist and hateful, yet this rhetoric seems to be accepted. We have to stand-up to this type of bullying and hate. We have to view each person as an individual and judge each individual on their character. We each need to take personal responsibility and be accountable to our actions.

Thank you for your consideration. I know this is a difficult time.

Michelle Minier

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Diana Skaar <dianaskaar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 8:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Vote for an Apology, not an Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Councilmembers,

I am a Manhattan Beach mom who has contributed significantly to our schools and to our community. I have taught my daughter and her Girl Scouts how to find their voice as their Troop's Girl Scout Cookie Chair. I have volunteered countless hours at school events, and my husband and I have always happily donated the fully requested amount to MBEF and our PTA.

As a mom of 2 young kids, I feel it is important that we set good examples of (1) acknowledging when we have done something wrong (2) apologizing for those wrongs and (3) committing to doing better in the future. That is why I care so deeply about how our City Council addresses Bruce's Beach. We have an opportunity to do the right thing, and set an example for our kids and other communities. **A formal apology to the Bruce family is a necessary step.**

Unfortunately, the actions of a few of our City Councilmembers on this topic has made Manhattan Beach appear tone-deaf and privileged.

**Mayor Suzanne Hadley**, you have gone on the record for not supporting an apology because you feel it would put a scarlet letter on the City. You have mentioned that an apology would put the City at higher risk for litigation, but yet the **City Attorney has determined that an apology does NOT expose the City to liability.** So what exactly is your agenda?

I ask the City Council to support the alternative "Resolution of Apology" drafted by Councilmember Hildy Stern and not support the "Statement of Acknowledgement" drafted by Councilmember Joe Franklin, which falls short of an apology and **will cause the City to continue to appear tone-deaf and privileged in national headlines on this topic.**

I feel Councilmember Stern's "Resolution of Apology" strikes the right balance of an apology while **pledging to seek opportunities for education and advice on DEI issues.**

I feel Councilmember Napolitano's "Resolution of Apology" **falls short of committing to do better** by only recommitting to the STAND UP PLEDGE which the City already put in place in 2017. Not committing to any further DEI efforts risks the City for continuing to look tone-deaf.

This apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Please do not let us down.

Thank you,  
Diana Skaar

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Frank Sillman <frank.sillman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 7:58 PM  
**To:** City Manager; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I do not support an acknowledgement nor an apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

- **I do not support a "Resolution of Acknowledgement" and I do not support an Apology**
- Eminent Domain is a public policy that has been used tens of thousands of times by cities, counties, states and the federal government to obtain property for public use. It has been used to build freeways, roads, bridges, schools, parks, government buildings, courthouses and lifeguard stations to name just a few of its uses. Often parties subject to eminent domain sue in court to stop the purchase of their property or to improve the price paid for their property. The courts have the responsibility to weigh and protect the interests of its citizens against the the power of the government.
- Some of the parties involved in the Los Angeles County purchase of the land utilized for the LA County Lifeguard station and the attached park did sue the County of Los Angeles to block their use of eminent domain and the court found in favor of the County's purchase. So in the end LA County was found to have properly utilized its authority to purchase property via eminent domain and the courts further vindicated their decision.
- If as citizens we don't want to allow our government to utilize eminent domain in the future then we should elect politicians that agree with that policy change and implore them to pass laws banning or restricting the use of eminent domain.
- It therefore isn't appropriate for any of its current residents who weren't part of the deliberations that occurred at the County level to purchase the property nor were any of the current citizens a party to the court proceedings that found in favor of the purchase, to now try to create a narrative from whole cloth to support an apology based on the theory that the decision to purchase the property was somehow racist. There is not any actual evidence that the County's decision to purchase the land was racially motivated. It's just pure conjecture.
- Labeling everything a small minority wants to cancel, change or destroy as racist is the narrative of the moment, Such as all police departments are systematically racist, the congressional filibuster is racist and voter integrity legislation is racist, just to name a few..
- We collectively need to stand up and stop allowing the minority mob to label anything they want to change, cancel or destroy as racist and focus our efforts on ensuring that we are providing equal opportunities to all Americans regardless of race.
- I have lived in Manhattan Beach for a very long time and I do not agree with anyone who tries to paint Manhattan Beach as a racist community.
- I also find it ironic that many members of the BBTF at the last city council meeting used offensive and racist language to describe Manhattan Beach residents that don't agree with their agenda as white supremacists and worse. Type of racist rhetoric has no place in a civil discussion and should not be allowed or supported by any city council members or Manhattan Beach residents.

I have been a resident for 24 years and want to protect Manhattan Beach from the unfounded slander of our community, any threatening mobs and any potential legal liability associated with the decisions the

city council makes regarding this issue. I strongly believe that issuing either an acknowledgement or an apology will unjustly slander the good name of Manhattan Beach and its citizens and further support the racist rhetoric and bullying tactics used by many of the BBTF members.

Thanks for your consideration

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Tim Wheeler <TWheeler@gbw.law>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 4:32 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Clerk  
**Cc:** Nancy Wheeler  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach: As Manhattan Beach Residents We Support an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My wife Nancy and I have been residents of Manhattan Beach for over 46 years. During the first few years of our marriage we rented a one bedroom apartment on 28<sup>th</sup> Place a few short blocks from Bruce's Beach. It was many years before we learned how the park came to be and the sordid history that led to its creation. We were shocked and dismayed over the events that had transpired and how the property was literally stolen from the Bruce family under the guise of eminent domain with clear racist undertones and objectives. We respect the tireless effort and hard work invested by the Bruce's Beach Task Force to research the racial injustices of the past and to offer a series of recommendations regarding steps the City can take to make our community more welcoming and aware of its history and how it impacted others. To that end we ask the City Council to support the BBTF recommendation that the City adopt a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. This is not a time to hide behind the shroud of historical context and use the argument of "those events happened a century ago" to excuse inaction. The City Attorney has already advised the City Council that an apology does NOT expose the City to any liability. What could possibly justify any hesitancy the City Council may have to do the right thing and apologize. As you know, an apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt, rather it serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city officials. The apology the BBTF recommended and the one we support and ask for is an apology which demonstrates that when an institution acts unjustly, it does not sit by with blinders on but still is able to seek the truth, apologize for past failings, and re-commit itself to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred. We love Manhattan Beach and the community we have seen it grow into over that last four and half decades we have lived here. This is an opportunity for that grand community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like. Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Respectfully,

Nancy and Tim Wheeler

225 N Poinsettia Ave  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

In compliance with Governor Newsom's Safer at Home directive, our entire office is working from remote locations. Pursuant to Judicial Council Emergency Rule 12 to the California Rules of Court, all written materials must be sent to us electronically, rather than through physical mail and deliveries. Please bear with us during this time. Thank you, and stay well.

**Timothy J. Wheeler ■ Attorney**



**Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP**

100 Wilshire Boulevard, 21st Floor  
P.O. Box 2131  
Santa Monica, CA 90407-2131

Office (310) 576-1200  
Fax (310) 576-1220  
Web [www.gbwlaw.com](http://www.gbwlaw.com)  
Email [TWheeler@gbw.law](mailto:TWheeler@gbw.law)



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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Suzanne Hadley  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 7:30 PM  
**To:** Suzanne Hadley  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** John Spence <johnspence99@gmail.com>  
**Date:** April 3, 2021 at 2:12:00 PM CDT  
**To:** Suzanne Hadley <shadley@citymb.info>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

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Regarding Bruce's Beach, I vote for acknowledgement NOT apology.

John Spence  
457 32<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



**SUZANNE HADLEY**

MAYOR

310-779-8183  
shadley@citymb.info

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH** 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bobby Sillman <bobby.sillman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 3:38 PM  
**To:** City Manager; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB City Council: I support an acknowledgement, NOT an apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

1. **I support a "Resolution of Acknowledgement"** stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but it must NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.
  1. The "Resolution of Acknowledgment" must NOT include an "Anti-racism Pledge," as seen in Councilman Napolitano's Resolution.
2. **I do NOT support an Apology.**
  1. An apology is an admission of guilt, and MB residents of today are not responsible for and cannot apologize for what others did 100 years ago.
3. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.
  1. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits.

I have been a resident for 22 years and want to protect MB's future from political pressures and legal actions.

--

Thanks,  
Bobby Sillman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Craig Wesser <craigwesser@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** City Manager; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Task Force

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

MB City Council,

I am a current resident of Manhattan Beach and have been so, as an adult, for 25 years. In addition, I spent my middle and high school years in Manhattan Beach, graduating from MCHS in 1978.

I have been following the developments related to Bruce's Beach, including the chartering of the BBTF. I have not weighed in on the subject with the City Council until I recently heard of one resident's idea that we should impose a property tax surcharge on its residents as a reparation for some of those affected.....which is utter madness. So, at this point, I feel I must offer my view.

I did take the time to read Bob Brigham's Master's Thesis (by the way, Bob was my High School Counselor and he even taught me how to drive in MCHS Driver's Ed so, over that time, I came to know him as a very smart and thoughtful man). From the thesis, I do understand that there is a strong indication that race was an underlying impetus to undertake eminent domain actions. That said, it is also clear to me, in the thesis, that sufficient evidence exists to show that compensation for property was fair at the time. In addition, the compensation enabled some of the displaced families to purchase other properties, and as a consequence, several continued to reside in Manhattan Beach.

So, here is where I stand. First, and foremost, the Manhattan Beach of today is not a racist community in my view. Secondly, it is absurd to hold current residents, as well as current city leadership, accountable for the motivational basis of actions, taken generations ago, related to the families who were displaced by eminent domain. Further, since compensation was fair at the time, I do not see where any claims of damage need to be addressed. Lastly, the City has already addressed the circumstances, at least once prior, by naming the area Bruce's Beach and placing a plaque there.

On this basis, my preference is to first thank and excuse the BBTF. They have served their purpose and I am not at all in favor of them continuing to serve further in any capacity. Next, at most, I would say the city may consider acknowledging that, nearly 100 years ago, some citizens and some leadership took actions where race was a motivational factor. Finally, if the plaque wording needs to be changed to reflect how we view the circumstances through our evolved ethical lens of 2021, then do that too. Just note that 40 years from now there will be a new ethical lens and we may be putting new words on the plaque yet again.....begs the question of when is "resolved" actually resolved.

Sincerely,

Craig Wesser

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** FRANCIS SCOTT <frankscott1@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 2:04 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** hahn@lacounty.gov  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

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Brian Collins wrote a letter to the editor for the Beach Reporter suggesting that no apology be made to the Bruces, but some kind of acknowledgement instead. I definitely oppose the city making an apology, and don't even see the point of making an acknowledgement. I hope the Council will take no action which might subject the city to possible liability.

One of the problems with this matter is the lapse of time. I am concerned that we may just be getting one side of the story. After all, it is almost 100 years old. Has anyone besides the advocates for the Bruce family done any research? Can we be assured an impartial, evenhanded appraisal has been made? Has the city been involved in such an effort, or is it just accepting information coming from people who may well be biased?

On the legal aspects, has the Council sought an opinion from the City Attorney? I see several problems with the city making some kind of financial settlement with the Bruce family.

1. I presume there was a judgment in the 1924 eminent domain action, which would have found that fair and just compensation was paid. After almost 100 years, that judgment is definitely FINAL. Like it or not, the law, for obvious reasons, does not allow reopening of litigation once a matter has been legally decided.
2. Time limitations would bar the assertion of any claims by the Bruces at this time. Both the Claims filing statutes relating to public entities and the general Statute of Limitations would bar a cause of action which ripened almost a century ago.
3. If the city has no legal obligations to the Bruces in this matter, then any payment or transfer of property to them would be voluntary, and in violation of the rule prohibiting public entities from making a gift of public funds or property.

I trust the Council will give serious consideration to these points. I raised these earlier with L.A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn after she made some unreflected public comments, but received no response from her.

Finally, for individuals who who want to help the Bruce family, perhaps the Council could assist, as others in the community have suggested, in setting up a Go Fund Me for voluntary contributions, as long as no city funds or assets are involved.

Thank you for your patience in reading this missive.

Frank Scott  
Manhattan Beach

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ryan Rothman <ryan90254@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 1:41 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Ryan Rothman. I live in Hermosa Beach and attend Chadwick School. I am writing today to ask that the Manhattan Beach City Council support a "Resolution of Apology" from the council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from the current community. It would rather acknowledge past wrongdoings and how we can move forward as a whole and address current issues of systemic racism. I hope you take student and community feedback on this issue to heart. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Rothman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** bvbatbeach@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 12:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Bruce's Beach Proposals - April 6, 2021 City Agenda Item F.4.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members:

A follow up message:

The following message was posted on Next Door on Sunday, April 4. If you question my point that a formal apology is a slippery slope, I don't think you need to wonder any more.

---

[Herschel Sarnoff](#) Tree Section • [20 min ago](#)

[Bruce beach apology and reparations.](#) Many of us are concerned about the Bruce Beach issue and want to do something. I suggest that MB impose a \$10,000 a year surcharge on our property tax for the next 20 years and turn the collected taxes over to the Bruce family. Lets not foist this off on the county etc. If you believe the city owes an apology it's appropriate that we all chip in to show how sorry we are.

Posted in [General](#) to [Anyone](#)

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Please think about it, and reject the concept of any formal apology by the city. Your decision will likely have far reaching implications, with the significant risk of unintended consequences, for decades to come.

Thank you,

Bill von Behren  
MB Resident for 40 years

-----Original Message-----

From: bvbatbeach@aol.com  
To: CityCouncil@citymb.info <CityCouncil@citymb.info> <CityCouncil@citymb.info> <CityCouncil@citymb.info>; cm@citymb.info <cm@citymb.info>  
Sent: Fri, Apr 2, 2021 11:54 am  
Subject: Bruce's Beach Proposals - April 6, 2021 City Agenda Item F.4.

Dear City Council Members,

I urge the Manhattan Beach City Council to adopt the Statement of Acknowledgment and Condemnation proposed by Council member Joe Franklin. It is appropriate at this time, and presents the least risk to the city regarding any potential future claims or actions of others.

For the reasons set forth in my email message to you of March 14, 2021 (copied below), I strongly urge you to reject any suggestion that the City of Manhattan Beach should apologize for the actions of others that occurred 100 years ago. Any such apology would be a very slippery slope, regardless of the rationale or "good" intentions that may prompt some to consider it.

I think an Acknowledgment and Condemnation is the best course the City can follow to try to put an end to this divisive discussion and seemingly endless debate, not to mention potential violence and civil disobedience. Please take steps to put an end to this debate.

Thank you for all you do for our great city.

Sincerely,

Bill von Behren  
Resident of MB for 40 years

-----Original Message-----

From: bvatbeach@aol.com

To: CityCouncil@citymb.info <CityCouncil@citymb.info> <CityCouncil@citymb.info>; cm@citymb.info <cm@citymb.info>

Sent: Sun, Mar 14, 2021 2:30 pm

Subject: BBTF Report and March 16, 2021 City Council Agenda Item 12

Dear Council Members,

I have read the Bruce's Beach Task Force's ("BBTF") report and recommendations. While I appreciate the efforts of the BBTF on this topic, I believe that it has essentially ignored the directions of the City Council regarding its charges and role surrounding this matter.

First, I do not believe it is the role of the BBTF to judge our community and imply that Manhattan Beach is a racist community. I disagree with any such suggestion. While there are certainly racist individuals in our community, as there are in every community, that does not mean that our city as a whole is racist. In fact, I believe that as a community, Manhattan Beach is an inclusive and understanding city and its residents are generally open minded and tolerant of all races and religions. So I take offense to any suggestion by the BBTF that the residents of Manhattan Beach, as a whole, are racists. And I believe that misguided premise has created a circumstance in which many of the so called BBTF "findings" are nothing more than unsupportable opinions of a few individuals, who are not well informed or in a position to judge our community as a whole. More importantly, with the exception of the BBTF co-chairs, none of the task force members have been elected by the residents of Manhattan Beach and have no right to speak on behalf of our city.

Second, the BBTF's suggestion that it remain an active group with the power to advise and assist our city employees and leaders in formulating future policy as to any city issue is an improper "power grab". The BBTF has been charged with a very limited purpose. How dare it attempt to perpetuate its role in matters for which it was not been authorized to act or even express unwanted opinions. Again, most members of this task force are not elected officials and they should have no right or role in speaking for our fine city.

Third, please disregard any suggestion that the City of Manhattan Beach should apologize for any acts or conduct of some residents of this city who are long gone. What happened 90 years ago is not the responsibility of our current residents. And any apology in 2021 is a very slippery slope. I have no doubt that if there is any apology from the city at this time, that apology will be misinterpreted by others in the future, will be used as a sword against the city in a manner that may not even seem possible today, and will turn out to be a huge mistake. Just look at the well-intended efforts of the city back in 2006 to rename Bruce's Beach and erect a plaque to honor the Bruce family and the history of the park site. Today, those well intended efforts have been characterized as further examples of racism in Manhattan Beach, and the plaque has been labeled by some as a "monument to white supremacy". We may not be able to predict how future progressives or antagonists may characterize a 2021 apology from the city regarding Bruce's Beach, but I suggest you consider the possibilities of how any such apology may be spun or used against the city in the future, perhaps many years after you have completed your term in office. And please be mindful that any such apology is extremely dangerous, and will likely be used against the city in the future in ways that you probably cannot even imagine today. And any such apology may end up being a negative legacy for this Council if it chooses to surrender to social pressures from a few outspoken residents to placate the views of a significant minority of our residents. Please reject any suggestion that the city must apologize for conduct that occurred long before any of us were born.

Finally, on the subject of reparations, I want to remind the City that the payments made to the Bruce family in 1929 was a result of a negotiated settlement of an eminent domain action. The Bruce family agreed to accept \$14,500 to settle any and all disputes with the city, including all known and unknown claims, arising out of or relating to the acquisition of the Bruce family properties as a result of this settlement. There was no reservation of rights to pursue future claims. The agreement was a negotiated compromise, which the Bruce family, with the advice of counsel, freely agreed to. Why would any responsible city representative ignore this legally binding agreement, and voluntarily agree to even consider further consideration for this negotiated settlement? I am sure the City Attorney will agree that this settlement has been fully satisfied, and the Bruce family and their descendants have zero legal right to seek or obtain reparations or monetary damages. It seems to me that any agreement by the current City Council to pay further reparations to the Bruce family at

this time, would not only be dangerous precedent but would likely be a gross violation of the Council Members' responsibilities to their constituents, the current residents of Manhattan Beach.

In closing, please consider the BBTF's recommendations regarding a new plaque at Bruce's Beach, perhaps an art piece for the premises and perhaps the acceptance of a historical record of events, if one can be verified as accurately depicting such events. And nothing more! And, please terminate the BBTF and thank its members for their efforts.

Perhaps our community will then be able to move on and continue to be a proud, welcoming and inclusive city that is focused on building a bright future for our residents and guests.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill von Behren  
MB Resident since 1980

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** RICHARD BRANDES <rdbogie@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 12:39 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

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I don't support an apology. Acknowledgement is the better way to go.

The Council is handling this situation very well. Pay no attention to the LA Times and Supervisor Hahn. Instead of butting in and opining on what Manhattan Beach should do, they might address the hundred, if not thousands, of racist incidences in LA over the past 150 years.

Regards ,  
Dick Brandes- 50 year resident  
1220 5th St

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Simona K <simonakrasn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 12:33 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello city of Manhattan Beach,

My name is Simona Krasnegor and I am currently a student at UCLA. I went to high school at Mira Costa and wanted to write in regards to the recent discussion of Bruce's Beach. I am asking the City Council to support a Resolution of Apology from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This is necessary to try to move forward from the city's wrongdoings of the past and address racism in our community; we are better and we must show it. In addition to a resolution, I also support giving the land back to the Bruce family, as it is rightfully theirs.

Sincerely,  
Simona

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lucia La Rosa <larosa\_lucia@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 12:16 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] the legal and political risks of an apology

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Dear Council Members:

As a resident, I offer the below common-sense consideration in regards to the requested apology for Bruce's Beach. In the last council hearing Council member Napolitano said that he spoke with the city attorney and there was little legal risk. I am not sure the terms of that conversation were, but I disagree in that there are considerable legal, financial political and reputational risks and I would suggest that the City receive thorough written legal counsel on this matter.

I believe we should acknowledge the past and share the sentiment of regret for any racist intent there may have been in the past actions against the Bruce family as well as those which may have been against any other person, not only for his/her/their race, but for their heritage, religion, sex, and sexual orientation as well, anywhere that may have happened.

Words to express this regret must be precise because those words have legal connotations and implications and can be used or manipulated in political pressure campaigns, or worse, in legal actions for reparations and restitution against the City of Manhattan Beach, which you have been elected to protect.. Regret and apology are two different words, have two different meanings, and most importantly have two different legal implications.

**An apology is a necessary centerpiece for both litigation and reparations strategies against the City of Manhattan Beach and/or Los Angeles County, which would explain why the demand for it, from otherwise dis-interested parties, enjoys such fervor.** To discount this risk would be grossly negligent. The city should offer regret or sympathy for ANY form of discrimination that may have happened in the past, anywhere it may have occurred. It is preferable that the Bruce family, or Bruce Beach situation, be referred to in the context of a general acknowledgement. The more generic it is, the less likely it is to be used in a court of law against the City. Simply put, an apology, however well intentioned, creates risk to the city by opening a door which is presently shut.

In the English dictionary *apology* is defined as "the recognition of a committed wrong." In legal terms, apology has been deemed an assumption of liability or recognition of liability.

Specifically, at the present time, apologies are allowed as admission of liability under several rules of evidence:

Federal Rules.20 First, Federal Rule of Evidence 801(d)(2) r Rule 804(b)(3).

California Evidence Code §1160 specifically addresses the admissibility of expressions of sympathy or benevolence and distinguish sympathy from apology. While the first is not admissible as evidence, the latter is construed as an admission of fault.

In the Bruce Beach matter, possible counter-arguments why an apology wouldn't create risk are that the statute of limitations have passed and thus an action aimed at invalidating the eminent domain could never be brought, and if it were brought, it would be against Los Angeles County and not against the City of Manhattan Beach. These arguments do not disprove the existence of a legal risk:

- 1) Even if the statute of limitations has expired, a public admission of guilt, which is what an apology represents, could be the basis to argue for an equitable tolling of the statute of limitations. It is true that the facts were already matter of public record; so even in equity the statute of limitations would be considered expired; however the apology inserts a different and new element which is that while those past facts were known, only with the new apology the Bruce family (alleged victim) might have become aware that the city was liable-. Thus, with an apology, the city is now recognizing it is responsible to fix the wrong it committed by virtue of an alleged agency between the current municipality and the city council of 100 years ago. This could substantiate the argument that it is precisely the apology - not the pre-existing public records - which triggers the equitable tolling of the statute of limitations. The statute of limitations has passed, but an apology, i.e., an admission of responsibility, by the City could easily re-open it.
- 2) The statute of limitations argument would be relevant only if we assume that the legal action aims to invalidate the eminent domain in order to restore the land to the private party. However, there are multiple theories of the cases accessible to the Bruce family. One of them is legal action against the City of Manhattan Beach and LA County, not to over-turn the eminent domain, but for reparations as a victims of racial discrimination. In this case the apology would be the very basis of the legal case, because the apology is an identification and an admission by the City of Manhattan Beach of its institutional and legal responsibility for the racial discrimination of 100 years ago.

Thay Jones, Researcher at the History Department of Columbia University, and a reparations advocate, affirms that demands of reparations have thus far been much more successful at the local level than at the state or federal level, and in fact he encourages reparations advocates to specifically pursue local strategies. As he said: *“Reparations payments from such institutions (aka School Districts and cities) — whether realized or promised — have totaled in the tens of millions of dollars. And it could be just the beginning. All politics is local; for now, so are reparations.”* ([Perspective | Slavery reparations seem impossible. In many places, they're already happening.](#)). It is worth noting that the Bruce family has already expressed on the public record its intention to sue the City of Manhattan Beach; the prudent and responsible action would be to behave as if the City is anticipating this lawsuit. Thus, the legal risk or an apology cannot be discounted. Regardless of whether or not a possible litigation is successful, it would be costly and will affect the reputation of Manhattan Beach regardless of outcome. Apart from the legal implications, an apology is politically dangerous and can result in financial risks for the city for political reasons, if not for legal ones. Other cities, including Chicago; Providence, Rhode Island; Burlington, Vermont; Asheville, North Carolina; and Amherst, Massachusetts, have been pressured into reparations. If Manhattan Beach apologizes, there is a near certainty of increased political pressure for reparations. Last summer, New York Times writer Nikole Hannah-Jones, the force behind the paper's *1619 Project*, argued that the natural resolution of issues raised by the Black Lives Matter protests must be reparations. According to Thai Jones, reparations at the local level needs a political movement driven by historical fact and public sympathy. If this sounds familiar it is because it is familiar – the story of the Bruce family has been manipulated exactly for a specific political purpose. There is no coincidence that the claims have received national press coverage; you assume an apology will be nationally flouted as well. In summary, an apology is the exact language that is necessary to justify reparations, because reparations are exactly an enactment of an apology: accept your alleged personal responsibility and right supposedly historical wrongs.

If a simple resident such as myself can contemplate this argument, can you imagine what actual legal counsel representing the Bruce family or other opposition might come up with? And even if these is not a winning argument, do you want to spend our city's financial resources and reputation to prove it?

Do not apologize.

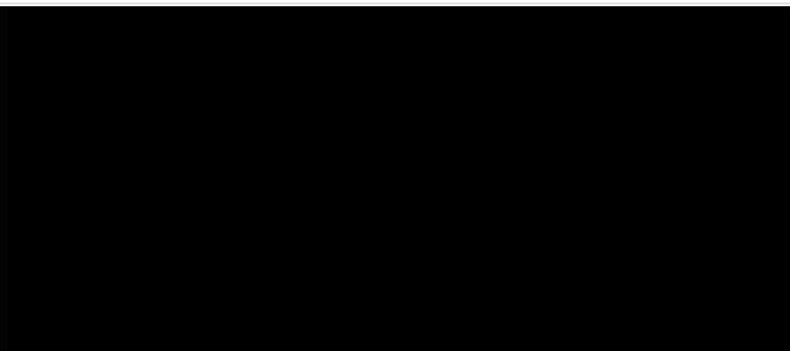
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## Reparations for bias and slavery gains momentum

Keep your eye on Evanston, Ill., which this week became the first U.S. city to make reparations available to its...

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lloyd Bookman <lloydbookman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 11:08 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I am a 33-year resident of Manhattan Beach, and have now lived in Manhattan Beach for about half of my life. I strongly and unequivocally support the City of Manhattan Beach issuing a full-throated, unambiguous apology to the Bruce family.

I have carefully reviewed the BBTF's report and other documents in the public record. It is incontrovertible that our city ran the Bruces out of town and took their property under the pretext of establishing a park solely because they were Black and attracted other African-Americans to enjoy our city and its beach. I have listened to and read the arguments that try and minimize or obfuscate what happened. They are beyond weak, and do not contravene the central point--that this City engaged in abhorrent racist behavior 100 years ago for which there is no excuse. The fact that racism was endemic and more out in the open then than it is now is no excuse or reason for ignoring what this City did. It was wrong then; it is wrong now.

To those individuals who complain that they did not personally kick the Bruces out of Manhattan Beach and are not racist, and therefore have no reason to apologize, I wish to remind them and the Council that it is the City through the City Council who acted 100 years ago and it is the City acting through the City Council that has a moral duty to apologize now.

This is truly a teaching moment. What are we telling our kids if we decline to apologize for the inexcusable wrongs of the past? You as the leaders of our City must provide an example of acting ethically, taking responsibility for the mistakes of this City's past, and at the very least apologizing to those who were wronged.

What are we telling the rest of the world, and yes I mean literally the rest of the world as this matter is out in the open for all to see, if the City refuses to apologize. The message we will be giving is that Manhattan Beach is a white bastion that tolerates racism and does not welcome people of color into its community. Is this who we are? Is this who we want to be? I sincerely hope not.

I have been very lucky to live in our City. Until the Council balked at apologizing for the travesty done to the Bruces, I was generally happy and very appreciative of the hard and thoughtful work of our City leaders. I am now ashamed and embarrassed by the Council's hesitancy when it comes to apologizing to the Bruces, as well as by the myopically shocking views expressed by some of my fellow city residents in their Beach Reporter ad and elsewhere.

Last, the apology, the new plaque, the art work, and the web page are clearly not enough, not in this day and age. BBTF has suggested that it continue, and engage in or provide recommendations concerning activities designed to combat racism and make this community more inclusive. Bowing to political pressure, the Council disbanded the BBTF. But, the Council did not set in motion any process or body to develop an anti-racism program in the City. If we are to think of ourselves as a progressive and inclusive community, the Council must move forward to combat racism and other unacceptable behavior directed at diverse people.

Thank you for reading this. Please do the right thing and approve an apology to the Bruces.

Lloyd Bookman  
700 Johnson Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
310-418-2879

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Jenna Ahmed <jennaahmed715@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:39 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council,

Hi, hope you this email finds you well. My name is Jenna Ahmed and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” for to the Bruce Family and not an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. Apologizing for an act of racism in our city's history is a healthy and constructive step toward addressing the global reality of racism. I love this community and know that with this, we can heal and move forward. With and apology, we address what has happened in the past, and move forward to form a more tolerant and welcoming environment. In situations such as these I think it is important to ask ourselves what kind of example are we setting for young people? If we are teaching students to learn to say sorry, learn the importance of history, and learn what it means to be a good person who understands people's experiences and perspectives, then it is time we as a community embody that as well.

Thank you,  
Jenna Ahmed

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** breton lobner <bklobner42@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 5:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - No Apology  
**Attachments:** Letter - City Council - 4-5-2021.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please accept our letter in opposition to the City or the City Council issuing an apology regarding Bruce's Beach.

April 5, 2021

Honorable Members of the City Council  
City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Avenue  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Re: No Apology

Dear Members of the City Council:

Demand has been made that the City Council issue an apology regarding a century old condemnation action of the property at Bruce's Beach. No apology should be given. The assumption upon which this demand is made is faulty and misplaced.

Apology is defined as "a written or spoken expression of one's regret, remorse, or sorrow *for having insulted, failed, injured, or wronged another*". The predicate for one offering an apology is that the person extending the apology *is responsible* for the injury or insult. Such is not the case here.

No one alive today can be responsible for the condemnation action that occurred more than 100 years ago. While the condemnation action and its settlement are historical fact based on official public records, today no one can testify with first-hand knowledge as to the motivations of those who authorized the condemnation action or to the ultimate economic fairness of the settlement. Those calling for an apology ignore the undeniable fact that Manhattan Beach and its residents have deplored racism for many decades. Actions over the more recent past speak volumes as to our community's commitment to racial equality, opportunity, tolerance, and understanding. An apology, if extended, would only kindle the fires of just the opposite.

Finally, an apology could be construed as a legal admission of wrongdoing. Some admissions are admissible in a court of law. Why would our City ever consider issuing an apology under such circumstances?

**Along with hundreds of our fellow residents, we oppose the issuance of any apology.**

Respectfully,



Bret and Pattie Lobner

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Matthew Wheeler <mwheeler78@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 2:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MBUSD Teachers Support Resolution of Apology  
**Attachments:** MBUSD\_Teachers\_PetitionForApology.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Greetings again, City leaders:

In the last 72 hours, I have collected the signatures of 50 Manhattan Beach Unified School District educators and staff that signed the attached petition (page 1) in support of the Resolution of Apology from the Manhattan Beach City Council to the Bruce Family and other affected property owners and their families.

Appended as a list to the petition (page 2) are the names of a diverse coalition of teachers, counselors, and staff from nearly every MBUSD school site whose professional responsibility is the education, health, and wellbeing of the youngest generation of this community. From kindergarten teachers to high school teachers, psychologists to librarians, a special education learning aide to an extended day staff member, these men and women -- many of whom do not live in this community but care deeply about its families nonetheless -- were compelled to go on public record to endorse the gesture of moral justice and compassion the Resolution of Apology conveys.

I ask for a second time, this time on behalf of my MBUSD colleagues, to please support the Resolution for Apology so that current and future families of this City (as well as the good people that work here) know that the ethos of this community is one that embraces equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Matt Wheeler  
English Department  
Mira Costa High School  
1401 Artesia Blvd.  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266  
TEL: (310) 318-7337 ext. 5208  
EMAIL: MWheeler@mbusd.org  
WEBSITE: [www.proseandcommas.org](http://www.proseandcommas.org)

Recipient: Manhattan Beach City Council

Letter: Greetings,

We are teachers at Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) and we support a "Resolution of Apology" from the Manhattan Beach City Council to the Bruce Family and other affected property owners and their families. We DO NOT support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, we hope you agree that equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion are principles that should be taught to the young people of this community. A formal and public apology by the City would not only model these very principles for our students, but serve as the ultimate learning experience for showing what these principles look like in action.

Your students and teachers are counting on you to complete the good work you set out to do. Please do not let us down.

**CHANGE.ORG Petition**<https://www.change.org/p/manhattan-beach-city-council-mbusd-teachers-support-an-apology>

The following MBUSD Teachers have signed the above petition letter to be sent to Manhattan Beach City Council on April 5, 2021

Total signatures

50

Name	MBUSD Affiliation	City	State	Postal Code	Country	Signed On
Carrie Fairbrother	Grand View Elementary	Palos Verdes Peninsula	CA	90274	US	2021-04-02
Paige Kropf	Grand View Elementary	Long Beach	CA	90803	US	2021-04-02
Dina Deragisch	Grand View Elementary	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-02
Yuki Sumitomo	Manhattan Beach Middle School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-02
Chelsea Hillbrand	Manhattan Beach Middle School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-02
Keely Sweeny	Manhattan Beach Middle School	Gardena	CA	90247	US	2021-04-03
Andrew Kilpatrick	Manhattan Beach Middle School	Redondo Beach	CA	90277	US	2021-04-04
Rachel Welch	Manhattan Beach Middle School	Redondo Beach	CA	90277	US	2021-04-05
Jeremy Cooley	Manhattan Beach Middle School	Long Beach	CA	90815	US	2021-04-01
Bridget Sullivan	MBUSD Educational Community	Fayetteville	AR	72701	US	2021-04-03
Susana Anton	MBUSD Educational Community	Gardena	CA	90247	US	2021-04-02
Andrew Anton	MBUSD Educational Community	Torrance	CA	90504	US	2021-04-02
April Falco	MBUSD Educational Community	Torrance	CA	90504	US	2021-04-02
Michele Adams	MBUSD Educational Community	Torrance	CA	90503	US	2021-04-02
Viviana Avalos	MBUSD Educational Community	Wilmington	CA	90744	US	2021-04-02
Alyne Kassardjian	MBUSD Educational Community	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-02
Danielle Radl	Meadows Elementary	Manhattan beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-03
Matthew Wheeler	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90278	US	2021-04-01
Nicole Wachell	Mira Costa High School	Los Angeles	CA	90045	US	2021-04-01
Quincy Howerton	Mira Costa High School	Redondo Beach	CA	90278	US	2021-04-01
Ernesto Nodado	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-01
Alan Zeoli	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-01
Jonathan Westerberg	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-01
Diana Sieker	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-01
Lisa Cook	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-01
Trevor Oystrick	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-01
Daniel Cashman	Mira Costa High School	Long Beach	CA	90805	US	2021-04-01
LeAnn Slough	Mira Costa High School	Hawthorne	CA	90250	US	2021-04-01
Maddie Hutchinson	Mira Costa High School	Lawndale	CA	90260	US	2021-04-01
Erin Doyle	Mira Costa High School	El Segundo	CA	90245	US	2021-04-02
Bradi Everett	Mira Costa High School	Hermosa Beach	CA	90254	US	2021-04-03
Lindsey Valbuena	Mira Costa High School	Los Angeles	CA	90022	US	2021-04-03
Janet Allen	Mira Costa High School	Redondo Beach	CA	90278	US	2021-04-03
Nancy Geczi	Mira Costa High School	Torrance	CA	90505	US	2021-04-03
Aaron Kofahl	Mira Costa High School	Torrance	CA	90505	US	2021-04-03
Lilla Foster	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-04
Stacy Cabrera	Mira Costa High School	Torrance	CA	90501	US	2021-04-04
Michael Hernandez	Mira Costa High School	Los Angeles	CA	90034	US	2021-04-04
Brittney Oystrick	Mira Costa High School	San Pedro	CA	90732	US	2021-04-04
David Piorek	Mira Costa High School	Palos Verdes Peninsula	CA	90274	US	2021-04-04
Eliza Santarosa	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-04
Monica Pherson	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-05
Mark McCormick	Mira Costa High School	Los Angeles	CA	90045	US	2021-04-05
Taylor DiBernardo	Mira Costa High School	Mission Viejo	CA	92691	US	2021-04-05
Shawn McMullen Chen	Mira Costa High School	Manhattan Beach	CA	90266	US	2021-04-05
Nikki Biernat	Mira Costa High School	Carson	CA	90746	US	2021-04-02
Katrina OConnor	Pacific Elementary	Inglewood	CA	90303	US	2021-04-02
Ruth Ahmed	Pacific Elementary	Los Angeles	CA	90034	US	2021-04-02
Sara Williams	Robinson Elementary	Los Angeles	CA	90019	US	2021-04-02
Michelle Pellegrino	Robinson Elementary	Los Angeles	CA	90068	US	2021-04-02

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jeannie Wood <jcwood12@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:56 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; cm.citymb.info@aol.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce"s Beach--Reply to Mayor Suzanne Hadley

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi Suzanne!

Thank you for your immediate response to our email of last week (March 29) and your explanation of the current issues surrounding Bruce's Beach.

Likewise, you and your family are beloved. I have been blessed by my interactions over the years with the youngest members of our community. In my heart, I will forever carry your little ones— now your wonderful young adults, I'm sure!

With all of the current publicity, I, like many of my fellow MB residents, have become interested in the history of this part of our city and the possibility of righting an historical wrong.

The definition of "righting" in the context of Bruce's Beach seems to be at the heart of the current discussion.

I realize that opinions vary and that there is not a single easy solution.

From the commission's report, it sounds like there are proposals to acknowledge the historical wrong and to invest a significant sum of money into the Bruce's Beach site.

An acknowledgement of the historical wrong on the part of the City would be a significant gesture.

Additionally, redirecting \$350,000 to the Bruce family heirs would put some teeth into this acknowledgement.

Alternatively, an arrangement that repaired the deprivation of inherited wealth for the Bruce family would be just.

I am hopeful that MB people of good will come together to answer the question: What is just? The collective answer will become our children's legacy.

I will stay tuned !

Love,

Miss Jeannie

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** ROBIN LIGGETT <rliggett@ucla.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support Apology to the Bruces

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I stand with those who support a just and welcoming Manhattan Beach including an apology to the Bruces and other families affected at the time.

I urge you, City Council members, to adopt an apology to express our regret.

Thank you,

Robin Liggett  
9th Street  
Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** DTC Trinidad <dttrinidad@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:46 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] We support an apology and pledge to continue to do better

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We are Manhattan Beach residents of over 20 years. Our children were raised here and went through the entire school district.

We ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

**We would like to remind the Councilmembers that the City Attorney has determined that an apology does not expose the City to liability. We encourage our city attorney to please speak up at the meeting this Tuesday April 6th to ensure these falsehoods of litigation are put to rest.**

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

The Choromanski Family

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Michael Stauber <michaelstauber@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:45 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BBTF Recommendation

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Thank you Councilmembers for all your work.

We still oppose the BBTF Recommendation. It does not make sense and lacks reasonableness that some 35,000 citizens alive today be held responsible for the actions of far fewer citizens long ago. We support Councilmember Franklin's Statement of Acknowledgment and Condemnation.

Michael and Julie Stauber, 22 yr MB residents

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Erickson, Neil C. <NCE@JMBM.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:35 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Michelle and Neil Erickson (mandnerickson@msn.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No "Apology" -- It's a Litigation Trap

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As a long-time Manhattan Beach residence, I do not favor, and object to, the City offering an "apology" for 100 year-old events that pre-date the lives of anyone residing in the City today.

By vocation, I am a civil litigation trial attorney. The political pressure being applied to advocate for a formal "apology" by the City is little more than a veiled litigation tactic to secure a judicial admission that can later be used in a lawsuit against the City and its current tax payers.

It should be rejected.

**Neil C. Erickson** | Partner

**Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP | JMBM**

1900 Avenue of the Stars, 7th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067

**D:** (310) 201-3516 | **C:** (310) 291-6239 | **F:** (310) 712-8516 | **E:** [NErickson@JMBM.com](mailto:NErickson@JMBM.com)

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cedric Tuck-Sherman <ctucksherman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:45 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB Council,

How can issuing a formal apology be anything other than a "no brainer." Ironically by delaying this action you've already accomplished what you were trying to avoid, which is to make the City appear racist. Please apologize unequivocally and as soon as possible.

Thank you,

The Tuck-Sherman Family  
1811 Agnes Road  
(310) 648-0096

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Piper Redman <piperredman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I support an apology for the Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Piper Redman and I have lived in Manhattan Beach for 28 years.

I urge the city to issue a formal apology for the Bruce family and other families of color who experienced racism at the hands of Manhattan Beach residents. When governments have committed wrongs, they have issued formal apologies.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

The only way to disrupt racism is to be ACTIVELY anti-racist. Face our city's past and start taking the necessary steps to show the people of color in Manhattan Beach and all of the South Bay that they are welcome, they are heard, and they are safe.

Thank you,  
Piper Redman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gretchen Renshaw <zwisslers@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:57 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As a long-time resident of MB, I believe an apology over the actions the city took long ago regarding Bruce's Beach is appropriate. I personally feel sorry that it happened, even though I wasn't involved. Please issue an apology to the appropriate individuals.

-Gretchen Renshaw

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Michelle and Neil Erickson <MandNErickson@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:51 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

Thank you for your service to our community, I appreciate your dedication during these challenging times.

As you further consider the Bruce's Beach Resolution for Apology, I am writing to state my preference for an Acknowledgement, not an Apology. I agree it is important to empathize with all the property owners whose property was taken in the 1920's and acknowledge the history of our city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Michelle Erickson, Resident, 34 years

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** pilar dugard <pilardugard16@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:47 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear city council,

My name is Pilar Dugard and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I would like to reach out and ask you for a "resolution of apology" from the city council to the Bruce's Family. The purpose of this apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but to acknowledge the wrongdoings committed in the past, and how we can address current issues relating to systematic racism as a community.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Zena Fong <zeefong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:28 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Issue formal apology

Hello,

Thank you for your replies. I have lived in Manhattan Beach for over 25 years. I am a person of color and have two daughters who also grew up in Manhattan Beach. We have all experienced racism and microaggressions in this community. Many assumptions about us because of the color of my skin and racial background. My daughters have been treated like the "other" in school with many snide remarks because of racist assumptions. It is important that we acknowledge racist issues whether past, present, or future so we can create spaces where everyone feels welcome. I hope you will consider the apology a step in the right direction. Children and families are watching and Manhattan Beach can be a good example of doing better.

Sincerely,

Zena Fong

On Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 9:25 AM Hildy Stern <[hstern@citymb.info](mailto:hstern@citymb.info)> wrote:

Hello Zena

Thank you for sharing the reason you support issuing an apology. I agree - an apology only makes us stronger together and shows our support for everyone in our community.

I will continue to advocate for this and other measures, as well, that keep us on a path of treating everyone in Manhattan Beach with respect and equality.

I expect our upcoming April 6th meeting, where we will discuss the resolution of apology, to include another robust participation at public comment and an ensuing discussion by council. We always welcome the public to comment so I encourage you to do so.

I truly appreciate you being a part of this conversation. Please stay in touch.  
Hildy



**HILDY STERN**

MAYOR PRO TEM

310-802-5053

[hstern@citymb.info](mailto:hstern@citymb.info)

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH** 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Office Hours: M-Th 7:30 AM-5:30 PM | Fridays 7:30 AM-4:30 PM | Not Applicable to Public Safety

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**From:** Zena Fong <[zeefong@gmail.com](mailto:zeefong@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Issue formal apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Whom It May concern,

I would like to encourage the city council to issue a formal apology for the wrongful actions taken by the city of Manhattan Beach regarding the Bruce family and other black families in the 1920s. As a resident of Manhattan Beach, I feel this is an important step in showing the world that these actions were unjust and this would help in the healing of our community. It would show that Manhattan Beach is committed to justice and want to make all members of our community feel welcome.

Sincerely,

Zena Fong

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Spencer McFarland <spenceremcfarland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:20 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's beach formal apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a current resident of Manhattan Beach and a 3rd generation resident of the South Bay. I grew up here and in Palos Verdes. Most of my family still lives in the area, and I have started my own here. One thing that I hate to say about my community is that it is not the most welcoming to people of color. My friends have attested to this over the years when they visit with firsthand experience. I have heard that there is concern that if the city issues a formal apology it will be branded as a "racist city" and negatively affect the city's reputation. Well I suggest that you as the city council consider that maybe Manhattan Beach and the beach cities of the South Bay already have a reputation of a racist past and present, and that not issuing an apology and remaining silent will only further solidify this reputation.

Sincerely,  
Spencer McFarland  
1407 15th St  
Manhattan Beach CA 90266

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Nicole Sevier <nicolesevier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; cm@citymn.info  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB RESIDENTS SUPPORT AN APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Honorable MB Mayor and MB Council Members,

I am a Manhattan Beach resident of 24 years.

I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Thank you

Cheers,

Nicole Sevier

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** hmrbeach@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:41 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Apology Opposition

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

MBCC / City of MB

I oppose an apology from the City of Manhattan Beach related to Bruces Beach.

Helen Ristani  
(MB Resident - 60 years)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lisa Ristani <lisaristani@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:30 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach - City Apology - Opposition

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

MBCC / City of MB

I oppose any apology from the City of Manhattan Beach related to Bruces Beach.

An apology or acknowledgement is outside of the original scope of the Task Force (plaque, artwork and provide ***accurate and factual history of BB***)

Any history or information produced related to Bruce's Beach needs to be factual and without feelings, interpretations or embellishments.

I urge the City Council to put closure to this without an apology, acknowledgement, etc and move on.

Thank you  
Lisa Ristani  
(Lifelong Resident)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mike Pitts <pitts2x@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:13 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

This says it well:

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

My sense is that white people are rarely the best judges of whether they are or are not racist. In many ways, the more we insist we haven't a racist bone in our body, the greater the likelihood that we just might.

You could argue that to refuse to apologize for a racist act is an act of racism, in and of itself.

When you screw up, if you're a decent human being, you own up. You make amends. You atone. You apologize. And Manhattan Beach screwed up with the Bruce family. Badly.

Apologies don't diminish you. They speak well of you. And an apology for this heinous act will speak very well of us indeed.

Let's take the high road.

Thank you.

Mike Pitts  
861 3rd St  
Resident since 1989

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** STEPHEN LEBKUECHER <liqstore@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:54 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please do the smart thing

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**Re: the Bruce's Beach matter**It is not credible that any competent attorney would write there is no risk in an apology when the city has been expressly and publicly threatened with a \$75 million dollar law suit for restoration, reparations, restitution, compensatory and punitive damages.

**I ask the city to approve councilman Joe Franklin's statement of condemnation-- not an apology.**

Stephen Lebkuecher  
Robinson Elementary class of 73  
Center Middle School class of 75  
Mira Costa High School class of 79

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Brianna Egan <briannajungegan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 7:15 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item F4 (Bruce's Beach)

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City of Manhattan Beach city council,

I am a resident of Redondo Beach and lifelong South Bay resident. I am also an Asian American and current Master's of Public Health student.

Over the past year as our country has faced a racial reckoning with acknowledging systemic injustice against Black Americans, I have followed the conversations and sentiments in our own community. I have been heartened by a greater awareness, in general, of the inequities faced by the Black community with regards to education, housing, and opportunity for generations as a result of racist and exclusionary policies and practices. Awareness and acknowledgement of these things is the first step. Education and meaningful action to rectify wrongdoings is the next logical step.

This is why the story behind Bruce's Beach has been particularly resonant and important for our community today. There is no argument that what the City of Manhattan Beach did to drive out the Bruce family, their business, and a burgeoning Black community at the time was wrong. The city's own records and eyewitness accounts speak for itself. Although we might tell ourselves otherwise, California has a history of racism and exclusion, dating to Spanish colonization of Native Americans, the systematic killing of Native communities during the Gold Rush era, and the forced imprisonment of Japanese Americans during WWII. This history is important, and we must teach it in schools so we do not forget and repeat mistakes.

In the discussion you are considering on Tuesday, on whether to issue an apology or condemnation, I strongly urge you to issue a formal apology. A formal apology is the right thing to do. You have well-worded apologies in both the task force's and council member Hildy Stern's version. An "acknowledgement and condemnation" is far too weak and sends the message that the Manhattan Beach of today is no different than the one of the 1920's. It signals that the council and the city want to shirk their duties and moral obligation. When someone commits a wrongdoing against you, do you want them to "acknowledge and condemn" their wrongdoing? (The gall.) No, you'd want them to apologize. If that party is not alive to apologize, you'd still find peace and healing in the apology of their kin or later representative.

An apology is the only way the city can truly move forward, in the unearthing and reckoning of the Bruce's Beach story. Guaranteed, anything short of an apology is going to further alienate residents of color, and cement Manhattan Beach to outsiders and the zeitgeist as "so white." More importantly, an apology will be meaningful to the Bruce family, and will allow them to begin to heal from the years of trauma and hurt imposed by the city's wrongdoing. Japanese Americans received an apology from the US president, many years after internment, but it was an apology. And it was a different president, different administration, different era. Still, an apology was needed.

Please do the right thing. Show the South Bay, show LA, and the country what it means to lead the way to apologize and seek restoration, reconciliation, and reparations. It's time for the city to reaffirm its commitment to diversity and inclusion by issuing an apology and modeling what is right.

Thank you,  
Brianna Egan

--

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” — Audrey Hepburn

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jason Frank <jfrank@lawfss.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 6:48 AM  
**To:** Jason Frank  
**Cc:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: In Favor of Appology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Jason Frank  
1416 3rd Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

>

> When I heard the City was going to apologize for the actions regarding Bruce's beach, I thought it was a small but fairly meaningless gesture. When I heard the City had a task force "studying" whether to issue an apology, I rolled my eyes at what I felt was a caricature of a liberal government gone amuck. When I heard that after "studying" the issue, the City was seriously considering NOT issuing an apology, this no longer became a meaningless issue or gesture. There is no way to "nuance" around this. To the world this will be saying that the CURRENT RESIDENTS of MB actively do not believe an apology is owed for this past conduct.

>

> I was not a citizen (or alive) when the City took the Bruce family property and was not responsible for that decision. But I am a voting resident today and so I will be responsible for the decision of my elected officials not to even apologize for what happened.

> I have not heard anyone defend the actions of what happened to the Bruce family. So we should be strong enough as a City to apologize and condemn it. An apology at least sets a standard saying that this does not represent our City's values and we will not allow this to happen in the future. A non-apology or Clintonesque "acknowledgment" (sorry to Bill Clinton fans) only conveys weakness and shame. Please do not let our City become a national embarrassment. Vote for an Apology.

>

Jason Frank  
1416 3rd Street

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jason Frank <jasonfranklaw@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 6:40 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Cc:** Jason Frank  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Favor of Appology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

When I heard the City was going to apologize for the actions regarding Bruce's beach, I thought it was a small but fairly meaningless gesture. When I heard the City had a task force "studying" whether to issue an apology, I rolled my eyes at what I felt was a caricature of a liberal government gone amuck. When I heard that after "studying" the issue, the City was seriously considering NOT issuing an apology, this no longer became a meaningless issue or gesture. There is no way to "nuance" around this. To the world this will be saying that the CURRENT RESIDENTS of MB actively do not believe an apology is owed for this past conduct.

I was not a citizen (or alive) when the City took Bruce family property and was not responsible for that decision. But I am a resident today and I will be responsible for the decision not to even apologize for what happened. I have not heard anyone defend the actions of what happened to the Bruce family. So we should be strong enough as a City to apologize and condemn it. An apology at least sets a standard saying that this does not represent our City's values and we will not allow this to happen in the future. A non-apology or Clintonesque "acknowledgment" (sorry to Bill Clinton fans) only conveys weakness and shame. Please do not let our City become a national embarrassment. Vote for an Apology.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cecilia Ball <cball6@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 5:57 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; Steve Napolitano  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] To Apologize or Not

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To apologize or not should not even be a question. Of course we should apologize and of course some reparation should be made to the Bruce family.

It truly disheartened me to see the contrived arguments against an apology and saddens me even further that it appears our city council seems to be following the lead of the fear mongering campaign against an apology and reparation.

At the same time it warmed my heart to see the long list of residents who believe, as I do, that, if Manhattan Beach truly has changed and grown to be an inclusive city, then the right course of action is to apologize to the Bruce family and to support some form of reparation.

Cecilia Ball  
Manhattan Beach resident since 1972

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Tess Fortier <tess.nicole.fortier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 5:34 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; cityclerk@citymb.ino; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Tess Fortier, I am a student at El Camino College, and grew up in Hermosa Beach through the MBUSD system. I truly hope you will support the "Resolution of Apology" to the Bruce Family, as it is not an expression of personal responsibility, but acknowledges a racist history that needs to be addressed to move past systemic racism. There are very few black families living in Manhattan Beach, partially due to the fact that our city has refused to acknowledge the past and prevents us from moving forward.

As the world progresses towards racial equality, I think the city will one day look back with shame and regret if this apology is not granted now.

We need to set a positive example for future generations, and more importantly, provide a safe space for residents of all skin colors and backgrounds.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Tess Fortier

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Dawn Tamir <dawntamir@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 5:23 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce family apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I am supporting a formal apology from the City of MB to the Bruce family. With Easter upon us we are reminded that Jesus died for our sins. I believe the least we as a city can do, is apologize for the past sins of our city. Hardly a sacrifice, (liability is not an issue according to our city attorney) but certainly the right thing to do.

Best,  
Dawn Tamir  
1416 3rd St.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ben <benjamin\_green@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:21 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology To Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members

My name is Ben Green. I have been a Manhattan Beach resident for 10 years.

Like many others, I am asking the Manhattan Beach City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" for the Bruce Family instead of a contemplated acknowledgement.

I understand there was previously some concern about whether an apology would open the city up to liability. However, I further understand that the City Attorney has since conveyed that an apology would not create liability.

Do what's right. Please apologize to the Bruce Family for the actions of city leaders/the city at the time.

Thank you,

Ben Green

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carter Turman <citturman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Carter Turman and I am a student at Vistamar Highschool. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Carter Turman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Turman, Carter <carterturman22@vistamarschool.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Carter Turman and I am a student at Vistamar Highschool. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Carter Turman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rosy Travis <rosygt@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:54 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution to Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Rosy Travis and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Rosy Travis

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** catherine wood <catherinew819@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:54 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Cat Wood and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Sincerely,  
Cat Wood

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Grace Lu <graceludon@sent.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:01 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology Support

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Grace Lu and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Grace Lu

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** jackie eanes <jackie.eanes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology to Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a tax paying resident of Manhattan Beach and I support the city of Manhattan Beach issuing a full apology to the Bruce Family. Furthermore, I would like to see many of the recommendations made by the Bruce's Beach Task Force implemented. They are common sense recommendations that show Manhattan Beach celebrates diversity and uniqueness. I love Manhattan Beach, I love living here, I love my neighbors. I can still love Manhattan Beach even with an imperfect past.

Please apologize to the Bruce Family and implement recommendations made by the appointed (and now disbanded) Bruce's Beach Task Force.

Regards,  
Jackie Eanes

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Jackie Eanes (she/her)  
[jackie.eanes@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.eanes@gmail.com)  
847.530.4315

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Catherine Coan <ccoan@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology - For April 6

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am a twenty-year resident of Manhattan Beach who lived next to Bruce's Beach when it was Parque Culiacán. I believe that a city shows that it is against racism by saying so and behaving accordingly, not by working out a privileged bubble-logic whereby racism magically doesn't exist there in 2021.

No matter how innocent of racism one might be, when one is more engaged in defending their own innocence than they are in listening to how others have been harmed by their actions, they prove only that their need to feel above reproach is more important to them than are the wisdom and experiences of other human beings.

Please issue a formal apology, not an acknowledgement, for Manhattan's Beach's use of eminent domain to deprive the Bruces and other Black families of their properties here in the 1920s. I want to live in a city that models empathy, not in one that turns up its nose at the ongoing fight for equality and equity.

Thank You,

Catherine Coan  
(310) 743-3031

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Priya Chatwani <priyachatwani5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:33 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Public Comment

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council members,

Thank you again for your time and energy. I would like to share my support for an explicit apology that recognizes the generational wealth and land that were unjustly stolen from the Bruce family and other Black families. We cannot learn and grow from our mistakes without acknowledging the harm that was caused.

Thank you for listening!  
Priya Chatwani

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Izzy Bacallao <frootydoggo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:28 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Izzy Bacallao. I live in Hermosa Beach and attend Fusion Academy. I am writing today to ask that the Manhattan Beach City Council support a “Resolution of Apology” from the council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from the current community. It would rather acknowledge past wrongdoings and how we can move forward as a whole and address current issues of systemic racism. I hope you take student and community feedback on this issue to heart. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Izzy Bacallao  
90254

--  
Izzy  
(They/Them)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Tim Bergin <bergin.tim@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 9:05 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology from MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council and City Manager:

As a military veteran and 16-year resident of Manhattan Beach, I'd like to request the following:

1. Please apologize, as our MB City Council, on behalf of the community, for wrongful acts by the City Council one hundred years ago;
2. Please hire a historian to verify the information going on the Bruce's Beach plaques; There always seems to be time and money to 'do it right, the second time.' but let's get it right the first time.
3. Reinstate the Task Force as an educational entity focused on equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion, and committed to bringing our City together.

Best Regards,

--

Tim Bergin  
310-658-3190

[Tim Bergin - LinkedIn Profile](#)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rita Moorman <moormanrm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:39 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Letter of Acknowledgment vs apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Members of the Manhattan Beach City Council,

Tomorrow night you will be debating further and potentially acting on a Letter of Apology vs Acknowledgment to the Bruce Family for the events of 100 years ago. The events involving the seizure of the Bruce's land are widely acknowledged to have been racially motivated, wrong, and not representative of the Manhattan Beach of today

The BBTF was given a clear mandate to explore and document the history of the events involving the Bruce Family and the other 20 + families that were involved, to come up with some type of artwork/display, and a plaque. The task force was never asked to come up with a Letter of Apology/Acknowledgement. Therefore, we do not feel either an Acknowledgement and especially not an Apology should be generated by the city on behalf of today's residents who had nothing to do with the horrible events of 100 years ago.

This issue has divided our peaceful town and exposed us to unfair, unwanted, and frankly dangerous publicity. The task force has done its job. It is time to move on.

Rita Moorman MD  
Adam Goldston  
28 year Manhattan Beach residents

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Skaar, David W. <david.skaar@hoganlovells.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:36 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Favor of Apology re Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilmembers,

Thank you for taking the time to consider residents' ideas, proposals, and concerns regarding Bruce's Beach. I understand that one of the remaining unresolved issues is whether the City will issue a formal "apology" for, or an "acknowledgement" of, the City's actions toward the Bruce family. I am writing to express my support for an apology, for the following reasons:

1. An apology puts others before ourselves. Instead of stubbornly focusing on how an apology would "make us look," we should focus on what good an apology can do for those that were directly impacted by the City's past actions. The moral difference between an acknowledgement ("I hit you") and an apology ("I hit you, I'm very sorry, and I won't do it again") is obvious. It's plain as day. Do the right thing. Be a positive example for our kids, our community, and our country.
2. Even if you're focused on how an apology would make the City look, it is clear that a formal apology will shine a positive, not negative, light on the City. It will show that the City is willing to admit past mistakes, and take at least a small step toward making things right. There will be critics. People will continue to argue that the City should do more. But an apology would be a small positive step in the right direction.
3. Even if you're focused on how an apology would make you look personally, you must realize that the apology has nothing to do with you. Nobody believes that any of the current residents or Councilmembers were responsible for what happened to the Bruce family 100 years ago. An apology will not change that.
4. Even if you're grasping at straws to support a "slippery slope" argument, an apology cannot possibly expose the City to liability. I have heard several people, including the Mayor, voice concerns about this, and I find it befuddling. The City Attorney has advised that there is no legal exposure here, and he's right. I am an experienced litigator and, for the life of me, I cannot dream up a legal theory that would hold any water against the City based on an apology for something that occurred 100 years ago. Nobody has been able to explain why they're concerned about litigation, which leads me to believe that it's a talking point, not a genuine concern.

Again, thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Yours truly,

**David W. Skaar**

Counsel

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**Hogan Lovells US LLP**

1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1400  
Los Angeles, CA 90067

Tel: +1 310 785 4600  
Direct: +1 310 785 4676  
Fax: +1 310 785 4601  
Email: david.skaar@hoganlovells.com  
www.hoganlovells.com

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*Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

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If you would like to know more about how we are managing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our firm then take a look at our brief [Q&A](#). If you would like to know more about how to handle the COVID-19 issues facing your business then take a look at our [information hub](#).

**About Hogan Lovells**

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Catherine Bergin <kate\_bergin@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:15 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach: Apology Not Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council and City Manager,

I have been a resident of Manhattan Beach for 16 years and have volunteered significant time for the benefit of our city: Our Schools, Manhattan Beach Education Foundation, TEDxManhattanBeach, Girl Scouts, National Charity League, Blue Zones, Skechers Walk, Beach Clean Ups, and Amigos Unidos. I love this City and have spent much of my life here working to make it the best it can be.

I am writing to convey my commitment to an apology by MB City Council for the actions taken by MB City Council 100 years ago regarding Bruce's Beach. This apology does not implicate the current City Council or any current residents. It is an apology for historic, and repulsive acts that no one is proud of.

Importantly, in defense of an apology, I request that you make the opinion of our City attorney -- that an apology does not open us up to liability — known at Tuesday's meeting. It is important to end the misinformation that an apology opens the City to future liability.

Institutional apologies are not new. Even the U.S. Government has apologized for mistreatment of people and misdeeds from long ago. Most recently Glendale City Council apologized for their historic mistreatment of people of color.

If we find out our children have done something wrong yesterday or many years ago, we don't teach our children to acknowledge the wrong doing, we teach them to apologize. We should not be teaching our children that there is one set of rules for them and another set for governments and companies.

This is not complicated: A hundred years ago our City Council misused the power of eminent domain to remove the Bruce Family and other families as well. These families were wrongly treated. Today's City Council needs to apologize for the acts of its predecessors.

When leaders are called, leaders must act - not based on their personal positions, but based on the law and what is right - even if difficult. The City attorney has approved the apology put forth by Councilman Napolitano. Based on the criteria, I believe Councilwoman Stern's apology would also be approved.

An apology is needed. Your decision will become part of history.

I would also ask you to please reconsider the following:

1. Please hire a historian to verify the history that the task force put together. We are spending up to \$350,000 on a memorial art piece. I think that is fitting. However, in light of all the effort put against this effort to date, and the expense of plaques and an art piece, let's make sure that what is written has been validated. It is a very small price to pay to show that our City Council cares that the information on the plaques is correct.

2. Reinstate the task force as an education task force focused on equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion. Negative and personal reactions that the task force was calling MB residents racist, only reinforces that we need MORE not LESS education on this issue. If you don't reinstate the task force, residents will assemble on their own. The problem with that is there is no unifying entity- specifically the City. It is the City who is in the leadership position to bring everyone together.

I have always been so proud of our City and the leadership we have taken on environmental, education, and annual multi-generational events that bring our City together. This is an education and leadership moment for our City. Please reinstate the task force.

In summary: 1. Please apologize as a City Council for wrongful acts by the City Council one hundred years ago; 2. Please hire a historian to verify the information going on the Bruce's Beach plaques; 3. Reinstate the task force as an education task force focused on equity, diversity, social justice, and inclusion, and commit to bringing our City together.

Thank you.

Kate

Kate Bergin  
310-658-3191

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Julie Watts <jules.watts@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 7:07 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my view that I do **not** believe that a Resolution of Apology nor Acknowledgment is warranted. This is what I believe should be done:

1. If necessary, I would support a **Resolution of Acknowledgement** the simply states:

**Resolution of Acknowledgement -**

- Be it resolved that the City of Manhattan Beach formally Acknowledges and Condemns the City's role in the 1924 eminent domain action with regard to the affected properties in the area of our town known as Bruce's Beach to the extent the actions taken by the City's Board of Trustees were motivated by a desire to implement segregation during an unfortunate era in America when such acts were both legal and commonplace in public facilities and neighborhoods alike, the City formally denounces such acts, and expresses empathy for all property owners affected.
- Do NOT include other information, i.e. false history, detailed history, DEI statements, future action, etc.

2. **I DO NOT support an Apology.**

- An apology is an admission of guilt, and MB residents of today are not responsible for and cannot apologize for what others did 100 years ago. It also opens us up to a lawsuit if we admit guilt.

3. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.

- Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits.

In addition, during the last city council meeting, members of BBTF and other participants called those that did not agree with them of being "white supremacists", "white fragility", "racists" and "Conservative terrorists", to name a few. These statements are racist and hateful, yet this rhetoric seems to be accepted. Why is it okay for them to call us these names and not be considered racists themselves? We have to stand-up to this type of bullying and hate. We have to view each person as an individual and judge each individual on their character.

Thank you,

Julie Watts  
MB Resident for 31 years

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Patricia Yates <patricia.yates@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 6:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I support a formal apology for the City's actions against the Bruce Family regarding "Bruce's Beach".

Anonymous claims of opposition to an apology are not valid. The loudest protestors should not dictate the Council's actions.

Manhattan Beach's high real estate values and stable community today were enabled by the racist behaviors of earlier residents. We stand on their shoulders. Why not give a hand up to those who were brutally forced out in the past?

Patricia Yates  
Manhattan Beach Resident (21 years)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** CityOfManhattanBeach@citymb.info on behalf of City of Manhattan Beach  
<CityOfManhattanBeach@citymb.info>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 6:35 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Virtual Meetin, April 6, 2021, Item #4

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Message submitted from the <City of Manhattan Beach> website.

**Site Visitor Name:** Dency Nelson  
**Site Visitor Email:** DLN52@verizon.net

Honorable Mayor & City Council,

As I stated in a letter to you on March 16, I do believe that systemic racism has existed and, based on continuing letters and recent ads appearing in local papers, continues to exist here in our cities. With that in mind, I ask once again that a Resolution of Apology, preferably with the language suggested by Councilmember Stern, is the very least the City of Manhattan Beach should consider at your April 6 meeting. With your decision the City of Manhattan Beach, and indeed the entire South Bay, will be judged not only by whatever action is taken actions, but also by failure to act. It is up to you to signal that we here in the South Bay recognize the injustice that was done to the Bruce Family, and to take steps toward recognizing that a fear of the "other" still exists among many in our community, but that it will not be tolerated. The County of Los Angeles seems to be prepared to take some of these steps toward better understanding and healing, as there is a clear, moral obligation to do so. Manhattan Beach should be the one to act first.

Sincerely,  
Dency Nelson  
Hermosa Beach  
DLN52@verizon.net



### CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH

CITY ENOTIFICATION

(310) 802-5000

CityofManhattanBeach@citymb.info

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**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** robertbush dslextreme.com <robertbush@dslextreme.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 6:05 PM  
**To:** robertbush @dslextreme.com  
**Cc:** robertbush @dslextreme.com; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Bruce Moe; Quinn Barrow; List - City Council; mmatthews; jfenton; speel; jboxer; jfenton; cgraves; jcochran  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] apology - MB

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**“When you say you are not racists, you might be racists.” by Robert Bush**

**The Beach Reporter 4/1/21 Public Comments Re: Bruce’s Beach - former Mayor Amy Howorth**

**When you have to put in quotes “we are not racists”, you might be racists. I think you’re protesting too much.**

**Amy, if you took a poll of the 35,000 residents of Manhattan Beach and ask them “Are you Racists?” – using your ideas - Manhattan Beach would be a “small beach town” of Racists.**

**Manhattan Beach is not “racist”. The residents that live in Manhattan Beach in 2021 had nothing to do with what happened to the Bruce family in Manhattan Beach almost 100 years ago. Manhattan Beach will not “apologize” for something that happened 100 years ago and will not pay “reparations”. And forget about “defunding” our Police Department.**

**Manhattan Beach doesn’t own Bruce’s Beach, since it was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1995.**

**This is a quote from former Mayor Amy Howorth in the same issue of the Beach Reporter 4/1/21 that has a two page paid ad stating: “We support and welcoming Manhattan Beach and that includes an apology.” Signed by former Mayors Amy Howorth and David Lesser, Councilmember Hilda Stern and few hundred residents and non-residents of Manhattan Beach (35,000) No endorsements from any other Mayors/Councilmembers, City Commissions and only two MBUSD Board of Trustees. Why don’t the rest of the 35,000 residents of Manhattan Beach demand an apology?**

**Acknowledgement and apology have two different legal implications. An apology, would be construed as a public admission of guilt. An apology is a means to an end and that end is money. The City and County must not issue an apology, but opt instead for a Resolution of Acknowledgement.**

**Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and former Mayor Amy Howorth want Manhattan Beach to apologize and pay reparations for Bruce’s Beach.**

**Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn sat down with county lawyers and discussed three possible options: One - transfer the land back to the Bruce family. Two - transfer the land with a ground lease back to the county to continue the lifeguard operations and pay fair-market rent to the Bruce family. Three - keep the land but determine the value of the property and make some kind of monetary payment to the Bruce family.**

**The county is moving toward transferring the land to the Bruces in a way that does not immediately saddle the family with enormous property tax bill.**

**Charles and Willie Bruce purchased two oceanfront lots for \$1,225 in 1912. City officials in 1924 condemned the neighborhood and seized more than two dozen properties through eminent domain. The reason was an urgent need for a public park. (Bruce's Beach) Land was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1995. The Bruces sought \$70,000 for their two beachfront properties and \$50,000 in damages. They received \$14,500. The other families, Black and white, received between \$1,200 and \$4,200 per lot.**

**The Bruce Family received more compensation than any of the property owners (black or white) Who could predict when they might have sold their land at nice profit a few years later, not 100 years? How do you arrive at \$40 million to \$70 million to pay off the Bruce Family?**

**Supervisor Janice Hahn - did you witness the protests throughout Los Angeles County when protesters looted, used arson and vandalized the City of Los Angeles and Santa Monica? None of the protesters has come to apologize for millions of damage.**

**The First Amendment (Freedom of Speech) of U.S. Constitution gives the right to protest, but does not give you the right to loot, vandalize and arson.**

**Said Jan Williams of BLM LA, "We demand reparations right f\*\*\*ing now. You can answer. You can answer to everybody...Reparations or nothing. Reparations and redress or f\*\*\* y'all. This whole country can f\*\*\*ing burn."**

**When BLM LA's Melina Abdullah spoke, she said, "They can do what they're compelled to do. You know what we need to compel them to do is exactly what Kavon [Ward of ARMs] said. Pay us. Pay us. Pay us. Until you pay us, there ain't gonna be no peace for y'all. There's no peace for y'all. We're not just gonna go in the house and be good Negroes ..."**

**President of France Emmanuel Macron demands an apology and reparations for the Louisiana Purchase.(1803) U.S. President Joe Biden will need another trillion dollar stimulus package.**

**The Louisiana Purchase (French: Vente de la Louisiane 'Sale of Louisiana') was the acquisition of the territory of Louisiana by the United States from France in 1803. In return for fifteen million dollars, or approximately eighteen dollars per square mile, the United States nominally acquired a total of 828,000 sq mi (2,140,000 km ; 530,000,000 acres).**

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Colleen Soulis <csoulpac@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 4:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology to the Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City Council Members and City Clerk:

I have written before on the importance of Manhattan Beach issuing an apology to the Bruce family and all others who were affected by Manhattan Beach city council members taking over private property by eminent domain in 1924. I write again in advance of the City Council meeting tomorrow to issue my support for an apology.

I have been a Manhattan Beach resident for 15 years. I ask the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. This apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders. An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred. This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Thank you,

Colleen  
Colleen Soulis Pachler  
[csoulpac@me.com](mailto:csoulpac@me.com)  
323.240.9229

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Maria Reinhart <maria@hermosamedia.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:56 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Opposed to Apology

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Dear City Council,

I am opposed to an apology for the condemnation of the Bruce's Beach resort over 100 years ago, however, I am open to the acknowledgement as presented by Council Member Joe Franklin.

The Bruce's Beach resort eminent domain case is long past the statute of limitations. The final verdict demanded the Bruce's (and black and white families that were displaced by the eminent domain proceedings) be allowed to purchase other property in MB , which they chose NOT to do. Additionally, their lawyer at the time stated the families were very satisfied with the compensation. The \$14,500 award could've allowed the family to buy 3 to 4+ lots in Manhattan Beach at the time, but they chose not to do so. This tells me this case is closed.

While sympathy and acknowledgement may be appropriate for ANY form of discrimination that may have happened in the past, the current residents of Manhattan Beach were not even alive at the time this occurred. To ask the current residents to apologize for something they did not do is inappropriate and makes our city legally vulnerable. I believe Manhattan Beach is an inclusive city today and does not reflect what outside interests present. For these reasons, I oppose the Resolution for Apology.

Thank you,

Maria Reinhart

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jon Chaykowski <rideformbef@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:44 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology -- part 2

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Dear City Council Members,

The following additional comment is absolutely needed:

It is imperative that the City Council gets "counsel" from the City Attorney BEFORE any action is taken.

Sincerely,  
Jon C.

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jon Chaykowski <rideformbef@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I believe that it is NOT appropriate for MB to write an apology for the eminent domain actions on the 30 parcels, including the Bruce's parcels.

It might be appropriate for the MB Council to simply acknowledge, within the words on the plaque that is placed at the lower section of the current park, that racial biases 100 years ago unfortunately influenced the action.

And, if anything is written, it should also be noted (like the task force found) that above market values were given to the parcel owners and both Black and White parcel owners used those funds to purchase properties elsewhere within MB and remain in MB for many years.

Any comments about MB currently be against racial discrimination also is NOT appropriate. All California/USA communities must follow current laws, including real estate rules, which make racial discrimination not legal - and not permitted. MB is no different and a statement of that fact is not needed.

Maybe one wishes to acknowledge that 100 years ago, racial discrimination was a factor in many actions throughout the USA and that is a sad note on our nation's history. (Note that I said "our nation's history".)

ALSO, there were 18 families owning the 30 parcels involved in the eminent domain action. and all owners were impacted - and should be acknowledged.

The last point supports my earlier suggestion to rename the current park from Bruce's Beach (which it is not even a beach) to a name like Reflection Park.

Sincerely,  
Jon C.

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ellie Meyer <elliemeyer0112@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; City Manager; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

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To Whom It May Concern:

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Ellie Meyer and I am a sophomore at Mira Costa High School. I am reaching out to express my support regarding a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. For those reluctant to participate in or permit this, it is important to exemplify that this is not an expression of personal responsibility from any current community members, but rather an acknowledgment of prior events that have been detrimental to the Bruces. The aim of this apology is to place focus on wrongdoings from the past and address the systematic racism that factored into what happened. An apology from our city does not label Manhattan Beach or its community members racist under any means, but rather proves that we understand our city's history and stand against the racism that took place to impact the Bruce family. This is an opportunity for our amazing town to set an example of what a welcoming and inclusive community looks like.

Sincerely,  
Ellie Meyer

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** BRUCE STAFFORD <lastresort@jps.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:29 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Cc:** Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members:

Thanks for all that the Manhattan Beach City Council does to keep our city running smoothly. We have lived here since 1968, and it has been a very enjoyable 53 years. We are somewhat disturbed by the recent activity regarding Bruce's Beach.

We have known for many years about the unfortunate action taken by the city against the Bruce family in the 1920's. This is a sad part of the city's history, but it is just that – history. It occurred almost a century ago, in a very different era in our country. We are not that city today.

We do not think it is incumbent upon today's City Council to offer an apology or make amends for an event that occurred almost a century ago. We also do not think that it is necessary, or even advisable, to establish a Commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice to look after our city's business. We think the city is doing just fine, and should be left alone to continue on its current path without any encumbrance of unneeded oversight.

Best regards,

Bruce and Toni Stafford

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Vanessa Beer <zizibeer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:27 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach issue

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi!

I've lived in Manhattan Beach for the past 10 years. On the subject of the Bruce's Beach controversy, I would like to express my support for the "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

**We would like to remind the Councilmembers that the City Attorney has determined that an apology does not expose the City to liability.**

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Thank you,

Vanessa

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** RALPH MILLER <rbm519@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:12 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have lived in Manhattan Beach for over 60 years and have seen many changes in the city but this has always been a good community and definitely not a racist one. I believe in a statement of fact of what transpired at Bruce's Beach but definitely not an apology. If the town apologizes that is not the end but just the beginning of demands that the Woke crowd will demand.

Ralph B. Miller

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Pam Yarbrough <pamyar@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] "Sorry Seems To Be The Hardest Word"

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council,

There's a reason why Bernie Taupin and Elton John wrote those lyrics. They're true. There's also a reason why every parent tries to teach their child the value of a true, heartfelt apology. It **means** something. It means: "I feel your pain." "I wish this had never happened to you." "If I could change what happened, I would." "What happened was so unfair." It can also mean: "I wasn't there, I didn't know, but I do know that it never should have happened." We've all been on the receiving end of a heart-wrenching apology at some point in our lives, and we all know the power and emotion of those words. They are healing. They don't solve everything, but they do help.

An apology is so much more than an "acknowledgement." An acknowledgement is a get-out-of-jail free card, because there's a slyly hidden "but" lurking in there. "I hear what your saying. . . . (BUT)." "What happened to you was wrong. . . .(BUT)." You get the idea.

I'm begging you, please find it in your hearts to do the right thing and issue an apology on behalf of our community.

Sincerely,  
Pam Yarbrough

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Aisha Ahmed <1aisha.n.ahmed@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution for Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I believe that the council should issue an apology as opposed to an acknowledgement for Bruce's Beach.

An acknowledgement is nothing more than stating a fact.

Unlike an acknowledgement, an apology expresses regret for the commission of a wrong and it opens a path to recommit to justice.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current resident racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

Thank you,  
Aisha Ahmed

|

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** nisans@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 2:20 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach...Acknowledgement only, NO APOLOGY!!

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

You've heard from us several weeks ago when we supported disbanding BBTF, and now we want to express our support for Acknowledgement only in the matter.... absolutely NO APOLOGY.

1. Council must pass a "Resolution of Acknowledgment" stating the eminent domain decision was wrong, but NOT include false history, admission of guilt, and comments for future action as is currently included in all versions of a Resolution on the city website.
2. Council must NOT issue an apology.
3. Council should give the current history report to the MB Historical Society committee to be scrutinized and edited for factual accuracy, separating fact from fiction.
  1. Council should remove all past and current history reports and videos from the City's website until the MB Historical Society has completed the edits. As long as these remain up, the mischaracterization of our city will continue to be used by the Left media and others to unfairly attack MB.
4. End all of this on April 6th!

"2 wrongs do not make a right"!! Thank you for your time and consideration of this divisive issue.

Peggy & Steve Nisen  
Native MB residents since 1955

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sheba Cohen <shebacohen3686@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:59 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Apology; re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Whom it May Concern:

Good afternoon. My name is Sheba Cohen, and I have been a resident of Hermosa Beach since November of 2014. Although I am not a resident of Manhattan Beach, I consider the entire South Bay community to be home and am quite proud to be a part of it.

I would be even more proud if the City Council supports a Resolution of an actual apology. I recognize that this apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to showcase empathy, kindness and compassion. It's also an opportunity for us to unite, rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like. Without unity, we stay divided; hence unity and peace will never be attained.

This past summer, I helped organize a peaceful march in honor of Breonna Taylor. It's imperative to mention that this was in no way a protest or a political statement of any kind. It was an act of humanity and empathy for another life lost in a senseless manner. I feel that an apology on behalf of the Council will show graciousness, compassion and a big step toward unifying any division that lingers within our community.

I thank you for your time and consideration in reading this e-mail. I wish you all good health, joy and happiness in your lives.

--

Sheba Cohen, CSR 13715  
Certified Shorthand Reporter

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Birkel, Julia L. <jbirkel@hfbllp.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:49 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** Quinn Barrow  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting April 6th: Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Distinguished Mayor and City Council Members,

I am a 30-year resident of Manhattan Beach.

I write to take issue with what has now been injected into the public discourse as to the “legality” of the taking of the Bruce family’s property by eminent domain.

The opponents of an apology originally relied heavily on their understanding that a public apology would create legal liability. Now that it turns out that an apology can be made without legal risk, I’m seeing a new fallback position that the taking was in and of itself “legal.”

I don’t think you present an accurate portrayal if, on behalf of the City, you characterize the judgment as “legal.” The only reason it was technically legal is because of the overarching public policy in favor of the finality of judgments. It was an egregious miscarriage of justice, nonetheless:

“The claim that the judgment was based on forged documents or perjured testimony does not obviate the force of this policy favoring finality of judgments. As explained in *Pico v. Cohn* (1891) 91 Cal. 129, 25 P. 970 upon which the Supreme Court relied, “ [W]e think it is settled beyond controversy that a decree will not be vacated merely because it was obtained by forged documents or perjured testimony. The reason of this rule is, that there must be an end of litigation; and when parties have once submitted a matter ... for investigation and determination, and when they have exhausted every means for reviewing such determination in the same proceeding, it must be regarded as final and conclusive.... [¶] ... [W]hen [the aggrieved party ] has a trial, he must be prepared to meet and expose perjury then and there.... The trial is his opportunity for making the truth appear. If, unfortunately, he fails, being overborne by perjured testimony, and if he likewise fails to show the injustice that has been done him on motion for a new trial, and the judgment is affirmed on appeal, he is without remedy. The wrong, in such case, is of course a most grievous one, and no doubt the legislature and the courts would be glad to redress it if a rule could be devised that would remedy the evil without producing mischiefs far worse than the evil to be remedied. Endless litigation, in which nothing was ever finally determined, would be worse than occasional miscarriages of justice....’ ” (Cedars–Sinai, supra, 18 Cal.4th at pp. 10–11, 74 Cal.Rptr.2d 248, 954 P.2d 511, italics added, quoting *Pico v. Cohn*, supra, 91 Cal. 129, 133–134, 25 P. 970; accord, *United States v. Throckmorton* (1878) 98 U.S. 61, 68–69, 25 L.Ed. 93.)” *Buesa v. City of Los Angeles* (2009) 177 Cal.App.4th 1537, 1545 (Cal.App. 2 Dist.,2009)

Whoever testified at the trial that the City was taking the land for a public purpose perjured themselves. Presumably the Resolution of Condemnation was false and fraudulent as well. The perjury didn’t get exposed for decades, with great credit to the trustee, who, I assume at great personal sacrifice, ultimately admitted the racist basis of the taking. Obviously, if the Bruces had evidence during the trial about the City’s true motive, they would have prevailed.

In *City of Stockton v. Marina Towers LLC* (2009) 171 Cal.App.4th 93, 109 the city went to trial on a purposely vague resolution of condemnation, and the Court of Appeal overturned the condemnation judgment:

“As we have seen, a resolution of necessity that does not identify a project with sufficient specificity, such that persons of ordinary intelligence can discern what the “project” is, cannot support the taking of private property. A fatally vague statement of purpose in a resolution of necessity also qualifies as a gross abuse of discretion. Section 1245.250 provides that, except as provided by statute, the adoption by the governing body of a resolution of necessity conclusively establishes the validity of the three necessity findings set forth in section 1240.030. Section 1245.255, subdivision (b) states: “A resolution of necessity does not have the effect prescribed in section 1245.250 to the extent that its adoption or contents were influenced or affected by a gross abuse of discretion...” (Italics added.). A gross abuse of discretion occurs where the public agency acts arbitrarily or capriciously, renders findings that are lacking in evidentiary support, or fails to follow the required procedures and give the required notices before condemning the property. (*City of Saratoga v. Hinz* (2004) 115 Cal.App.4th 1202, 1221, 9 Cal.Rptr.3d 791.) Although the trial court normally determines whether the agency has abused its discretion, the appellate court may resolve the issue where the case turns on undisputed facts and involves a pure question of law. (Id. at pp. 1221–1222, 9 Cal.Rptr.3d 791; *Rados Bros., supra*, 95 Cal.App.4th at p. 317, 115 Cal.Rptr.2d 234.). If a resolution of necessity does not contain an adequate project description, the agency cannot make the three findings required by section 1240.030 (public interest and necessity require the project; the project is most compatible with greatest public good and least private injury; and the property is necessary for the project). Consequently, a recitation of statutory findings in such a resolution is invalid and lacks evidentiary support. Likewise, the adoption of a resolution of necessity that lacks an adequate project description constitutes a failure to follow statutorily mandated procedures. *City of Stockton v. Marina Towers LLC, supra*, 171 Cal.App.4th at 114-115

In *City of Stockton v. Marina Towers LLC*, the City’s declaration was impermissibly vague. Can we all agree that a perjured resolution, and necessarily perjured testimony at trial, would have resulted in the judgment being thrown out had the Bruces only been able to get that evidence in at the time?? Clearly the finding 100 years was “invalid” and the only reason it had any ‘evidentiary support’ was because witnesses were willing to perjure themselves.

Please, please do not add fuel to the fire of the citizens now opposing an apology on the basis that the taking was “legal.” What it was was grievous.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julie Birkel



**Julia L. Birkel** | Partner | Hill, Farrer & Burrill LLP  
One California Plaza | 300 So. Grand Ave., 37th Fl. | Los Angeles, CA 90071  
Dir: 213.621.0857 | Main: 213.620.0460  
[jbirkel@hillfarrer.com](mailto:jbirkel@hillfarrer.com) | [www.hillfarrer.com](http://www.hillfarrer.com) | [v card](#) | 

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Noura Samimi <snsamimi@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology letter

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern,

Our family in Manhattan Beach believes that:

An apology is an acknowledgement combined with remorse or sorrow; it has a moral dimension.

Apology, not an acknowledgment, sends the right message and is the meaningful step toward a more welcoming, antiracist and diverse community.

When our children hurt somebody, we teach them to apologize for it. That is how we show empathy to one another. Expressing remorse to those hurt gives them comfort.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

All the best wishes,

Samimi family

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Tara Scanlan <tkscanlan@scanlanfam.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:23 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach--Issues

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

We, Larry and Tara Scanlan, have lived in Manhattan Beach for almost 30 years and have been active in Leadership Manhattan Beach. Larry was President and Tara took the Leadership class.

We have been very concerned about many of the deliberations/proposals about Bruce's Beach. We think that several are an over reaction and do not reflect the thoughtful leadership required for this sensitive topic.

Janet and Domas Vailokaitis, also graduates of Leadership Manhattan Beach, sent the letter below to the City Council. They approved of our sending it to you, as well. We do so because they have made several good comments and specific suggestions.

Respectfully,

Larry and Tara Scanlan

Dear Council Members-

My husband and I are 30 year residents of Manhattan beach.

Please be very serious this week and confirm an acknowledgment rather than an apology regarding Bruce's Beach. This eminent domain decision was made 100 years ago, long before any of us was born. While wrong, we did not participate in this decision. Therefore, we should not be apologizing.

We know many people in Manhattan Beach and do not know anyone who wishes harm to others nor is a racist. This situation in our microcosm seems to reflect the madness that has taken over our country. The average citizen wants nothing more than to be left alone to live his or her life.

Please lead the way out of this by concluding the Bruce's Beach chapter with the original plan: acknowledgment with NO anti-racism pledge, and current history report to be looked at and edited for factual content by our MB Historical Society. In addition, all history/videos should be removed from the City website the historical society has completed the review.

Yours sincerely,  
Janet Volpe Vailokaitis

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** robertbush dslextreme.com <robertbush@dslextreme.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:18 PM  
**To:** robertbush @dslextreme.com  
**Cc:** robertbush @dslextreme.com; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Bruce Moe; Quinn Barrow; List - City Council; mmatthews; jfenton; speel; cgraves; jfenton; jboxer; jcochran  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] apology - MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

“When you say you are not racists, you might be racists.”

The Beach Reporter 4/1/21 Public Comments Re: Bruce’s Beach - former Mayor Amy Howorth

When you have to put in quotes “we are not racists”, you might be racists. I think you’re protesting too much.

Amy, if you took a poll of the 35,000 residents of Manhattan Beach and ask them “Are you Racists?” – using your ideas - Manhattan Beach would be a “small beach town” of Racists.

Manhattan Beach is not “racist”. The residents that live in Manhattan Beach in 2021 had nothing to do with what happened to the Bruce family in Manhattan Beach almost 100 years ago. Manhattan Beach will not “apologize” for something that happened 100 years ago and will not pay “reparations”. And forget about “defunding” our Police Department. Manhattan Beach doesn’t own Bruce’s Beach, since it was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1995.

This is a quote from former Mayor Amy Howorth in the same issue of the Beach Reporter 4/1/21 that has a two page paid ad stating: “We support and welcoming Manhattan Beach and that includes an apology.” Signed by former Mayors Amy Howorth and David Lesser, Councilmember Hilda Stern and few hundred residents and non-residents of Manhattan Beach (35,000) No endorsements from any other Mayors/Councilmembers, City Commissions and only two MBUSD Board of Trustees. Why don’t the rest of the 35,000 residents of Manhattan Beach demand an apology?

**Acknowledgement and apology have two different legal implications. An apology, would be construed as a public admission of guilt. An apology is a means to an end and that end is money. The City and County must not issue an apology, but opt instead for a Resolution of Acknowledgement.**

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and former Mayor Amy Howorth want Manhattan Beach to apologize and pay reparations for Bruce’s Beach.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn sat down with county lawyers and discussed three possible options: One - transfer the land back to the Bruce family. Two - transfer the land with a ground lease back to the county to continue the lifeguard operations and pay fair-market rent to the Bruce family. Three - keep the land but determine the value of the property and make some kind of monetary payment to the Bruce family.

The county is moving toward transferring the land to the Bruces in a way that does not immediately saddle the family with enormous property tax bill.

Charles and Willie Bruce purchased two oceanfront lots for \$1,225 in 1912. City officials in 1924 condemned the neighborhood and seized more than two dozen properties through eminent domain. The reason was an urgent need for a public park. (Bruce’s Beach) Land was transferred to Los Angeles County in 1995. The Bruces sought \$70,000 for their two beachfront properties and \$50,000 in damages. They received \$14,500. The other families, Black and white, received between \$1,200 and \$4,200 per lot.

The Bruce Family received more compensation than any of the property owners (black or white) Who could predict when they might have sold their land at nice profit a few years later, not 100 years? How do you arrive at \$40 million to \$70 million to pay off the Bruce Family?

Supervisor Janice Hahn - did you witness the protests throughout Los Angeles County when protesters looted, used arson and vandalized the City of Los Angeles and Santa Monica? None of the protesters has come to apologize for millions of damage.

The First Amendment (Freedom of Speech) of U.S. Constitution gives the right to protest, but does not give you the right to loot, vandalize and arson.

**Said Jan Williams of BLM LA, "We demand reparations right f\*\*\*ing now. You can answer. You can answer to everybody...Reparations or nothing. Reparations and redress or f\*\*\* y'all. This whole country can f\*\*\*ing burn."**

**When BLM LA's Melina Abdullah spoke, she said, "They can do what they're compelled to do. You know what we need to compel them to do is exactly what Kavon [Ward of ARMs] said. Pay us. Pay us. Pay us. Until you pay us, there ain't gonna be no peace for y'all. There's no peace for y'all. We're not just gonna go in the house and be good Negroes ..."**

President of France Emmanuel Macron demands an apology and reparations for the Louisiana Purchase.(1803) U.S. President Joe Biden will need another trillion dollar stimulus package.

**The Louisiana Purchase (French: Vente de la Louisiane 'Sale of Louisiana') was the acquisition of the territory of Louisiana by the United States from France in 1803. In return for fifteen million dollars, or approximately eighteen dollars per square mile, the United States nominally acquired a total of 828,000 sq mi (2,140,000 km ; 530,000,000 acres).**

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ahmanise Sanati <ahmanise@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:11 PM  
**To:** City Manager; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Locals in support of Resolution of Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Ahmanise Sanati, and although I'm not a resident of Manhattan Beach, I've been a resident of nearby Playa del Rey for 7 years, and a frequenter of Manhattan Beach, especially El Porto. I also grew up in the South Bay, and it will always have a special place in my heart.

Now a mother to two young children, I have a vested interest to be involved in our community, help others, and teach my children how to be good citizens. Part of that process is teaching them how to accept when they've hurt someone. In fact one of my favorite tips is one we learned in our local preschool to acknowledge the error, apologize, and ask what can be done to make the other person feel better. I find this is something helpful for all kids AND adults.

Incidentally, the same principle can be applied in the situation with Bruce's Beach. The shameful past of Bruce's Beach has made national headlines, and we are at a point in our community's history where the nation is watching as you all ponder your next move. It's up to you, the honorable City Council to do what is right; to acknowledge, apologize, and ask what more can be done to repair the situation. This is a special opportunity to cast a bright light on our community, one that is not always afforded in such situations. Although we cannot change our actions before, we can choose our actions now. I urge you to choose justice and compassion when making this decision, and to make a "Resolution of Apology"- not just an acknowledgment, because it is the right thing to do.

Thank you for your time.

With gratitude,  
M. Ahmanise Sanati, LCSW, PPSC

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sam Ggin <samanthaggin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:57 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

An acknowledgement is nothing more than stating a fact.

By accepting the Bruce's Beach Task Force history document, the City Council has already acknowledged that the Manhattan Beach government committed a wrong when it abused its eminent domain power 100 years' ago with racist intent.

An apology is an acknowledgement combined with remorse or sorrow; it has a moral dimension.

When our children hurt somebody, we teach them to apologize for it. That is how we show empathy to one another. Expressing remorse to those hurt gives them comfort.

When governments have committed wrongs, they have issued formal apologies. President Reagan signed legislation in 1988 apologizing for internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. In 1995 the Prime Minister of Japan offered an apology to the countries it invaded for that country's wartime conduct during World War II. President Clinton in 1997 issued a formal apology to the survivors and families affected by the "Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male." In 2008, the Australian government issued a National Apology to the Stolen Generations for past government policies that forced child removal and assimilation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Unlike an acknowledgement, an apology expresses regret for the commission of a wrong and it opens a path to recommit to justice.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

Thank you for joining in this important community-minded endeavor,

Committee to Diversify MB

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** stephanie mclagan <mcmadr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:00 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bb

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I say no resolution, no apology.

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Chuck Schreiner <schreiner.chuck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:54 AM  
**To:** Richard Montgomery; List - City Council; City Manager; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Suzanne Hadley; Steve Napolitano  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology Support

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

We add our names to those who support a just, welcoming and inclusive Manhattan Beach and that includes an apology for the unjust use of imminent domain at Bruce's Beach.

Yours truly,

Chuck Schreiner  
Ro Schreiner

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** herbertharger@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:53 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach item

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This is the third time I have written re the Bruces Beach item.

I have been a resident of Manhattan Beach for 70 years and have trouble believing our City council is even spending time on this matter. Perhaps the thought of a potential lawsuit is the answer. There are always some attorneys that will push these items for their own personal gain.

Again, no apology is required and none should be given.

Herbert L. Harger

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Deborah Blair Porter <deborah.blair.porter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:51 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** Deborah Blair Porter  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] April 6, 2021 Agenda - Item F.4 (21-0120)

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members – I write regarding Agenda Item F.4, “Consider Bruce’s Beach Task Force Recommendation 1.4 (Resolution of 21-0120 Apology).” Specifically, I ask the City Council to approve the recommendation of the Bruce’s Beach Task Force and issue the apology the Task Force has recommended.

When I first learned the Bruce’s Beach Task Force had been formed, I was heartened, believing the City of Manhattan Beach - enlightened and progressive - would gather the facts and based on those facts, seek to rectify our city’s past wrongs. It was my fervent hope the City would set a tone and standard and chart a path for the ethical and moral reckoning of past wrongs. In other words, do the right thing.

Therefore I was extremely disappointed to learn the outcome of the March 16<sup>th</sup> city council meeting, where I understand the city council chose not to return the property or make reparations and actually disbanded the Task Force. While I do not agree with the city council’s decision to terminate the Task Force or disregard its more substantive recommendations, the city council still has the opportunity to do what any decent human should and would do when acknowledging egregious past mistakes, i.e., apologize for them. This is what we teach our children every day as the moral and right thing. This is the action the city must undertake if it hopes to continue to claim the City of Manhattan Beach is a great place to live.

There is precedent for such an apology. The State of California through its lawmakers issued a resolution which noted a number of federal and state laws passed beginning in 1913 that discriminated against people of Japanese descent, before apologizing "to all Americans of Japanese ancestry for its past actions in support of the unjust exclusion, removal, and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, and for its failure to support and defend the civil rights and civil liberties of Japanese Americans during this period."

<https://www.npr.org/2020/02/20/807428171/california-lawmakers-expected-to-apologize-for-u-s-internment-of-japanese-america>. Most forceful and applicable was their statement "Given recent national events, it is all the more important to learn from the mistakes of the past and to ensure that such an assault on freedom will never again happen to any community in the United States."

There is also precedent in the actions of other city councils, including in Evanston, IL which has chosen to address its history and past acts, which while racist in basis and intent at least did not directly involve the taking of property or running residents of color out of town, as occurred here in Manhattan Beach. <https://news.yahoo.com/evanston-illinois-becomes-first-us-city-to-approve-reparations-plan-for-black-residents-171850902.html>. These lawmakers not only apologized for the actions of OTHERS, they took action to rectify past wrongs. Manhattan Beach city leaders of today are just as capable of such action, but at the very least should make an apology for what our city did.

In the weeks since the March 16, 2021 council meeting, I've become aware of efforts of Manhattan Beach residents who have organized against the city making an apology. Such efforts have proffered a multitude of tortured rationales for doing everything but apologize, including allowing the city to carefully "acknowledge" the awful events that occurred, but insisting there must be no apology, asserting that to do so would open some floodgate of action by individuals whom they then malign with racist and inflammatory language, essentially revealing that the racism that led to the exclusion of the Bruce family and others persists in our city.

I believe that if the City of Manhattan Beach does not take responsibility, account and apologize for the racist acts the city was a party to, it condones and perpetuates the racist attitudes that were the underpinning for those acts which led to the exclusion of our city's residents without consequence. That would simply compound the original damage and would be shameful.

Please do not embarrass the city by issuing an "acknowledgment." Please do the simple, right and moral thing - the very thing we teach our children to do on a daily basis - and apologize. It is the very least we as a city can do.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your efforts on behalf of the city and its residents.

Deborah Blair Porter

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kisa Grey <kisa.grey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:38 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Not in favor of the Resolution

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I am against the Resolution that is being voted on tonight. I am a no-party preference American and have lived in Manhattan Beach for 13 years. What I see on our street are families playing and surfing with black family friends, people knitting blankets for poor mothers, a Hispanic mail carrier who is loved and supported, a half-Asian / half-Hispanic family with a son who is fluent in Spanish.

It is sad to be told you are a terrible person living in a terrible place when that is not the life we live.

Sincerely,

Kisa Grey

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mike King <mking@hgla.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:24 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello: I'm a 27-year Manhattan Beach resident. My wife and I are against any "Apology" and against any "Acknowledgement". Cities, towns, states, and countries should not start apologizing for every past perceived wrong. England would not be able to conduct any business at all if it had to research and acknowledge every past perceived wrong all over the globe.

Michael G. King, Esq.  
HENNELLY & GROSSFELD LLP  
4640 Admiralty Way, Suite 850  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292  
(310) 305-2100  
(310) 305-2101 - Direct  
(310) 283-1728 – Mobile

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**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** kochdevelopment <kochdevelopment@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

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**It is not credible that any competent attorney would write there is no risk in an apology when the city has been expressly and publicly threatened with a \$75 million dollar law suit for restoration, reparations, restitution, compensatory and punitive damages.**

**I ask the city to approve councilman Joe Franklin's statement of condemnation-- not an apology.**

**Regards,**

**Frederick Koch**

Sent from my Galaxy

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Vermesh <mvermeshus@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:44 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of apology by CC of MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi,

Natalia and I have been residents of MB for the past 20 years. We cherish our life here due to the peaceful and inclusive character of this small city. We ourselves are minorities and immigrants from other countries, and we never experienced any feeling of prejudice or social injustice. We are opposed to any resolution of apology and demand that the City Council leave this issue at once and concentrate on the real needs of our residents.

Sincerely,

**Michael Vermesh, M.D.**  
**President**

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**Center for Fertility & Gynecology, Inc.**  
**ART Medical Group, Inc.**  
[18370 Burbank Blvd. Suite 301](#)  
[Tarzana, CA 91356](#)  
818-881-9800



## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Family Galins <galins@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 6:35 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Do not issue a resolution or apology regarding subject matter.

Regards,  
Joe Galins (resident)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Dana Rochowicz <drochowicz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 3:28 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No resolution

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

NO to any resolution!! Council members are beholden to MB residents, NOT outsiders. Let that sink in.

Thank you,

Dana Rochowicz

Sent from my iPhone

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Allyson Martin <allyson.martin123@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:51 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please vote for a Resolution of Acknowledgment , No apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley and members of the City Council,  
I am a 58 year resident of Manhattan Beach. For the reasons outlined in Brian Collins' recent (4/1/21) letter to the Beach Reporter editor (shown below), I strongly support a Resolution of Acknowledgment and I strongly oppose an apology. I grew up in MB and attended Pacific elementary and Mira Costa High School. Like so many of my fellow long time residents, I have spent a lifetime enjoying the beach, the strand, and the downtown life with family and friends. My family and friends have shared Manhattan Beach with others from all over the world! A lot of things have changed in our community over the years. One thing that has not changed is the diversity of our town. We are open and welcoming to all. I cannot remember a time when this was not the case.

**Please vote for a Resolution of Acknowledgment.**

As Brian Collins states below: "**the acknowledgment should keep historical facts to a minimum and must not reference acts that are still in dispute or are uncorroborated. The resolution must make clear it is intended as an expression of sympathy and not an admission of guilt.**"

Thank you,

Allyson Martin, resident since 1962

### **Apology versus acknowledgment - Brian Collins, Manhattan Beach** (Letter to the Editor MB Reporter 4/1/21):

An apology is a means to an end and that end is money. The disbanded Bruce's Beach Task Force will publish an ad pushing for an apology from the City. An apology that was never a task assigned to the BBTF. Words to express regret need to be precise because they can be used for political pressure or legal actions against the City of Manhattan Beach.

Acknowledgment and apology are two different words, have two different meanings and different legal implications. An apology would be construed as a public admission of guilt. The advocate's plan is as follows: put forth historical stories of discrimination, substantiated or not; extract a public apology; put public pressure on the City to pay reparations to make amends. The City must not issue an apology, but opt for a Resolution of Acknowledgment. The acknowledgment should keep historical facts to a

minimum and must not reference acts that are still in dispute or are uncorroborated. The resolution must make clear it is intended as an expression of sympathy and not an admission of guilt. The acknowledgment can be supplemented by noting we are today a welcoming and tolerant city opposed to any and all acts of racism and bigotry. - Brian Collins, Manhattan Beach, Letter to the Editor MB Reporter 4/1/21

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Charlotte Jensen <chaoe1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:00 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to you to implore you to issue an apology for the incredible injustice suffered by the Bruce family due to the actions of Manhattan Beach.

I know council members have expressed that their sole interest is in the opinions of MB residents, but I'd like to share my perspective as a potential MB resident currently living in Redondo.

My husband and I have long intended to purchase our "forever home" in Manhattan Beach and we are now in a position to do so. The Council's reluctance to do the minimal right thing and apologize has frankly shocked me and has changed our view on where we want to settle long-term. At this moment, I no longer see the city as the kind of inclusive environment I want for my children.

Manhattan Beach will never hurt for home sales, but with no meaningful apology or action around the very national eye on Bruce's Beach, you will be sending a powerful message about who you want in your future population. While minorities and anti-racists will steer clear (can you imagine an even LESS diverse MB?), you will be dusting off the welcome mat for racists of all types - they will see your refusal to condemn racism as a sign that this is a place that will perhaps be more welcoming of their views. That's not a group I want as my neighbors, that's for sure.

The right thing is an apology. It is so clear to so many, and it is a very long time coming. Please put Manhattan Beach on the right side of history, finally.

Thank you,

Charlotte Blane

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Lida Sandera <lida.sandera@vistasir.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:45 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO APOLOGY !!

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I absolutely do not agree to ANY type of apology. None of us ever lived here in 1912, most of us had very hard time living in many other countries, even communist countries !

Most of our parents at that time, or us many years later, had to leave our homeland , leaving everything, loosing all possessions we ever had for FREEDOM in America.

Took a long time to go through all legal procedures to get here and hard work ,sometimes few jobs, to be able to buy home in Manhattan beach and live here.

I watched for years the “slow” shift to the left, did fantastic job keeping my kids well informed what is right and what is wrong. I did see even the switch to left in our MB School district and unfortunately lot of parents did not have time to watch carefully what our kids are being taught at school and now : is it too late?!

I hope not. I just hope that residents of MB will wake up and not let the left to take over our beautiful ,and till now ,friendly, absolutely not racist town !

Left is screaming, but it is a HISTORY and as educated people know : history was not always friendly, but did teach all what was wrong and what is right !

Even all this will be one day History !

NO APOLOGY !

Lida Sandera

Manhattan Beach resident since 1974 !!

**Lida Sandera**

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**310.721.3196 c | 310.545.0515 f**

**[lida.sandera@vistasir.com](mailto:lida.sandera@vistasir.com)**

2501 N. Sepulveda Blvd. 2nd Floor  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kelly Thormodsgaard <kelly.thor@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:36 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Just say no

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council Members,

We hope this email finds you healthy. Thank you for your service to our city.

**I URGE YOU NOT TO ISSUE ANY RESOLUTION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR APOLOGY.**

Nothing will satisfy the BLM movement.

Your constituents,

Tad & Kelly Thormodsgaard

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ken Wilton <kenneth.l.wilton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:31 AM  
**To:** Richard Montgomery; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Joe Franklin; Steve Napolitano; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: MB Bruce's Beach "Resolutions" opens the door to the Far Left

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members:

Set forth below is the latest anonymous screed allegedly sent by one or more of your constituents to members of the community. I understand the passionate feelings of my neighbors related to the discussion of Bruce's Beach, and appreciate the often vociferous debates we are seeing on NextDoor and Patch. But it strikes me as the role of the City Council, regardless of your feelings regarding the issue, to take a stand against the use of terror tactics to support a viewpoint. While certainly on a scale far less fraught than other anonymous acts - e.g., the burning of crosses on lawns, the bombing of buildings - the impact of allowing such behavior is corrosive to our society.

Yet, by its silence, the City Council is normalizing the use of anonymous and direct messaging by a few to intimidate Manhattan Beach residents. In a classic case of projection, when someone threw a bottle through Joe's window, those that support the views espoused by the anonymous message below immediately jumped to the conclusion that the bottle throwing incident was politically motivated. Why did they do that? Because they assumed that because people on one side of this issue have resorted to sending multiple emails and placing an ad without identifying themselves, then the people on the other side must be behaving in the same manner.

I am disappointed that, when the truth came out that this was, indeed, just a foolish non-personal act, nothing was said. None of you spoke out to say "This is what happened, let's stop thinking the worst of our neighbors." None of you spoke out to say "Enough already, let's stop accusing others of wrongdoing simply because you don't agree with them." And none of you spoke out to say "Please stop speaking without identifying yourself. You are creating a culture that is antithetical to our values."

I hope the Council will take this to heart and, regardless of the ultimate decision vis-a-vis Bruce's Beach, you will speak, publicly, forcefully and with one voice, and denounce the language and tactics that are infecting the neighborhood discourse in our community.

Best,  
Ken Wilton

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Bruce's Beach: Get The Facts <[brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Apr 6, 2021 at 12:28 AM  
**Subject:** MB Bruce's Beach "Resolutions" opens the door to the Far Left  
**To:** Bruce's Beach: Get The Facts <[brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com)>

*We apologize in advance if you are receiving this email more than once.*

Dear Like-minded MB Residents,

According to the slew of emails we have received over the last 2 weeks, turns out MB residents from both sides of the political aisle are in agreement - they don't like, nor do they want, the Bruce's Beach issue being used by the Far Left to extort restitutions and push their ideology in our local Schools, city Government, police department or overall community.

The Far Left does NOT represent mainstream Liberal Democrats, Conservative Republicans, or "No Party Preference" Americans, but the Far Left constantly pushes forward to intimidate us all to stay quiet in fear of being canceled or attacked.

It's time to Unite and Speak Out for our city!

### **Action:**

- Email City Council members and demand they do not issue any Resolution. A Resolution by our CC only opens the door for the Far Left to use it against us. [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)
- speak up at the ZOOM meeting on Tuesday 4/6, 6:00 PM. Raise your hand by clicking on the hand Imogee at the bottom of your screen while on Zoom: <https://citymb-info.zoom.us/j/93376200363>

At the meeting, we anticipate Council Members will make it about an apology vs no apology as a distraction. The real issue is whether Council will stand up to the Far Left and refuse to adopt any measure that opens the door to any future actions.

Since the last time MB addressed this issue by renaming the park and installing a plaque in 2007, no new facts were revealed by the Task Force.

Therefore, there is no real need to issue a resolution or take any other action, but Council is feeling pressure from the Far Left.

But let's be clear, the Far Left wants far more than a Resolution, whether it's a "Resolution of Acknowledgement" or a "Resolution of Apology."

Even the Bruce's Beach Task Force's History Report, purposely embellished with unsubstantiated stories of racism to mischaracterize MB, is simply a means to an end.

The Far Left has declared MB guilty of "systemic and institutional racism" and they want our City Council to issue any statement of "resolution" that they will spin as "evidence" to justify restitution and to take over governing our schools, police department, and city government.

**It is our hope Councilman Montgomery will take a leadership role to lead our City Council to reject the Far Left's demands and vote to not issue any resolution.**

### **Just say No to all versions of the following Resolutions:**

According to local BLM Far Left activist Kavon Ward, "We believe it is significant for them (MB City Council) to state publically that they were complicit and that it was their fault. I think that's important in trying to get the restitution the (Bruce) family is asking for. They have to admit guilt. And when you admit guilt, people are going to say what are you going to do about it? How are you going to remedy it?" *Interview with the Atlanta Black Star on March 10, 2021.*

- Councilman Napolitano echoed the sentiments for an "apology" when answering questions in August 2020 from former Mayor Mitch Ward, on the subject of Bruces Beach. Among other recommendations, Napolitano stated "issuing an apology by the city to the Bruce family and all victims of racist acts past and present" was at the top of his list. An apology has been Napolitano's agenda since the inception of the Bruce Beach Task Force (BBTF). Even when City Council declined his request to expand the mission of the BBTF beyond reporting factual history, a new plaque, and art piece, he ignored their directive and subdivided the Task Force into a committee specifically to write a "Resolution of Apology." And when residents vehemently criticized the Task Force's list of demands attached to their "Resolution of Apology," Napolitano wrote his own. He word crafted a seemingly more palatable version but his proposed resolution, as well as every other one that followed by others, contain damning

words about our city that open the door for the Far Left to demand restitution and a Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEIC).

- Watch a 2minute video of clips from the BBTF recordings to get a glimpse of the ideology from the Far Left BBTF members and their plans for a Resolution of Apology: <https://youtu.be/XGDOOAs6JL0>
- Council Member Stern makes no apologies for her Far Left ideology and has written her own "Resolution of Apology" which includes establishing a permanent DEIC to "fix" the false claim of a "systemic racism problem" in MB.
- Councilman Franklin has written his version of a resolution by attempting to "give a little to get a little." By titling his version a "Resolution of Acknowledgment and Condemnation" and omitting the word "apology" he may be trying to protect the city from potential lawsuits. But by including a list of false rumors and unsubstantiated stories of racist acts, admissions of guilt, and commitments to future actions, opens the same doors for the Far Left to demand restitution.
- LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's recent public statement that she will support some form of restitution to the Bruce Family was cleverly timed to fuel the Far Left to send more letters to CC demanding a Resolution of Apology.
- **NO RESOLUTION is in the best interest of the City of Manhattan Beach.**

### **Understanding The Far Left:**

Who joins the Far Left ideology? People who judge and divide Americans by skin color subscribe to the Far Left ideology. BLM, Far Left Activists, and opportunistic politicians looking for political gains are all riding this wave rolling across America.

What do they want? They say they want restitution but they want to divide us so they can govern our cities and schools. They have already penetrated and are the majority on our MBUSD Board.

How do they get into positions of authority?

By appointment to a permanent commission or committee on race such as a "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission" at the City and School levels.

The Bruce's Beach Task Force, comprised of many Far Left ideologues, wanted to stay on as a permanent committee and had two pages of damaging Far Left plans for our city, including a DEIC.

On March 16th, City Council majority rejected their request for permanency and their list of plans for MB. But the Far Left has not given up.

They are often unknowingly elected by residents to City Councils and School Boards.

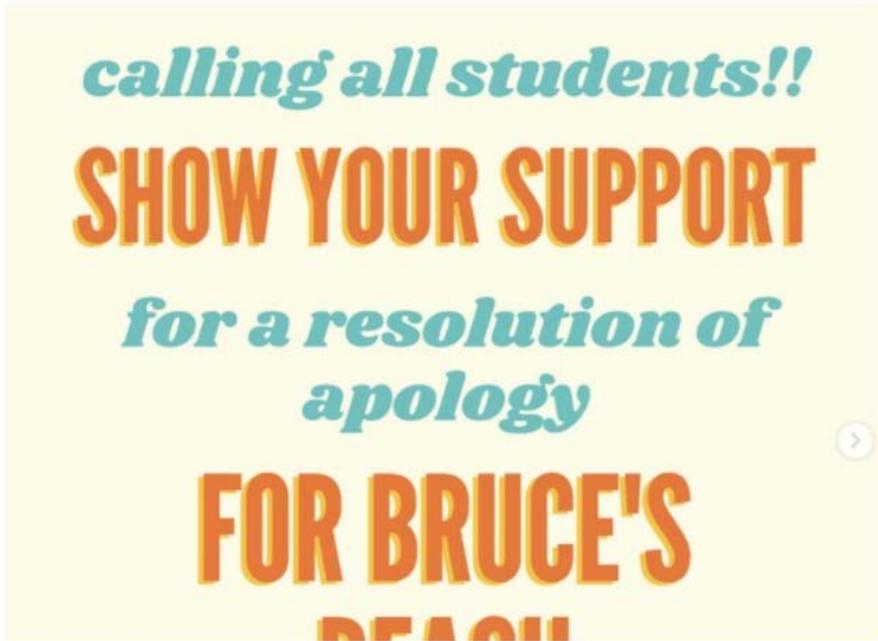
Our current School Board has unilaterally instilled a Far Left policy, with no input by parents or residents, of establishing a DEIC of unelected ideologues who hired a consultant to conduct a "race equity audit" by interviewing parents and students.

It begs the question, what are the punitive ramifications if the student or parent "fails" the race audit of the Far Left?

MBUSD is manipulating our MB kids into supporting their Bruce's Beach narrative with the following post.



diversifyournarrativembusd



Instagram

Search



Liked by jason\_mbusd and 76 others

diversifyournarrativembusd ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!! We are asking for your urgent support of a resolution of apology for the Bruce family. This is not targeting one person, or current residents, rather it is a show of support from the whole community— let us show that Manhattan Beach can be a tolerant and welcoming community. Please take the time to email city council showing your support for an official apology. Reach out with any questions. #justiceforbrucesbeach

21 HOURS AGO

Hundreds of American cities have either willingly ushered in Left Ideologues into their city government and school boards, or they naively did so not knowing the consequences.

In the following article, the Far Left argues cases like Michael Brown and George Floyd are evidence American cities are systemically racist and concludes cities need DEI Commissions.

Several cities with DEI Commissions are listed in the article, including Long Beach and Sacramento.

<http://www.citymayors.com/society/usa-city-equity-offices.html>

Do a critical read of this article then answer the following questions:

Do you think America is "systemically racist?" Do you think MB is "systemically racist?"

Do you think individual random acts of racism define "systemic racism?"

Does a "systemically racist" country elect a Black President, twice?

Does a "systemically racist" city hire a Black Police Chief or elect a Black Councilman?

Police Chief Abell has been working in MB for over 30 years, and Councilman Ward served our city for 2 terms in the mid-2000s and still calls MB his home.

Interestingly Councilman Ward was opposed to a "Resolution of Apology" in 2007, but now is leading the charge for an apology with other BLM activists.

What has been your experience in MB when it comes to race relations?

### What is their ideology?

The Far Left has redefined racism. It's not enough to say your against racism, you have to be "anti-racist." If your not "anti-racist" you're actually a racist, according to the Far Left.

Some Far Left MB residents, including a former Mayor, illogically and falsely say of their fellow neighbors, "If you say you're not a racist, then you might be a racist."

Bottom line, if you don't get on board with the Far Left ideology, they will brand you a racist.

The following article does a very good job of pointing to 3 key concepts in understanding the Far Left ideology.

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2020/08/10/3-key-concepts-that-woke-anti-racists-believe/>

~Concerned Residents of MB

We are a Network of many!

Join our email list for continued updates: [brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachgetthefacts@gmail.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Shirley Hutcheson <shutch1996@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:24 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Vote NO to any resolution

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Good Morning

It's another beautiful day in Manhattan Beach. We all are so lucky to be residents of this wonderful community.

I believe this Bruce's Beach "thing" has gone way too far. so I am asking you to vote NO on any resolution.

There are too many "outside" influences causing havoc in our community. Manhattan Beach is NOT a racist community and what is happening is dividing our community.

Please end this mess and vote to not issue any resolution.

All my best,

Shirley Hutcheson

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gary Neumeier <gary.n4646@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:22 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am NOT in favor of making any apology or acknowledgment of any racist activity that may have taken place 100 years ago.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Suzanne Hadley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:22 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL] Racism at the Core of Manhattan Beach

Suzanne Hadley  
Mayor  
310-779-8183  
shadley@citymb.info  
City of Manhattan Beach, CA

Office Hours: M - Th 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM | Fridays 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM | Not Applicable to Public Safety

Here for you 24/7, use our click and fix it app [www.citymb.info/reachmanhattanbeach](http://www.citymb.info/reachmanhattanbeach)

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From: JOHN SMITH <jjsmith949@aol.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 5:34 AM  
To: Suzanne Hadley  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Racism at the Core of Manhattan Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Ms. Hadley,

In recent weeks I have sadly learned the story of historic racism by elected officials in the City of Manhattan Beach. Once thought of as a vibrant inclusive and accepting beach city along the California coast. How sad to hear of the dirty history of your city. What is truly disappointing is your support of such behavior. As mayor you have a chance to make a correction to the history books, take a stand against this type of bigotry and hate. Sadly, you stand around and try to sweep hate under the rug, attempting to cover up racism, not just for the Bruce's, but all Americans who may not look and act like you.

Please take a stand against this type of behavior. Be on the right side of history. This chapter on Manhattan Beach is not done being written. You and your family will be included in the history books, whether you like it or not. Do the right thing, face the "mob mentality" in your city, take a stand and say "we will not be a part of injustice. We will not be a part of inequity." Be something better, for history sake.

Thank you for your time.

John

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** ben@doublegun.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:21 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I want to register a complaint regarding any consideration you might be inclined to afford the Bruce's Beach issue. I am a 40 year resident of MB and think you should "cancel" any farther consideration of these trouble makers.

Thanks for the opportunity to participate.

Ben A Loving, PhD

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Duckworth <mrduckworth@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:15 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

There should be no resolution regarding this matter and certainly no apologies!  
You cannot apply today's standards to yesterday's decisions and expect anything good to come of it!!  
Let's focus on moving forward appropriately, not rewriting history. That is much too slippery of a slope.  
Thank you  
Mike Duckworth  
30 year resident  
310-529-7024

Sent from my iPhone so don't sweat the typos!

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Don Carpenter <don@carpenterconstruction.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:06 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO RESOLUTIONS!!

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Thanks for your hard work, I hope you will do the right thing.

Sincerely,  
Don Carpenter (67 year MB resident).

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Janet Hilton <janethilton122@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:06 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruces Beach resolution

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We are confused. Why is something that happened 100 years ago the most important issue right now for our City Council?

Our children have been out of school for 2 school years. Our local businesses are barely hanging on and some have even ended.

Please acknowledge and not apologize for something that happened 100 years ago and get back to current city business.

It is sad to see the current good people of Manhattan Beach stigmatized by this historical event instead of focusing on building a healthy future for our families and businesses,

Hugh and Janet Hilton

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gary Osterhout <garyosterhout@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CIP Agenda Item - Add Chip Trail (dirt surface) Leveling for 2021/22

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Councilmembers:

Please add funding for a project in the upcoming year to the CIP list for leveling of the Veterans Parkway chip trail (below the chips).

I have been advocating for such remediation on a consistent basis since October 2016, when after three years had gone by without the city attending to what was noticeable deterioration. I have run on the chip trail for over 20 years. I know how the trail surface use to be periodically and regularly maintained. I know that the humps and dips and uneven surface is not going to repair themselves.

I have consistently petitioned councilmembers and staff, and nothing has been done. I have walked the area with Stephanie Katsouleas in June 2017, who acknowledged the problem but never addressed it. I tried to address the problem during the Veterans Parkway master plan community input but was told the chip trail condition was a mobility plan item. Then I tried to get the chip trail addressed during the later mobility plan, and it wasn't taken up.

I even asked out of desperation for the city to at least attend to the trenches caused by the Hometown Fair pony rides, yet you can still easily see those imprints today (note that I'm not gonna be satisfied today if that's all you correct).

Public Works and Parks and Rec are obviously not going to attend to this problem. I think I've established over the past few months that these departments do not have any effective standards, oversight, or accountability in respect to our park conditions. Even the most obvious defects are ignored. Bottom line: this condition is not going to be attended to until you tell them to attend to it. Our city mantra should not be: "If we ignore it, it doesn't need fixed!"

I think I've done more than my due diligence in establishing the need for correction. If the City wants to present why its reasons why it doesn't think this amenity needs to be maintained the way it used to be, I'm listening. Nothing has been presented to me so far as to when the city thinks it should be attended to, and what criteria would go into that decision. And, as I related earlier--I already got buy-in from the Director of Public Works as to the existence of a condition that needs remedied. Note that as the parkway surface had already degraded to a need for maintenance 3 years (in my experienced opinion), this means the maintenance need has been ignored for almost ten years now.

As I have suggested, if the available funds aren't there currently (and we all know it is), then defer re-chipping costs for areas where it is not needed, and use that money to restore the surface. Also consider using the non-motorized transportation funds. Such a program would not be any different than your street maintenance programs, where you slurry seal for a while, then strip/grind/replace when slurry seal no longer is effective.

As to this being a "new project", let me say that this section of the staff report reads to me like self-serving B.S., and little of that, if any, are true. If anything, more planning could have gone on this year, and your finances are going to come roaring back next year (and property taxes have only improved).

Given the continued impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic on the City's revenues and expenditure, as well as its impacts and staffing resource limitations on how projects are planned, designed and constructed, staff is recommending delaying consideration of new CIP projects. The staffing impacts on project consultants, vendors and contractors are real and significant this past year, impacting production, operations and construction significantly.

Therefore, staff proposes that City Council consider new projects as part of the mid-year budget presentation in FY 2021-2022, or as part of next year's 5-year CIP review. No outreach was conducted in development of this 5-Year CIP due to the Coronavirus pandemic deferring discussion of adding any new projects to the 5-Year CIP to a future date.

Pure B.S.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Gary Osterhout

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Terry Warburton <stitchem1@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:49 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have been incredulously watching the Bruce's Beach proceedings during this past year and feel it would be a huge mistake for the City of Manhattan Beach to issue an apology for something that happened before any of us were born. If a resolution must be passed, and I feel there really isn't any need for a resolution of any sort, then I believe an official acknowledgement would suffice. I most heartily approve an art piece to be commissioned that acknowledges the events that happened 100 years ago, but I most certainly cannot get behind any resolution that might entangle the city for years to come. My 52 years of living in this beautiful, welcoming city have proved to me we are not a racist population; please acknowledge that in any official documents you draft for our approval.

Sincerely,

Terry Warburton  
1511 Pacific Ave.  
Manhattan Beach,CA

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Leslie Ochsner <leslieochsner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Resolution

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members

"All a state can be is just in it's own time. " Larry Elder

No apology. You've acknowledged it enough. Drop all of this. Do the right thing.

Leslie Ochsner

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** cliff allman <cliffgolf3000@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:48 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] resolution

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

Please do not issue a resolution regarding Bruce Beach.

Thank you.

Cliff Allman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carol & Doug Rowe <jethrowe1@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:46 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support for Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We are writing today in support of an official MB apology to the Bruce family for the injustice that was perpetrated on them decades ago and for the inter-generational wealth they were denied.  
It's the least and right thing to do.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this matter and for representing your constituents views.

All best,  
Carol & Doug Rowe  
473 35th Street

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Macheret <mmacheret@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:43 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Short Request

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Last week I wrote a long email with my observations about the BBTF report to the CC. This one is brief and to the point.

The BBTF failed in its task to research the history of Bruce's Beach. We have no more facts today than before the task force was formed. What little they added was unsubstantiated and one-sided and ultimately worthless except as fuel for their unfortunate agenda. Furthermore, they continue to function as an independent group following their dissolution by the CC, showing what their agenda is.

The BBTF is acting as a surrogate for people and organizations outside our community. We should not allow outsiders to dictate to our city. Any statement of apology or regret or acknowledgment is unwarranted. Acknowledgment already has been established in the current status of Bruce's Beach. Any further action should be rejected and any contemplated action should be determined by the voters, by the residents of this city.

Michael Macheret  
Resident of Manhattan Beach and homeowner since 1994.

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Alice Neuhauser <apntrc@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:32 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Justice, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We were disappointed to see the Task Force dismantled. After all of the time, dedication and demonstration of our need to face our collective histories, this was a big step backward. If the fear was that continuing to acknowledge our past pasted a big red R on the city, that has now quite unfortunately come to pass. The extreme, and extremely hostile reactions, that we have seen by a great many people to openly discussing the facts of our history, seeking to cancel that reality, has been profoundly dispiriting and embarrassing.

We hope that the next step will be a meaningful one. An acknowledgement of factual history means nothing; such an acknowledgement was made in 2006 when the park's name was changed and the new signage was posted. But that failed to provide a truth and reconciliation. If certain people somehow feel that they are being maligned by apologizing for actions taken long ago, imagine how other people feel having to live with the results of those actions.

"I do not want an apology, and I don't think that you do either," is apparently what Mayor Hadley said at the last meeting. Mayor Hadley can speak for herself but she most definitely does not speak for us. And we utterly condone the entire belief that you should do the wrong thing for fear of litigation. So, let's try this time to do the right thing.

We have also read from a local resident that we have apologized enough. Well, not only have we clearly not apologized enough but we are not at all clear when there has been an apology for racism directed at Black Americans. An apology is "a regretful acknowledgment of an offense or failure." An apology is what we teach children is an important part of participating in our society. An apology provides a space for both parties to be heard, recognized and appreciated. We want these things for Black, Indigenous and other People of Color. We want them as equals in our local community and the larger community at large.

This isn't much to ask for. And if we are not willing to do this simplest, yet very meaningful, of things, it doesn't say much about who we are.

Thank you,  
Alice Neuhauser & Thomas Conroy

Alice P. Neuhauser  
P: 310-275-7505  
[apntrc@msn.com](mailto:apntrc@msn.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gary Warburton <calsail@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have been a resident of Manhattan Beach for 45 years at 1511 Pacific Ave. It is my opinion there be NO resolution of any kind regarding Bruce's Beach. You have spent more than enough time and money on this subject. It is time to move past this situation and close the matter permanently.

Thank you very much for your diligent work.

Gary Warburton.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Don Langley <dlangle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:27 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Please do not issue a Resolution or Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council,

Please do not issue any resolution regarding Bruce's Beach. Those in favor of issuing an "Apology", have pushed this issue to the limit, and any "Acknowledgement" by Council will be used for litigation against the city and citizens of Manhattan Beach. No matter what would be issued, it would not be enough for those pushing their leftist agenda. The city will be called "Racist" by them no matter what is issued to appease them. Please protect the Manhattan Beach citizens.

The City can simply list the history of Bruce's Beach on the website, and people will be able to understand what happened so many years ago. And the updated plaques at Bruce's Beach Park will also do the same.

During the Final Four broadcast, Charles Barkely said it so clearly: "We're so stupid following our politicians, whether they are Republicans or Democrats," Barkley continued. "And their only job is, 'Hey, let's make these people not like each other. We don't live in their neighborhoods. We all got money. Let's make the whites and Blacks not like each other. Let's make rich people and poor people not like each other. Let's scramble the middle class.' I truly believe that in my heart!"

Thank you for your consideration, and hopefully this issue will be closed tonight, so that Council can move forward with the people's business.

Sincerely,

Don Langley

--

Don L. Langley

[dlangle@gmail.com](mailto:dlangle@gmail.com)

408-591-5600 - Cell

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/donlangley/>

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rick Cabanes <rickcabanes@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:26 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Lisa Cabanes; Stacy Dobak; bkrupin@krupinpartners.com; planetzena@yahoo.com; Garrett Steuerwald; Jessica Ernst; Michael Ernst  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] NO RESOLUTION

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

This is extortion, obvious to any fair-minded person that does not have an agenda.

This city council has the singular responsibility of protecting 90266. THAT IS YOUR JOB, FULL STOP.

NO: "Resolution of Acknowledgement"

NO: "Resolution of Apology"

Regards,

Rick Cabanes - Tax Paying Resident of MB

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## It's time to Unite and Speak Up for our City!

### Action:

Email City Council members and demand they do not issue any Resolution. A Resolution by our CC only opens the door for the Far Left to use it against us. [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)

### SPEAK UP at the City Council Meeting

Tuesday April 6th , 6:00 PM. Raise your hand by clicking on the hand Imogee at the bottom of your screen  
Zoom: <https://citymb-info.zoom.us/j/93376200363>, Meeting ID: 933 7620 0363

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Margaret Cook <sunshellseeker@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:20 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgement not Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council,

I hope that the nefarious actions of the disbanded Bruce's Beach Task Force will finally be put to rest at tonight's Council meeting. It has taken an undue amount of time, inundated inboxes, and severely divided our City.

It is imperative that the City produce a **factual history** of Bruce's Beach (not embellished or sensationalized with rumors and hearsay) and **ACKNOWLEDGE** and empathize with all of the property owners whose property was taken in the 1920s. I stand with the majority of residents of MB and **do not support an apology**. In addition, the current history document should **NOT** be accepted as truth; it needs to be reviewed by an unbiased historian.

I hope that the City Attorney or outside council has been advised of the best wording for this acknowledgement so that it does not put Manhattan Beach at greater liability or risk for continued recourse or reparation. This must stop now.

It is clear that a vocal minority is hellbent on demonstrating racism where there is none, and branding our City as racist in order to extract more money for the Bruce family and justify overreaching DEIC committees so they can further push their agenda. The hateful, divisive rhetoric of Critical Race Theory should not infiltrate our city. There is no place for that kind of hatred here.

Please help **REUNITE our City** and stop the negativity and division. It is in the best interest of our City and our residents to put this divisive Task Force behind us and move forward together.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Cook

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** David Denitz <ddenitz@gatewaybp.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:13 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Oppose Apology and "Another" Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council:

In 2007, Mayor Mitch Ward, a Black American had an opportunity to apologize on behalf of our city for its role a century ago! He opposed such an apology and instead wanted to rename the park on behalf of the Bruce family. That was accomplished. Now, he and others want an apology and reparations?

I've been in Manhattan Beach for over 60 years. NO apology for something out of our control a century ago. In addition, this means no legal or financial responsibility to the present property owners of our city. Your first responsibility to this city is to protect its citizens and not to cave in to some radical group. It's a money grab. Look around you, there's no discrimination.

--

Sincerely yours,

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Fred Taylor <fred@gtgmarketing.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:12 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Racist accusations

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I implore each MB city council member to search their hearts. Is MB truly racist? Are neighbors of varied backgrounds set against one another? Do we refuse to hire blacks or Hispanics?

I SAY A RESOUNDING NO!

So, whether our political tradition is Democrat or Republican, we must appeal to reason to keep our city peaceful and prosperous.

REJECT the 'racist accusers' premise of systemic and institutional attacks on our city. Any inch we give them will surely result in feet, yards and miles.

Believe me, you WILL NEVER satisfy them.

Fred Taylor - Resident since 1976.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Misty P. Castañeda <mistyp75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:05 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] YES to Bruce's Beach Apology from MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council & City Clerk,

As a former resident of the South Bay (Redondo Beach) who was involved with bringing awareness to racial justice issues in the community last year (that DO exist to a great extent), I am writing to express my support of Mayor Pro Tem Hildy Stern's resolution of apology to the Bruce Family.

In addition, I would like to raise a question as to why Mayor Suzanne Hadley continues to exclude Allison Hales from the History Committee, even after making a motion to include her in the Plaque Committee during the March 3rd City Council Meeting?

Manhattan Beach has a huge opportunity to do the right thing here- or to forever tarnish its' reputation as an inclusive and welcoming community. Of course, I am in favor of the former and hope the City Council makes a decision to be on the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Misty Castaneda  
Former Resident of Redondo Beach

## **Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Carol Shafer <carolfinejewelry@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Once again

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**Once again, THE RESIDENTS OF MANHATTAN BEACH DO NOT OWE AN APOLOGY FOR SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO!! THOSE FAMILIES WERE ALREADY TAKEN CARE OF! YOU TASK FORCE MORONS AND LIBERAL LUNATICS NEED TO GET A LIFE WITHOUT VIOLENCE AND KNOCK THIS CRAP OFF!! AND WHICH ONE OF YOU BBTF MORONS VANDALIZED JOE FRANKLIN'S HOME? HOW DARE YOU!!**

**Council member Stern - There is absolutely NO "systemic racism problem" in Manhattan Beach and absolutely NO PROOF...NOT IN 2021 AND NOT FOR DECADES!! YOU are the racist problem! You are a disgrace to the City Council, the city of Manhattan Beach, and humanity! There must be someone you can blame your stupidity on ....is it an ancestor?**

**Councilman Napolitano, you falsely stated that "issuing an apology by the city to the Bruce family and all victims of racist acts past and present" was at the top of your list...also disgraceful! What the hell have you been smoking?  
You are one proctologist's dream!**

**YOU BBTF PEOPLE NEED TO APOLOGIZE TO MB RESIDENTS FOR THE LIES YOU PRINT ABOUT US..BUT YOU WON'T BECAUSE YOU HAVE NO MORALS. ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS RAISE CHAOS! YOU NEED TO MOVE THE HELL OUT OF OUR CITY..STRAIGHT TO THE ZOO WITH THE ANIMALS...THE POISONOUS SNAKES WHO RESIDE IN CAGES!**

**BBTF - Unfortunately, there is no vaccination for toxic!**

**Carol Shafer  
35 year resident, fed up with all of this.**

[Carol Elizabeth Shafer](#)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Linda <lawong.63@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology to the Bruce Family

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

As a proud resident of Manhattan Beach for 33 years, I am asking the City of Manhattan Beach to issue a formal apology to the Bruce Family.

My family enjoys the privileges of generational wealth—a benefit denied of the Bruces. My husband was born at South Bay Hospital and raised in Manhattan Beach. His mother was a school teacher and his father Dave a hardworking barber and handyman in Manhattan Beach while raising his family of four children. Dave came to Manhattan Beach in the mid-1950's from rural Washington, fell in love with this sleepy beach town and never left. He was fortunate to earn enough to purchase a couple properties in town. Early on, he befriended an elderly woman who became a part of his own family. Upon her passing, she gifted him with a handful of commercial and residential properties in the North End. Those properties have afforded a standard of living for all of Dave's children and grandchildren that would not have been otherwise realized.

I disagree with some of my neighbors who associate an apology with "being racist". If anything, the opposite is true. We live in a day of reckoning that warrants accountability of one's actions and advancing social justice. My husband and two grown sons would be proud of the city we call home putting forth this apology.

Sincerely,

Linda Wong

and family

Matt, Henry and Benjamin Ehrhard

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** MaryEllen Udovich <maryellen.udovich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Council meeting tonight

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi Council,

To further clarify my position, I personally feel that there should be no apology OR an acknowledgement.

It seems that you have three choices: issue apology, issue acknowledgment or do neither. An apology of what? to all 25 or 30 families of different races who got paid for their land through imminent domain? An acknowledgement of what? Do we now acknowledge every time our city or government does any action of any sort? It doesn't really make any sense to me. I don't feel like any action is needed. (But I also didn't feel like the BBTF should have been created in the first place, it just seemed to me like the city was caving to a political movement.)

Just because 3 other cities across the US issued some sort of apology doesn't mean it is what every city does.

MaryEllen Udovich

On Tue, Apr 6, 2021 at 2:15 PM MaryEllen Udovich <[maryellen.udovich@gmail.com](mailto:maryellen.udovich@gmail.com)> wrote:  
Dear Council,

I wanted to express my opposition to the city council issuing an Apology regarding Bruce's Beach.

I also find it troubling that the TF's historical report uploaded on the official city of MB website is being used as a verified source for individuals and news outlets - this report has not been verified for accuracy by the MB historical society. Some parts of it actually have nothing to do with MB, are assumptions, or rumor. At a minimum, there should be a disclaimer at the top of every page notifying the reader that this is NOT a historical document issued by the city. Or it should be taken down.

MaryEllen Udovich

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MaryEllen Udovich  
[Maryellen.udovich@gmail.com](mailto:Maryellen.udovich@gmail.com)  
646.370.9000

--

MaryEllen Udovich  
[Maryellen.udovich@gmail.com](mailto:Maryellen.udovich@gmail.com)  
646.370.9000

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Susan GOO <susehil562@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:37 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council;

A Resolution is not the answer, the Left will use this against the City. They will make demands as a result of the resolution. This will only make the division deeper. It's like a child screaming for ice cream when told them no, if you give in and give them the ice cream you created a brat who will continue to scream when they don't like something. You don't have to feel guilty because your white. That's just ridiculous.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mich Levy <mich@wetipthebalance.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:36 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Mayor Hadley and City Council Members,

At this time of such deeply divided politics, it isn't always easy to remember that issues of human decency and dignity are not a partisan issue.

For example, my investment in the issue of Manhattan Beach apologizing for its past treatment of people who used to live here is explained not by my party affiliation, but by how I came to be born in California.

Both my parents were brought to California as children by their immigrant parents and grandparents. After approximately a thousand years (or more) of persecution and expulsion, my strongly identified Jewish family ended up here, in the farthest reaches of the western hemisphere.

But in Manhattan Beach, I felt like an unwelcome outsider. My friends were people who, in one way or another, felt similarly. I grew to understand, over time, the ways people I met elsewhere felt unsafe where I had been brought to grow up, and therefore chose not to live or spend time there.

Knowing the history of Bruce's Beach helps explain what I felt, saw and heard: Manhattan Beach has also participated in expulsion of the "other". Some people might argue that it wasn't many people, or that it happened to white people too, but that's not really the point, is it? The point to me is that Black families living in Manhattan Beach a century ago were removed, and to this day, the city remains less than 1% African American.

Manhattan Beach may not be sorry for a history which kept me segregated from people who could have been a part of my life then and now, but I am. Obvious (to me), those whose land was taken are first in line for healing and repair, but they aren't the only people who lost so much. I for one can attest to having lost a lot, too.

As an adult, I've chosen instead to live in places that better reflect the diversity of the country and the world. Where there is more of everybody, not less of everybody "else". Where I feel more welcome in my own differences.

My position in a nutshell?: Compromises to human decency are just that, regardless of the arguments used to justify them or how defiantly or loudly they are stated.

Therefore, with all due respect, the real question I have is if you will succumb, as they did in the 1920s, to social pressure and intimidation which, this time, would have the city withhold an apology for the wrongs it committed then.

The other option is that your courageous leadership helps pave the way to that more dignified future - not just for the descendants of the people who were wronged in the past, but for all of us.

Here's to hoping,

Micheline Beth Levy

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Marie O'Brien <mariee0603@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:36 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] no on apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As a longtime Manhattan Beach resident, I am requesting that you do not play into BBTF's "Game of Victim". As we all know, Bruces were paid with the assistance of their NAACP lawyer and as the lawyer suggested, it was above a fair amount. They are trying to threaten MB with a lawsuit. You certainly would not fan a fire that you're attempting to halt. Giving an apology to unsubstantial evidence, opinion and conjecture would only support their readiness to steal monies not owed.

Thank you for your time,  
Marie Roehl - O'Brien

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Ellen Lauricella <ellenlauricella@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:24 PM  
**To:** Dave Gamble  
**Cc:** BB TaskForce; Hildy Stern; List - City Council; Richard Montgomery  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council, and skulker who sent the attached email,

I firmly support an apology to the Bruce family and the community at large for the actions taken by the City of Manhattan Beach so many years ago. Though our current residents are not directly responsible for those actions, the demography of our community today, coupled with racism that the few Black residents of Manhattan Beach continue to feel and experience, demonstrates that we fall short of being the equitable and welcoming city that we claim to be. We can do better than this and it should start now.

As illustrated by the email below, it's easy to use name-calling, slander, fears about future related or non-related issues, concerns about political motives, etc. and set it all to SCREAMING fonts in an effort to complicate the issue. But the simple fact is that a wrong was done to a family in this community. It is never too late to apologize and we should do that. It's very simply the right thing to do.

Thank you.

Ellen Lauricella  
27 year resident of MB

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**From:** BB TaskForce <[bbtaskforce.realagenda@gmail.com](mailto:bbtaskforce.realagenda@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:32 AM  
**To:** undisclosed-recipients:  
**Subject:** Bruce Beach Get The Facts: NO RESOLUTION is in the best interest of the City of Manhattan Beach.

## **Bruce Beach Get The Facts: NO RESOLUTION is in the best interest of the City of Manhattan Beach.**

According to the slew of emails we have received over the last 2 weeks, turns out MB residents from both sides of the political aisle are in agreement - they don't like, nor do they want, the Bruce's Beach issue being used by the Far Left to extort restitution and push their ideology in our local Schools, city Government, police department or community.

The Far Left does NOT represent mainstream Liberal Democrats, Conservative Republicans, or "No Party Preference" Americans, but the Far Left constantly pushes forward to intimidate us all to stay quiet in fear of being canceled or attacked.

## It's time to Unite and Speak Up for our City!

### Action:

Email City Council members and demand they do not issue any Resolution. A Resolution by our CC only opens the door for the Far Left to use it against us. [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)

### SPEAK UP at the City Council Meeting

Tuesday April 6th , 6:00 PM. Raise your hand by clicking on the hand Imogee at the bottom of your screen

Zoom: <https://citymb-info.zoom.us/j/93376200363>, Meeting ID: 933 7620 0363

### More on why an apology is being pushed so hard by some

At the meeting, we anticipate Council Members will make it about an apology vs no apology as a distraction. The real issue is whether Council will stand up to the Far Left and refuse to adopt any measure that opens the door to any future actions. Since the last time MB addressed this issue by renaming the park and installing a plaque in 2007, no new facts were revealed by the Task Force. Therefore, there is no real need to issue a resolution or take any other action, but Council is feeling pressure from the Far Left. But let's be clear, the Far Left wants far more than a Resolution, whether it's a "Resolution of Acknowledgement" or a "Resolution of Apology."

Even the Bruce's Beach Task Force's History Report, purposely embellished with unsubstantiated stories of racism to mischaracterize MB, is simply a means to an end. The Far Left has declared MB guilty of "systemic and institutional racism" and they want our City Council to issue any statement of "resolution" that they will spin as "evidence" to justify restitution and to take over governing our schools, police department, and city government.

**It is our hope Councilman Montgomery will take a leadership role to lead our City Council to reject the Far Left's demands and vote to not issue any resolution.**

### Just say No to all versions of the following Resolutions:

According to local BLM Far Left activist Kavon Ward,

"We believe it is significant for them (MB City Council) to state publically that they were complicit and that it was their fault. I think that's important in trying to get the restitution the (Bruce) family is asking for. They have to admit guilt. And when you admit guilt, people are going to say what are you going to do about it? How are you going to remedy it?" Interview with the Atlanta Black Star on March 10, 2021.

**Councilman Napolitano** stated "issuing an apology by the city to the Bruce family and all victims of racist acts past and present" was at the top of his list.

When residents vehemently criticized the Task Force's list of demands attached to their "Resolution of Apology," Napolitano wrote his own. He word crafted a seemingly more palatable version but his proposed resolution, as well as every other one that followed by others, contain damning words about our city that open the door for the Far Left to demand restitution and a Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEIC).

Watch the ideology from the Far Left BBTF members and their plans for a Resolution of Apology: <https://youtu.be/XGDOOAs6JL0>

**Council Member Stern** makes no apologies for her Far Left ideology and has written her own "Resolution of Apology" which includes establishing a permanent DEIC to "fix" the false claim of a "systemic racism problem" in MB.

**Councilman Franklin** has written his version of a resolution by attempting to "give a little to get a little." By titling his version a "Resolution of Acknowledgment and Condemnation" and omitting the word "apology" he may be trying to protect the city from potential lawsuits. But by including a list of false rumors and unsubstantiated stories of racist acts, admissions of guilt, and commitments to future actions, opens the same doors for the Far Left to demand restitution.

**LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's** recent public statement that she will support some form of restitution to the Bruce Family was cleverly timed to fuel the Far Left to send more letters to CC demanding a Resolution of Apology.

Thank you for your support  
Apologize if are getting this e-mail more than once

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Barbara Johnson <bjtennisdog@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I am against any resolution regarding the Bruce Beach area

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

There is no new information that points to giving any resolution for an acknowledgement or apology.

Do not agree to a resolution in the Bruce Beach matter.

Thank you,  
Barbara Johnson  
resident of Manhattan Beach 33 years. East and West 90266

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Dolores Gamble <gambledolores@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology vs acknowledgment

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Our City Council Members,

I would first like to thank each of you for your work as our MB city council member which I imagine is many times a thankless job. I believe that as council members, you strive to reach decisions based on the best good that can be achieved with the least amount of harm being caused.

To that end, I have read all apology vs acknowledgement statements: task force, Councilmember Napolitano, Councilmember Stern, and Councilmember Franklin. I believe that the task force and/or Councilmember Stern's statements go to the extent of what our city should go to in order to move forward into the future as the city we would like to be and be seen as. I think adopting either of these statements would be important symbols of our commitment to justice and inclusivity. The state and national papers have carried this story as well as the recent surfing story - I think it is important for our city to make a strong statement of what we stand for today.

I am also very bothered by the anonymous person/group that will send out misleading emails, create You tube videos, and place newspaper ads to incite fear and division. They should be condemned because if they will not put their names and faces behind their actions, they should NOT be given any sort of credibility in this discussion. There is absolutely no place that an anonymous, fear-mongering source in our town.

Thank you,  
Dolores Gamble

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** MaryEllen Udovich <maryellen.udovich@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 2:16 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Council meeting tonight

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council,

I wanted to express my opposition to the city council issuing an Apology regarding Bruce's Beach.

I also find it troubling that the TF's historical report uploaded on the official city of MB website is being used as a verified source for individuals and news outlets - this report has not been verified for accuracy by the MB historical society. Some parts of it actually have nothing to do with MB, are assumptions, or rumor. At a minimum, there should be a disclaimer at the top of every page notifying the reader that this is NOT a historical document issued by the city. Or it should be taken down.

MaryEllen Udovich

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MaryEllen Udovich

[Maryellen.udovich@gmail.com](mailto:Maryellen.udovich@gmail.com)

646.370.9000

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** ffields2502 <ffield2502@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:58 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please please STOP

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We beg you to please stop with this endless desired to label this city as RACIST. We are really tired of it and it serves no positive purpose.

Stacey Fields

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mary Chieffe <mary.chieffe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:53 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilmembers and Mayor,

I'm writing to let you know that I strongly oppose an issuance of any resolution regarding Bruce's Beach.

At the beginning of this controversial event, I was interested in hearing and learning about all the various points of view, the history involved, what was happening in our greater society that fueled the conversation, as well as our life right here in Manhattan Beach. I followed publications in our local newspapers, considered information from the internet, read many posts written by my neighbors on NextDoor, and listened to people throughout the community. There has been much to take in over the past several months. All has played a role in bringing the situation to what it is today.

It's obvious that this situation is not moving in a constructive manner or toward a peaceful place. It feels like we're being strongly driven or pushed, rather than evolving through compassion and common sense. I'm noticing people becoming more separated, not united, more angry and less amicable. The energy this situation has been drumming up over time is detrimental to us all - fear, guilt, anger, judgement, shame. It's affecting the public at large and filtering into our schools and toward our children. The driving force behind this feels like a wolf in sheep's clothing, pretending to make amends, but in reality creating division and misrepresenting the facts of our past and present.

My husband, Tom, and I moved to Manhattan Beach from out of state six years ago. We could have relocated anywhere on earth, and we chose here. We chose it because, after spending time here, we found Manhattan Beach to be a prideful, peaceful, joyful, beautiful, safe, lively, energetic place to live our lives. There was no hint or discussion of racism. We have always felt welcome; there are more friends in our lives than we can count and boundless activities to keep us engaged. Every opportunity that we can imagine and many more that we can't exist here for us. We love living in Manhattan Beach and we love what Manhattan Beach represents.

I'd like for this current hatred driven trend to come to an end. No more task force, no resolution, no further action required, no more propaganda aimed at the children. Let's allow the harmony, pride and civility of our city continue to thrive.

Sincerely,

Mary Chieffe  
Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kim Muller <kk.muller55@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am writing to ask that you issue a formal apology, not simply an acknowledgment, for the City's part in seizing the Bruce's and other Black families' land in a clearly race-driven attempt to keep those of color out of the City. You have one opportunity to do this right, and show us, the over 500 MB, who actually signed their names to an ad and all residents. that you are ready to help the City, and the Bruce family move forward from this ugly chapter in our history.

Please adopt Mayor Pro-Tem Stern's apology.

I would also like to ask that Council provide a complete, transparent accounting of the decision to remove Ms. Hales from her committee duties. There are many unanswered questions, and contradictions in the emails between some of the concerned parties. Might there have been Brown Acts violations in the conversations around this? So many serious missteps along the way, many of them we all heard in public meetings. It's very troubling.

Respectfully,

Kim Muller  
Meadows  
NKF Kidney Advocacy Committee  
[kk.muller55@gmail.com](mailto:kk.muller55@gmail.com)  
310.546.1332 home/ 505.310.2628 cell

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Yvonne Murphy <yvonnem1@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] For tonight ....No Apology !

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please , NO apology And just issue a resolution of Acknowledgement.

Words to express regret need to be precise because they can be used for political pressure or legal actions against the city of Manhattan Beach. Acknowledgement and apology are two different words, have two different meanings and different legal implications. An apology, would be construed as a public admission of guilt. An apology is a means to an end and that end is money.

The advocate's plan is as follows: put forth historical stories of discrimination substantiated or not; extract a public apology; put public pressure on the city to pay reparations to make amends.

The City must not issue an apology, but opt for a Resolution of Acknowledgement. The acknowledgement should keep historical facts to a minimum and must not reference acts that are still in dispute or are uncorroborated. The resolution must make clear that it is intended as an expression of sympathy and not an admission of guilt. The Acknowledgement can be supplemented by noting that we are today a welcoming and tolerant city opposed to any and all acts of racism and bigotry.

I was not around 100 years ago and neither were you. this is simply a ploy by the Far Left to gain control for money.

Yvonne Murphy  
15th Street / MB resident  
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Dave Gamble <dgamble@farmersagent.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:20 PM  
**To:** 'BB TaskForce'  
**Cc:** Hildy Stern; List - City Council; Richard Montgomery  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To the City Council of MB, to my friends in MB, to Hildy Stern, and finally to the Fear Mongering ANONYMOUS author of the email below.

You are right, it is time for us to unite and stop using terminology like the **FAR Left**. It is just ridiculous and fear mongering.

**Why an apology?** We in the current generation of citizens of MB did not create/administer the atrocity against the Bruces and other families involved. However, we do have the capacity to share with those families our sincere apology that this did occur in our city. By hiding from this truth, we only fan the flame of further irritation. It is nothing but short-sighted for our city to NOT adopt a sincere apology. It's typical that the writers of the note below are concerned about being sued or being setup for further action. As a reminder to us all, you can be sued for any reason or no reason at all. The actions of 100 years ago are there in plain detail for everyone to see. By apologizing we at least let our community and those around us know that we recognize this horrible wrong which was done to these families. State and National newspapers.

**Council Member Stern** – I find it unbelievable that anyone would try to label Hildy Stern with a label of “Far Left.” What is this? McCarthyism? She is undoubtedly one of the finest members of our community in terms of: Leadership, Personal Education, Service, and Family Values. I have known Hildy for over 20 years and in this time I have known her to be the most tireless, active supporter of all school and extra-curricular activities, if you consider that Far Left then so be it. However, you will never find Hildy hiding behind an anonymous ad in the beach reporter, nor an anonymous email like the one below making all kinds of Fear Mongering statements.

I would hope that our city council despite it varying political positions would recognize Hildy for her contribution to our city, this task force and to her thoughtful measured approach to issues that she works on.

There is no question of Guilt. Our city carried out this atrocity. Nothing will change that, we can't and should not try to hide from it.

City Council, we need to apologize and make it count!

Finally, to my friends who are also receiving this email, don't sit back and let this be someone else's problem. Take an action. Attend the meeting tonight, send your own email to the City. Our anonymous friends have included the meeting information below. It is at 6pm tonight and you can attend from the comfort of your own home.

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**SPEAK UP at the City Council Meeting**

Tuesday April 6th , 6:00 PM. Raise your hand by clicking on the hand emoji at the bottom of your screen  
Zoom: <https://citymb-info.zoom.us/j/93376200363>, Meeting ID: 933 7620 0363

Dave Gamble  
25 Year Resident of Manhattan Beach

---

**From:** BB TaskForce <[bbtaskforce.realagenda@gmail.com](mailto:bbtaskforce.realagenda@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 7:32 AM  
**To:** undisclosed-recipients:  
**Subject:** Bruce Beach Get The Facts: NO RESOLUTION is in the best interest of the City of Manhattan Beach.

## **Bruce Beach Get The Facts: NO RESOLUTION is in the best interest of the City of Manhattan Beach.**

According to the slew of emails we have received over the last 2 weeks, turns out MB residents from both sides of the political aisle are in agreement - they don't like, nor do they want, the Bruce's Beach issue being used by the Far Left to extort restitution and push their ideology in our local Schools, city Government, police department or community. The Far Left does NOT represent mainstream Liberal Democrats, Conservative Republicans, or "No Party Preference" Americans, but the Far Left constantly pushes forward to intimidate us all to stay quiet in fear of being canceled or attacked.

## **It's time to Unite and Speak Up for our City!**

### **Action:**

Email City Council members and demand they do not issue any Resolution. A Resolution by our CC only opens the door for the Far Left to use it against us. [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)

### **SPEAK UP at the City Council Meeting**

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### **More on why an apology is being pushed so hard by some**

At the meeting, we anticipate Council Members will make it about an apology vs no apology as a distraction. The real issue is whether Council will stand up to the Far Left and refuse to adopt any measure that opens the door to any future actions. Since the last time MB addressed this issue by renaming the park and installing a plaque in 2007, no new facts were revealed by the Task Force. Therefore, there is no real need to issue a resolution or take any other action, but Council is feeling pressure from the Far Left. But let's be clear, the Far Left wants far more than a Resolution, whether it's a "Resolution of Acknowledgement" or a "Resolution of Apology."

Even the Bruce's Beach Task Force's History Report, purposely embellished with unsubstantiated stories of racism to mischaracterize MB, is simply a means to an end. The Far Left has declared MB guilty of "systemic and institutional racism" and they want our City Council to issue any statement of "resolution" that they will spin as "evidence" to justify restitution and to take over governing our schools, police department, and city government.

**It is our hope Councilman Montgomery will take a leadership role to lead our City Council to reject the Far Left's demands and vote to not issue any resolution.**

**Just say No to all versions of the following Resolutions:**

According to local BLM Far Left activist Kavon Ward,

"We believe it is significant for them (MB City Council) to state publically that they were complicit and that it was their fault. I think that's important in trying to get the restitution the (Bruce) family is asking for. They have to admit guilt. And when you admit guilt, people are going to say what are you going to do about it? How are you going to remedy it?" Interview with the Atlanta Black Star on March 10, 2021.

**Councilman Napolitano** stated "issuing an apology by the city to the Bruce family and all victims of racist acts past and present" was at the top of his list.

When residents vehemently criticized the Task Force's list of demands attached to their "Resolution of Apology," Napolitano wrote his own. He word crafted a seemingly more palatable version but his proposed resolution, as well as every other one that followed by others, contain damning words about our city that open the door for the Far Left to demand restitution and a Commission on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEIC).

Watch the ideology from the Far Left BBTF members and their plans for a Resolution of Apology:

<https://youtu.be/XGDOOAs6JL0>

**Council Member Stern** makes no apologies for her Far Left ideology and has written her own "Resolution of Apology" which includes establishing a permanent DEIC to "fix" the false claim of a "systemic racism problem" in MB.

**Councilman Franklin** has written his version of a resolution by attempting to "give a little to get a little." By titling his version a "Resolution of Acknowledgment and Condemnation" and omitting the word "apology" he may be trying to protect the city from potential lawsuits. But by including a list of false rumors and unsubstantiated stories of racist acts, admissions of guilt, and commitments to future actions, opens the same doors for the Far Left to demand restitution.

**LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn's** recent public statement that she will support some form of restitution to the Bruce Family was cleverly timed to fuel the Far Left to send more letters to CC demanding a Resolution of Apology.

Thank you for your support

Apologize if are getting this e-mail more than once

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Business <selfspa@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:19 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resident input to Bruce's Beach discussion

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

City Council Members,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do.  
You each put 110% effort in your job and your conviction shows.

I have lived here 20 years.  
Our 4 kids grew up here and went through the MBUSD schools.

I could go on and on how much we sacrificed to move into this town. This past year has had me wanting to leave Manhattan Beach as soon as possible. My friends cannot believe it.

The constant racist slurs and remarks about the White race have been overwhelming and insulting and embarrassing to be part of this town.

I will try to stick with the current topic, Bruce's Beach.  
I am in awe of Mrs Bruce. To be an entrepreneur back then as a lady alone, but also a black woman, was quite a feat and an inspiration. We should be making her example as one of our inspirations, but NO, we used this time in our history as a way to punish and divide our town today for what may have been in the minds of some residents 100 years ago. Bottomline, eminent domain happened to many folks and multiple races and it's a legal yet unfortunate act governments do.

**I vote NO on an apology and NO on an acknowledgment.**

All we can do is what is Right and Just today under today's norms by and for today's residents.

I want to add that I have been appalled at what I've heard in the city council meetings over the past year. Racist slurs have been repeatedly voiced by callers and commenters without anyone condemning them. It is indeed so hypocritical to attempt to condemn residents from 100 years ago, none of which are here today, yet allow racial verbal abuse today. I keep thinking, "what a hey day residents 100 years from now will have, condemning 2020/21 residents of racism ". It's all recorded and documented without one person calling out the abusers; and some of the abusers aren't even residents.

Again, thank you for all you do.

City Council, please **focus on today's residents.**

You are spending most of your tenures dragging our town through the mud for actions that were legal 100 years ago. None of those folks are still around.

Sincerely, Mrs C. Harding  
20 year resident

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Emma Broussard-Wilson <emmabwilson16@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:53 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Support of Item F4 - Resolution of Apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

I am writing this email in support of council member Stern's resolution of apology to the Bruce family. As a resident of Manhattan Beach, I would like to urge the city council to accept the now disbanded task force's recommendation and issue a formal apology, not an acknowledgment, for the wrongful actions of Manhattan Beach when it used its powers of eminent domain to deprive the Bruce's and other Black families of their property in the 1920s.

Looking forward to seeing our council members stand on the honorable side of history.

Best,  
Emma

--

Emma Broussard-Wilson  
[emmabwilson16@gmail.com](mailto:emmabwilson16@gmail.com)  
310-630-7495

Pronouns: She/Her

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** patriciasievers@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I wrote to you last week and I apologize that I am writing again because of the "undeliverable" messages on my work email.

Again, I want to thank you for your endurance at the last public zoom council meeting! More importantly, thank you for hearing the voices of our city and disbanding the task force.

As a 33 year resident and business owner, I would like to voice in on three items in this email.

1) Meeting Decorum

Please advise the participants on zoom of the Decorum and Civility rules and then enforce them.

2) **NO APOLOGY**

We cannot apologize for something that happened 100 years ago.

And it is wrong for our community to be characterized today based on the political and cultural environment of 100 years ago.

This issue was addressed appropriately by the 2007 council. Why are we allowing it to be rehashed by people who are full of hate and want to destroy our town? **If you council members vote to issue an apology, then this council will be putting our town in danger.**

3) **ACCURATE HISTORY**

The Task Force produced an incomplete and editorialized history. We need an accurate and factual history. It should be removed from the city website and handled and fact checked by the MB historical society. Already the false narrative has found its way onto Wikipedia. What a shame that our city whose culture you and I built in our generation (not only by our involvement in the community but through tax dollars and the money we donated to improve our school system) is being demonized because of all the noise generated from the Task Force.

On a final and obvious note, all of the discussion around Bruce's Beach has been predicated on an editorialized and incomplete history. Shouldn't this be straightened out first?

Again, thank you for your hard work and representation.

Patricia Sievers Ambrose

Patricia Sievers Ambrose, DAOM  
Shen Ming Health Cultivation Center  
310-261-4265

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kristin Long <klongs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:45 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; Hildy Stern; Suzanne Hadley; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Updates and Notes about Mrs. Bruce.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

*I'm sorry if you're receiving this more than once, I had some attachments, but they were rather large, so I'm sending this again, sans attachments. If you would like specific documentation emailed to you, please let me know.*

Honorable Mayor and Esteemed Members of Council:

I have some updated information for you regarding the racial incidents in Manhattan Beach in the 1920s. Normally, the history subcommittee of the former Bruce's Beach Task Force would have simply published an update on our findings, but in the interest of time and given your agenda this evening, it seemed important to share this information with you now instead of waiting for next Monday.

On pages 10 and 11 of the History Report, we discussed the allegations by individuals interviewed by Robert Brigham in his 1956 as evidence of the Ku Klux Klan and actions taken against African Americans in Manhattan Beach. There was concern by members of the community that these stories were hearsay and could not be corroborated. We hope this helps address those concerns. *The highlighted portion below will be added to the history report pending approval from the subcommittee.*

Brigham's interviews were conducted some 30 years after the fact and, admittedly, these reports were not always from the individual's first-hand experience. Upon further research, however, such incidents were documented in local newspapers in the immediate aftermath of their occurrence and also warranted an investigation by the Los Angeles County 1928 grand jury.

- In the October 28, 1927, issue of *The California Eagle*, it is reported that on October 18, 1927, "in the dead hours of the night, the motly [sic] hooded cowards crept up to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. James Slaughter and literally covered the gas meter under the house with oil soaked waste, excelsior and cotton, and applied a match to it.
- Superior Judge Superior Judge Carlos H. Hardy impaneled the 1928 Los Angeles County grand jury at noon on February 15, 1928. One of the first investigations was the alleged "anti-race arson plot at Manhattan Beach, where it is charged houses of Negro residents have been dynamited and set on fire by white citizens objecting to the presence of Negroes." District Attorney Asa Keyes intimated that "some big names" are involved in the arson play. (*Los Angeles Evening Express*, February 15, 1928)

- On February 15, 1928, the *Venice Vanguard* reported: “Dynamite, bullets and the secret torch are all alleged to have been employed by residents in order to induce the negroes to travel. Certain citizens objected to a colored settlement.” It also stated that: “It was learned that seven Manhattan Beach citizens have been questioned by operatives in regard to the race trouble. One of these seven, it is said, has been Jack Garvin, Manhattan’s chief of police. The other six are business men of the community.”
- According to the February 15, 1928, *The Record* (Los Angeles): “Burning and dynamiting of the homes of negro residents at Manhattan Beach, which has grown to the proportion of a race war is to be investigated by the 1928 grand jury as soon as it is impaneled.” It is also reported here that seven white Manhattan Beach residents were expected to be subpoenaed by the grand jury
- On February 16, 1928, *The Record* provided more details about the incidents, stating that the home of James Slaughter at 120 26th Street was fired upon and the home of Isaac and Pearl Mose at the corner of 6th and Peck was completely destroyed by a fire. It is also reported that, “A fiery cross blazed upon a hillside shortly before one of the fires and written warnings were placed upon the houses marked for arson.” Police Chief Jack Garvin told the *Record* that “no official report of dynamiting or shooting had been brought to his notice, though this information is common talk in the community.”
- Chief Detective for the grand jury, George Contreras, told the *Los Angeles Times* that he had uncovered clues “indicating that certain citizens set fire to negro dwellings, fired shots into the walls of others, burned falling crosses on the hills, and in one instance, attempted [sic] to destroy a house with dynamite. Threatening notes written to the victims and pinned to the doors will be used in tracing those responsible for the acts of violence.”
- Following an announcement of the Contreras investigation, it was reported that there was a “secret meeting in the sand hills near the ocean” among members of the Manhattan Beach community . The *Times* stated:
 

“The mysterious meeting, according to officers was called by leaders in the movement to oust the negro population from the beach city immediately after the announcement was made that evidence concerning asserted acts of violence had been obtained and will be placed before the 1928 grand jury.”
- On February 25, 1928, *The Indianapolis Reporter* carried a story by the Associated Press about the incidents in Manhattan Beach. “Several homes have been bombed, fired into, and burned, but the largest losers are reported to be the white insurance companies as the Negro citizens have insured their homes against these hazards.” Furthermore, it stated that District Attorney Asa Keyes had been doing a secret investigation of the “white hoodlums” responsible these actions for six weeks and “expects to bring several prominent business men before the law to explain their connection with the gangers who are believed to be perpetrating the crimes and endangering the lives of citizens of Manhattan Beach.”

On February 27 and February 28, 1928, the *Times* reported that no witnesses would be called in the “asserted arson cases in Manhattan Beach.” It only stated that:

“Reports that the investigation of arson charges against several Manhattan Beach residents also would be taken up today were denied by [Deputy District Attorney Ellis] Eagan. It will be necessary to obtain more evidence before placing the investigation before the grand jury, Eagan intimated.”

The above can directly be attributed to these sources:

- “Anti-Race Plot Will Be Among Initial Probes” *Los Angeles Evening Express* (Los Angeles, California) · Wed, Feb 15, 1928 · Page 3
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- MILES CASE CHARGES TO GRAND JURY: Little Credence Placed by District Attorney in Affidavits Offered” , *Los Angeles Times* (1923-1995); Feb 27, 1928; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Los Angeles Times pg. A5

Please note: We have submitted a request for the 1928 Grand Jury’s Final Report to the Los Angeles Archives and Records facility and will report those findings as soon as we obtain them.

#### Regarding Mrs. Bruce’s first name:

We have stated that Mrs. Bruce’s first name is Willie based upon the evidence discovered in our research. This includes:

[1900 United States Government Census](#)

[1910 United States Government Census](#)

[1900 United States Government Census](#)

[1910 United States Government Census:](#)

1916 Registered Voters of Los Angeles County

[1920 United States Government Census](#)

The OCR mistakenly reads the "W" as an "N", but looking at the document, you can clearly see it's a "W" and it's "Willie".

February 1927 - Bruce Letter to the Editor of the *Manhattan Beach News*

1927 May - Bruce Letter to the City acquiescing land

[1930 United States Government Census](#)

[1931 - Charles Aaron Bruce's Death Certificate](#)

1934 - Willie Ann Bruce's Death Certificate

1934 Willie Ann Bruce's Obituary in the *California Eagle*

Most of these files are available in the history report.

I have reached out to Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson, inquiring why she believes that Mrs. Bruce should be referred to as “Willa” instead of “Willie”, but she has told me she will not respond to my request for assistance:

Willa Bruce’s name is the least of anyone’s worries about the information presented in the history report, but I responded to this question in my March 4 comments. As I said in my earlier email:

See my comments directly to [brucebeachtaskforce@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachtaskforce@gmail.com) on March 4, 2021 at 12.05 pm after reading the report regarding the subcommittee’s lack of understanding of how some terms are used in the few narrative manuscripts and “primary sources” the sub-committee has reviewed. I did not do a full critique of the report at that time. I picked out a few items to make comment on, but there were others things which I would critique about the way the sub-committee presented “primary sources” with comments that showed the lack of understanding about the African American experience in American and California history.

This situation of Allison Hales’ role on the History sub-committee for the interpretative panels will need to be clarified/fixed, before I can respond to any more inquiries regarding historical records and interpretation from you or any other History sub-committee member.

Thank you for your time. Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.  
Sincerely, Kristin Long Drew

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rory OBrien <captainowow@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:40 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Issue a Resolution of Acknowledgment and Condemnation ONLY.

We the people don't owe any more than that. To consider any further remediation is bow to extortion.

Rory & Marie O'Brien  
Manhattan Beach

Rory sent from iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kristin Long <klongs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:32 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; Hildy Stern; Suzanne Hadley; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Updates and Notes about Mrs. Bruce.  
**Attachments:** 1927 May 16 Bruce Letter.jpeg; 1927-5-16 Bruce Letter to City.pdf; 1934 September 5 WABruce Death Certificate.jpg

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

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**ATTACHED** February 1927 - Bruce Letter to the Editor of the *Manhattan Beach News*

**ATTACHED** - 1927 Bruce Letter to the City

[1930 United States Government Census](#)

[1931 - Charles Aaron Bruce's Death Certificate](#)

**ATTACHED** 1934 - Willie Ann Bruce's Death Certificate

1934 Willie Ann Bruce's Obituary in the *California Eagle*

I have attached three of them below for your convenience. The other files are links, but the city's email may not allow those to go through.

I have reached out to Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson, inquiring why she believes that Mrs. Bruce should be referred to as “Willa” instead of “Willie”, but she has told me she will not respond to my request for assistance:

Willa Bruce’s name is the least of anyone’s worries about the information presented in the history report, but I responded to this question in my March 4 comments. As I said in my earlier email:

See my comments directly to [brucebeachtaskforce@gmail.com](mailto:brucebeachtaskforce@gmail.com) on March 4, 2021 at 12.05 pm after reading the report regarding the subcommittee’s lack of understanding of how some terms are used in the few narrative manuscripts and “primary sources” the sub-committee has reviewed. I did not do a full critique of the report at that time. I picked out a few items to make comment on, but there were others things which I would critique about the way the sub-committee presented “primary sources” with comments that showed the lack of understanding about the African American experience in American and California history.

This situation of Allison Hales’ role on the History sub-committee for the interpretative panels will need to be clarified/fixed, before I can respond to any more inquiries regarding historical records and interpretation from you or any other History sub-committee member.

Thank you for your time. Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.  
Sincerely, Kristin Long Drew

Pat

Manhattan Beach, Calif.  
May 16, 1927.

To the City of Manhattan Beach, and  
To the Hon. Board of Trustees of  
said City:

Gentlemen:

This letter will certify that we are today moving from the premises condemned for park purposes, to-wit:

Lots Eight (8) and Nine (9) in Block Five (5) of Peck's Manhattan Beach Tract in the City of Manhattan Beach, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per map thereof recorded in Book 7, Page 34 of Maps in the office of the County Recorder of said County,

and we herewith turn over to you, the said property and all improvements thereon and consent that you forthwith wreck, tear down and remove the buildings on said lots.

Yours respectfully,

Willie A. Bruce  
WILLIE A. BRUCE

C. A. Bruce  
CHARLES A. BRUCE

Manhattan Beach, Calif.  
May 16, 1927.

To the City of Manhattan Beach, and  
To the Hon. Board of Trustees of  
said City:

Courtesy of the Manhattan Beach Historical  
Society, City Clerk Correspondence  
Collection

Gentlemen:

This letter will certify that we are today moving from the premises condemned for park purposes, to-wit:

Lots Eight (8) and Nine (9) in Block Five (5) of Peck's Manhattan Beach Tract in the City of Manhattan Beach, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per map thereof recorded in Book 7, Page 34 of Maps in the office of the County Recorder of said County,

and we herewith turn over to you, the said property and all improvements thereon and consent that you forthwith wreck, tear down and remove the buildings on said lots.

Yours respectfully,

Willie A. Bruce  
WILLIE A. BRUCE

C. A. Bruce  
CHARLES A. BRUCE

Please Note: Document Repeated Intentionally

Form 5

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
VITAL STATISTICS  
STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1. PLACE OF DEATH: DIST. No. 1901 LOCAL REGISTERED No. 10438  
COUNTY OF Los Angeles  
CITY, TOWN OR RURAL DISTRICT OF Los Angeles STREET AND NO. 3711 Wadsworth Street  
2. FULL NAME MRS. WILLIE ANN BRUCE  
RESIDENCE: No. 3711 Wadsworth ST. CITY OR TOWN, AND STATE

3. SEX Female 4. COLOR OR RACE Colored 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED? (WRITE THE WORD) Widowed  
6. DATE OF BIRTH November 22, 1862  
7. AGE 71 YR. 9 MO. 14 DAYS (IF LESS THAN ONE DAY) HRS. MIN.  
8. TRADE, PROFESSION OR KIND OF WORK DONE AS SPINNER, SAWYER, BOOKKEEPER, ETC. Housewife  
9. INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS IN WHICH WORK WAS DONE, AS SILKMILL, SAWMILL, BANK, ETC.  
10. DATE DECEASED LAST WORKED AT THIS OCCUPATION (MO. AND YR.)  
11. TOTAL YEARS SPENT IN THIS OCCUPATION  
12. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN) Clay County Missouri  
STATE OR COUNTRY  
13. NAME Unknown  
14. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN) Unknown  
STATE OR COUNTRY  
15. MAIDEN NAME Unknown  
16. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN) Unknown  
STATE OR COUNTRY  
17. LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN CALIFORNIA 33 YRS. 33 MOS. 33 DAYS  
A. CITY, TOWN OR RURAL DISTRICT OF BIRTH 33 YRS. 33 MOS. 33 DAYS  
B. IN CALIFORNIA 33 YRS. 33 MOS. 33 DAYS  
C. IN U.S., IF OF FOREIGN BIRTH 33 YRS. 33 MOS. 33 DAYS  
18. INFORMANT (SIGNATURE) Harvey Bruce  
Address 3711 Wadsworth St., L. A.  
19. BURIAL, CREMATION OR REMOVAL: Burial  
Place Evergreen Cemetery DATE 9-10-34  
20. EMBALMER (LICENSE No. 1123) SIGNATURE Wm. E. Anderson  
FUNERAL DIRECTOR A. J. Roberts, Sons & Co.  
Address 1415 Centenary St., Los Angeles, Cal.  
21. DATE SEP 8 1934 REGISTRAR W. Peterson  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

22. DATE OF DEATH September 5, 1934  
23. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH  
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM 9-1-34 TO 9-5-34  
THAT I LAST SAW HIM alive ON 9-5-34 AND THAT DEATH OCCURRED ON THE ABOVE STATED DATE AT THE HOUR OF 6:12 P. M.  
THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH AND RELATED CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE, IN ORDER OF ONSET, WERE AS FOLLOWS:  
Arterio Sclerosis  
OTHER CONTRIBUTORY CAUSES OF IMPORTANCE  
Hypertension  
Chorea Thrombotic  
IF OPERATION, DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY? No  
CONDITION FOR WHICH PERFORMED  
NAME LABORATORY TEST CONFIRMING DIAGNOSIS  
25. IF DEATH WAS DUE TO EXTERNAL CAUSES (VIOLENCE) FILL IN THE FOLLOWING:  
ACCIDENT, SUICIDE OR HOMICIDE? DATE OF INJURY  
INJURED AT \_\_\_\_\_ CITY OR TOWN OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY AND STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_ DID INJURY OCCUR IN HOME, INDUSTRY, OR PUBLIC PLACE? MANNER OF INJURY NATURE OF INJURY  
26. IF DISEASE/INJURY RELATED TO OCCUPATION, SPECIFY \_\_\_\_\_  
27. SIGNATURE [Signature] M. D. PHYSICIAN, AUTOPSY SURGEON  
Address 416 Central St.  
28. WHEN REQUIRED BY LAW \_\_\_\_\_ CORONER  
COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING  
WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING BLACK INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD  
Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated exactly. If unknown, give approximate age. Physicians should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

938

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** nbelovaus@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:22 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: No apology neither acknowledgement..

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** nbelovaus@yahoo.com  
**Date:** April 6, 2021 at 2:20:10 PM CDT  
**To:** citycouncil@citymb.info  
**Subject:** **No apology neither acknowledgement..**

Hi.

I am an immigrant myself and I think that we have a wonderful community that treats everyone with fairness and respect.

Please leave the issue of apology and acknowledgement alone.

We have other important matters that need to be addressed in our city.

Stop wasting resources on something that is purely political and no MB citizens are benefiting from. If we dig deep in history I can find endless other injustices, including antisemitism, that are even more recent. Where does it all end?

Resident of MB  
Natalia Belova

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** nbelovaus@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:21 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: No apology neither acknowledgement..

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** nbelovaus@yahoo.com  
**Date:** April 6, 2021 at 2:20:10 PM CDT  
**To:** citycouncil@citymb.info  
**Subject:** **No apology neither acknowledgement..**

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Resident of MB  
Natalia Belova

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** nbelovaus@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:20 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No apology neither acknowledgement..

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Please leave the issue of apology and acknowledgement alone.

We have other important matters that need to be addressed in our city.

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Resident of MB  
Natalia Belova

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Scott C. Chambers <mbchambers4@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:19 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Apology and No resolution of Acknowledgement No DEIC.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Here we go again. Dear C.C. members this has got to end. The hearsay evidence presented by the biased BBTF does not prove any wrong doing from current residences Let alone from residents from over100 years ago. Not to mention all the white families that they left out of there resolutions! I wonder why no mention about justice for all of the people who had lots taken. Because it is not part of the narrative. They are using this as a means to an end. That end as you all know is putting a DEIC in place. It is a far left movement and anyone who votes for this will be doing the far left's bidding! So I say NO resolution of acknowledgement And no apology whatsoever. And absolutely no DEIC. It is time to do what is right for the city. To be brave. Not to take a knee and cower to the BLM agenda.

I strongly encourage the CC. members to take a look at this group with what is becoming the program of choice for cities and schools.

<https://www.fairforall.org/>

Stay strong, this will be a defining moment for some of you.

Scott C. Chambers

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** John Garland <johngarland1097@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:18 PM  
**To:** Lida Sandera  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: NO APOLOGY !!

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I love you letter, you honesty and your passionate Patriotism. We need more Lida's in our world.

God bless you my great friend.

John

> On Apr 6, 2021, at 9:44 AM, Lida Sandera <lida.sandera@vistasir.com> wrote:

>

> I absolutely do not agree to ANY type of apology. None of us ever lived here in 1912, most of us had very hard time living in many other countries, even communist countries !

> Most of our parents at that time, or us many years later, had to leave our homeland , leaving everything, loosing all possessions we ever had for FREEDOM in America.

> Took a long time to go through all legal procedures to get here and hard work ,sometimes few jobs, to be able to buy home in Manhattan beach and live here.

> I watched for years the "slow" shift to the left, did fantastic job keeping my kids well informed what is right and what is wrong. I did see even the switch to left in our MB School district and unfortunately lot of parents did not have time to watch carefully what our kids are being taught at school and now : is it too late?!

> I hope not. I just hope that residents of MB will wake up and not let the left to take over our beautiful ,and till now ,friendly, absolutely not racist town !

> Left is screaming, but it is a HISTORY and as educated people know : history was not always friendly, but did teach all what was wrong and what is right !

> Even all this will be one day History !

> NO APOLOGY !

> Lida Sandera

> Manhattan Beach resident since 1974 !!

> <signature lida.jpg>

>

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Brenda O'Leary <brendajoleary@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:18 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** diversifymb@gmail.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I support an apology for Bruce's Beach: Past, Present and Future

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council:

As a first generation property owner, my family and I were not in Manhattan Beach 100 years ago. Some might believe it is therefore unnecessary for me to apologize for the Bruce family losing their property to racism disguised as eminent domain. However, I believe that communities, as well as people, have a voice, and it's important for us to speak out, not only on behalf of our present but on behalf of our past and our future.

The Past: 400 years ago, after the Civil War, land ownership became a primary cause of the wealth gap between Black and white Americans. The US government promised newly emancipated slaves "40 acres and mule" but failed to deliver on that promise. 100 years ago, the City of Los Angeles took a great deal of land from minority groups by invoking eminent domain. It was during this period the Bruce family lost their land to racism in Manhattan Beach in the form of eminent domain. Even 50 years ago, deeds to homes in Los Angeles included language that Blacks, Asians and Jewish people could not purchase homes in certain sections of Los Angeles. This language is still on these deeds today.

The Present: As generations change and evolve, it's easy to say this is not who we are today. But it's equally important to study and learn from the past, so that the mistakes of our past are not repeated. These injustices to Black Americans are still with us today in the form of both wealth and opportunity gaps. It is therefore incumbent upon us to try to close these gaps through things like federal government programs for home ownership and education scholarships to bring more Black Americans into our universities and therefore into our workforce. Here in Manhattan Beach, we need to look very closely at who our community was then, and who we are today. As a 30-year resident, I have never seen our community so divided. I believe some of the challenges we are facing today are similar to those that must have been faced by our community 100 years ago as people struggled with losing their white privileged identity when faced with diversity and the inclusion of Black Americans. I therefore believe issuing an "apology" on behalf of our community would be therapeutic to where we are today. It is a way of saying, "Yes, we have learned from the past, and we acknowledge that this is not who we want to be in the future."

The Future: According to Deloitte, Boomers and millennials view diversity and inclusion differently. Millennials feel that having a group that represents different races, cultures, and backgrounds drives innovation. Our children will leave our bubble and go out into this new world where globalization is a driving force of success. At the same time, our little community is becoming surrounded by diversity: the new stadium and soccer field as well as the tech developments in Playa del Rey are bringing in new people from different cultures and races. People who would like to buy homes in communities with good schools like Manhattan Beach. People who will support these schools and enhance our local businesses. The last thing we want right now, as we have unfortunately garnered worldwide attention, is to be known as the community who failed to apologize for our racist past. We want to be the community that understands we can use our collective voice to disavow that past, enhance our present, and provide a better future for our children.

It is a privilege to be able to use our collective voice as the community of Manhattan Beach to apologize to the Bruce Family. Let's do it.

Cheers,

Brenda O'Leary

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Brian Bullock <bullockb32@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:13 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Linda Bullock  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Acknowledgment or Apology, or . . .

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello Council,

I feel compelled to chime-in on this as the financial blow-back could be significant. An official apology is reckless - giving those who want to take our money ammunition. Even an acknowledgment is unnecessary in my eyes, but I can buy-in to that thinking considering the current political environment. So, please do not cave-in to the pressure. Stay strong and do what's right, and that is NOT an apology. Thank you.

Brian Bullock  
310.488.7784

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kieran Malik <kenmalik@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kieran Malik and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am also a Manhattan Beach voter. I am writing to request that the city council support a Resolution of Apology for the racist, discriminatory, predatory treatment of the Bruce family. If we are to eradicate the racist legacy we have inherited, we must first acknowledge and apologize for it. Without this, the cycle of denial of the racist realities of our past and present will only continue, and while the acts of our ancestors might not have been our fault, this certainly will be. We have the power and responsibility to act to create positive change. I urge you to do so.

Thank you for your time and service,

Kieran Malik

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** realestatewest@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE as our residents did by renaming of the 26th Street Park to Bruce's Beach, and empathize with all the property owners, whose property was taken in the early 1920's. I do not support an apology under any circumstances.

Carol Heinrichs

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** josephrusco@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:42 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Who is "The City of Manhattan Beach"

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Is the City of Manhattan Beach simply a governmental entity, a contractual collection of all people living within its legal boundaries, a combination of the foregoing? When the City Council speaks for the City is it binding all those living within its boundaries to its commitments?

Does the "City" speak on behalf of all residents beginning from the legal incorporation to now? I ask these questions because of the Bruce's Beach apology question. If the City Council represents the legal voice of all residents since the inception of the City, count me out of your pronouncements. I became a resident in 1995. I have no connection to anyone involved in or related to any events surrounding the Bruce's Beach actions.

I'm sorry it happened. I'm sorry the Spanish stole the land from the Native Americans I'm sorry for many, many evils have befallen people throughout history. But my sorrow for them doesn't make what happened to them my responsibility. I had no say over any of it. The best I can do is treat everyone as I would like to be treated in my life.

I don't ask the City to apologize for the way returning Vietnam soldiers and sailors were treated in MB during the Vietnam, war. The people who acted poorly should be the ones to apologize, not the city, not the people who never lived here at that time. We apologize for our own actions as a way to atone for what we feel we did wrong. Apologizing for someone else, who may feel no remorse for their actions is disingenuous. If your kid smashes my window and you apologize for the kid, but he feels no remorse, what good is your apology?

To that end I think that if individuals feel a personal responsibility for the actions in the 1920's they should be able to express that. I propose the City agree to pay for an ad of Apology in the Beach Reporter, or elsewhere, and that it clearly state "we the undersigned residents apologize for actions of the 19xx City Council in the taking of 35 residents property (including the Bruce Family) under the pretext of creating a park, in order to prevent Bruce's Beach from becoming Black enclave and gathering place." All who wish to be a part of the apology should submit their names for inclusion.

But don't think that you have the moral right to apologize on my behalf. (Or any others who feel the way I do).

Express remorse. Be sorry injustices have happened. Find ways to help us all live together more peacefully today, But don't think to apologize on my behalf.

Thank you for your time.

Joseph Fusco  
Resident of Manhattan Beach since 1995.

Sent from my ipad

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** realestatewest@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:38 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

It is imperative that the City produce a factual history of Bruce's Beach without embellishments and ACKNOWLEDGE, as our residents did by renaming of the 26th Street Park to Bruce's Beach, and empathize with all the property owners, whose property was taken in the early 1920's. I do not support an apology under any circumstances.

Thank you,  
Robert W. Schumann  
REAL ESTATE WEST, INC.  
(310)546-3441, ext. 216  
DRE #00707775

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Amy Heinz-Delgado <amyhd@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:24 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please be brave as a council and issue a formal apology--not just an acknowledgement--for the wrongful actions the City used when it invoked its powers of eminent domain to deprive the Bruces and other black families of their property in the 1920s.

We all need to work towards anti-racism and this is a good first start. Please don't be swayed by the loud voices of residents who refuse to look at themselves and ourselves with clear eyes so that we can work together towards an anti-racist future for our city.

Thank you!  
Amy Heinz Delgado  
2401 N. Poinsettia Ave.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jane Franklin <janehomemail@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:22 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please put this to rest without opening the City to potential future financial liability. Our City has been pulled apart and vilified nationally for acts that happen long before the current residents lived here. The residents wants council to run the City in a way that is best for the current voters. There is no place for activism by the council.

Margaret Jane Franklin  
resident and voter since 1974

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Madhu Chatwani <mchatwani@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:14 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; City Manager  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: We Support a Just and Welcoming MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council,

By accepting the Bruce's Beach Task Force history document, the City Council has already acknowledged that the Manhattan Beach government committed a wrong when it abused its eminent domain power 100 years' ago with racist intent.

When governments have committed wrongs, they have issued formal apologies. President Reagan signed legislation in 1988 apologizing for internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. In 1995 the Prime Minister of Japan offered an apology to the countries it invaded for that country's wartime conduct during World War II. President Clinton in 1997 issued a formal apology to the survivors and families affected by the "Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male." In 2008, the Australian government issued a National Apology to the Stolen Generations for past government policies that forced child removal and assimilation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Unlike an acknowledgement, an apology expresses regret for the commission of a wrong and it opens a path to re-commit to justice.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

An apology is a sign of strength and empathy and sets an example for our children – to do the right thing and be the best version of ourselves!

Sincerely,  
Madhu Chatwani

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Michael Israeli <mikeisraeli@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:04 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi- Once again I am emailing as a 10 year resident of Manhattan beach. I am strongly opposed of any form of a "Resolution" and/or Apology. Enough is enough. They will NEVER be happy. I understand the tremendous amount of pressure they bring to Manhattan Beach, as well as you elected officials, but we must stay strong to our core values and beliefs. Please do your best as our leaders, to more importantly keep this out of our schools and curriculum.

Best,  
Mike  
19th St.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Athena Tan <athena.m.tan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:02 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Public Comment - April 6, 2021 - Agenda Item 4: Bruce's Beach Task Force Recommendation

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members and Staff:

When you continue your discussion of the Bruce's Beach Task Force recommendations today, I strongly urge you to accept Mayor Pro Tem Hildy Stern's resolution of apology.

Mayor Pro Tem Stern's resolution contains the key lines:

"The City of Manhattan Beach formally apologizes for ... (E) The role that the City played in the 1920's, and the effect it had, to discourage Black Americans from living, owning a business and visiting Manhattan Beach which contributed to limiting Black Americans' access to wealth accumulation, employment, housing, healthcare, and equally funded education."

Many Manhattan Beach residents have treated the city's injustices toward the Bruce family and fellow Black property owners as a thing of the past. But structural racism is never relegated to the past. What happens in one generation is carried forward in, as Mayor Pro Tem Stern's resolution notes, a lack of opportunity to accumulate intergenerational wealth and to access the resources that are critical to giving one's descendents the full capacity to thrive, not to mention intergenerational trauma. A formal acknowledgement to the Bruce family says: "Something bad happened." A formal apology says: "We unequivocally wronged you and enabled further wrongs, we understand that that harm continues, and we will do better."

Mayor Hadley has publicly stated that offering a formal apology to the Bruce family would be like accepting a scarlet letter on the city for racism. This is like saying that the city must continue being racist because if there were a formal apology for racism and commitment to do better, people will start to notice that Manhattan Beach is racist!

One problem with Mayor Hadley's view is that it reduces racism to a type of identity, something you are or are not. In reality, we live in a racist society, and we can all either choose to uphold that reality or consciously change it. A full apology to the Bruce family would be far from a "scarlet letter" for racism. It would be the start of an admirable public commitment to combat racism and actively reset the baseline for what equity and justice mean in Manhattan Beach. A formal apology followed by meaningful action would set an important precedent for cities around the country. Why would the present council members not want to wear that badge?

I am a frequent visitor to Manhattan Beach due to my family living just outside the city line. As a non-Black person of color, I have seen so much ugliness, i.e. white entitlement, surface through the discussion about Bruce's Beach that cannot be wished away or buried under a formal "acknowledgement" of the past. I can clearly see that I am not safe in Manhattan Beach, and neither are other people of color, especially Black people, who tell the truth. If you are not willing to commit to changing this situation, then Manhattan Beach will indeed wear that scarlet letter for racism.

Sincerely,



## **Martha Alvarez**

---

**From:** Ellie Heffernan <esh7@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:01 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] BB is NOT MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

**OK! STOP CALLING IT BRUCE'S BEACH. IT IS OUR CITY'S BEACH-MANHATTAN BEACH PERIOD.**

**THE CITY COUNCIL HAS TO STOP DRAGGING OUT THIS MAD SAGA BY NOT PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF THE**

**PEOPLE THAT WANT TO DICTATE TO US. 100 YEARS AGO LOTS WERE OWNED--NOT THE BEACH.**

**IF YOU BOUGHT PROPERTY IN MB FROM A FORMER OWNER YOU WOULDN'T CALL IT THE FORMER OWNERS PROPERTY.**

**WE NEED STRONG LEADERSHIP WITH A BACKBONE THAT SUPPORTS THE RESIDENTS OF MB!!**

**ARE THERE ANY OTHER ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN MB? YES, SO MOVE ON, FOR**

**ONE: NO POLITICAL ADS IN OUR SCHOOLS. HOW COULD YOU ALLOW THIS INDOCTRINATION?**

**WE ARE SICK OF HAVING OUR CITY TRASHED. IF MB HADN'T BECOME A HEALTHY, WEALTHY, SAFE**

**HAVEN FOR ALL WE WOULDN'T BE GOING THROUGH ALL THIS \_\_\_. PLEASE END THE MADNESS.**

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Alison Chavez <coffeychavez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:56 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apologize using Council Member Hildy Stern's draft  
**Attachments:** COLOR SHOULD NEVER.png; COLOR SHOULD NEVER.png

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

This apology acknowledges the great injustice to the Bruce family and provides actionable pledges to maintain a path of equality going forward.

# MANHATTAN BEACH!

- We have been falsely accused of being a racist city!
- They are trying to create a “Racist Problem” where there is none!
- They want a permanent Social Justice Oversight committee!

## CITY COUNCIL MUST DISMANTLE THE BRUCE BEACH TASK FORCE ON 3/16 AND REJECT ALL OF THEIR REPORTS!

### ATTACK ON OUR CITY!

Council Members Napolitano and Stern, Members from the Bruce Beach Task Force (BBTF), Superintendent Janice Hahn, and BLM members from outside MB have targeted our city as being racist and in “need” of reform.

### What They Are Saying About our City:

- We are “complicit” in institutionalized and systemic racism and must be “accountable for its elimination.”
- We are a racist city and signing an admission of guilt in their Declaration of Apology is “the first step in the journey of becoming an anti-racist community.”
- MBPD is a racist dept. and excludes persons of color from MB. (no mention that Chief Abell is African American and has worked for the city for 30+ years).

### What They Did:

- The BBTF was to provide a **factual history report** on the Bruce story, dispensing with all of the rumors and hearsay, and set the record straight. They have not
- They have written a sensationalized, inflammatory version of the truth.
- They’ve parlayed this biased history report into falsely accusing us of racism today.
- *Councilman Napolitano*~ “We need to reconcile our past with our present to have a better, more inclusive future”

### What They Want:

To establish the highly partisan BBTF or a “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission” as a **permanent oversight body**. This unelected body would do the following:

- Enroll City Personnel in workshops on development of “RACIAL EQUITY”
- Enroll the City in the ‘Gov. Alliance on Race and Equity’ network to develop our community for “RACIAL EQUITY.”
- Facilitate Schools to teach the history of Bruce’s Beach (written by whom?)
- Expedite PD with collecting race-based data.
- Hire paid staff “to institute antiracism community programming.”

- Facilitate development of **affordable housing and homeless shelters** in the city
- Help **convert** existing rental units to **affordable housing and homeless units**

The entire “justification” for this unelected body is based on the false pretense that we are systemically racist.

### 1920’s MB: What the BBTF didn’t report.

At a time when segregation was the practice in America, MB was more inclusive to Blacks than other beach cities.

### List of Facts:

America ended the sin of segregation that took place between 1896-1964, when the Civil Rights Act was passed.

Although foreign and unaccepting to Americans today, the Supreme Court ruling on segregation made it lawful to create separate areas for Blacks & Whites: busses, schools, neighborhoods, etc.

Unlike other cities, MB city leaders did **NOT** prevent Blacks from owning property and did **NOT** segregate neighborhoods.

The 30 lots located at current day Bruce’s Beach to the Life Guard Hdqtrs. was owned by both **Blacks & Whites**. No segregation.

After the City purchased all 30 lots declaring eminent domain, the Black & White owners could buy elsewhere in MB. Most did. No restrictions.

The lots were not “taken,” nor were the Bruce’s or any other Black family “driven out of town.”

The NAACP lawyer representing the Bruce’s stated the Bruce’s were “willing to sell the property...for a fair price at any time.”

The Bruce’s owned 2 lots and received \$14,500, the other owners received considerably less.

LA Times reported the other land owners were upset that the Bruce’s were overcompensated.

The Bruce family built a beach bathhouse on their 2 properties, located on the land where the Life Guard Hdqtrs sits.

Their growing business attracted hundreds of tourists, mainly Black, from LA.

Once the city acquired the 30 lots through eminent domain, the Bruce’s went to court.

The case lasted 4+ years.

No court records, with testimonies from the Bruce’s and their witnesses, have been included in the History Report prepared by the BBTF.

The Judge did not rule in the Bruce’s favor but said they could purchase elsewhere in MB. They did not.

### THE QUESTION STILL LOOMS:

What prompted the decision by the city leaders to enact eminent domain? Was the problem too many tourists coming to that area, or was the problem too many Black tourists? If the leaders were racists, why didn’t they do as other city leaders and discourage Black property ownership or instill segregation when they legally could? The court documents could provide the answers.

**RESIDENTS WANT THE FACTUAL HISTORY!**

**WE ARE NOT A RACIST CITY!**

We are a city of inclusion.

We are a city of fairness and opportunity.

We are gracious, welcoming and compassionate.

We value our unique small-town beach culture.

We are diverse politically, ethnically, and religiously with Catholic, Protestant, Mormon, and Jewish synagogues and churches.

We value our PD & FD who keep us safe.

We value our schools and teachers which are a main draw for new residents with children.

We cherish our neighbors with hospitality.

We care for our environment with recycling, clean streets, and beach clean-up days.

We are protective of our “main street” businesses which many are locally owned.

We care for the Homeless with MBSafe.

We enjoy sharing with others our unique MB culture that is created by the residents.

We recognize the property values and rent are expensive in MB due to our proximity to the beach and the demand to live in a city with the values that make MB desirable.

Once the Task Force has submitted their Final Report on 3/16, City Council must disband the TF. Their task is done.

Email: [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)

Stay Connected:

[BruceBeachGetTheFacts@gmail.com](mailto:BruceBeachGetTheFacts@gmail.com)

PAID FOR BY “CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF MB.”  
WE ARE A NETWORK OF MANY.

BP 11427016 0311

# COLOR SHOULD NEVER DIVIDE US!

## RACE SHOULD NOT BE USED TO GRAB POWER!

The Bruce’s Beach Task Force is proposing that MB CITY COUNCIL sign a

DECLARATION OF APOLOGY which states:

- MB to this day has racist practices against Black Americans resulting in economic, educational, criminal justice, and health adversities
- Black residents have **regularly** reported instances of racial profiling and harassment committed by community residents
- Black Americans continue to suffer the effects of racial discrimination when renting or purchasing property in Manhattan Beach
- MB has persistent racial disparities and discrimination
- MB must make amends by building low income housing, and establishing a **permanent** Commission on Racial Equity and Social Justice presiding over MBPD, city staff, businesses and schools.

## MB Residents, Unite Against FALSE Accusations of Racism and a Permanent Social Justice Commission

THEIR PROPOSALS ARE DIVISIVE

## TELL THE CITY COUNCIL: NOT IN OUR NAMES!

1) Send an email to City Council before 3/16, stating:

- NO MORE DELAY TACTICS BY THE BRUCE’S BEACH TASK FORCE and Co-Chairs Napolitano and Stern.
- Consider the Report filed by the BBTF as final as of 3/16.
- Dismantle the task force **on March 16th 2021**
- Reject the reports by the BBTF: The History Report is riddled with rumors and hearsay, the Declaration of Apology is based on the false pretense of systemic racism, we don’t need a “Social Justice Commission” in MB.

Email all 5 City Council Members here: [citycouncil@citymb.info](mailto:citycouncil@citymb.info)

2) Attend the Council Meeting on 3/16 via zoom at 6:00PM. You can watch the proceedings and you will be given an opportunity to give a 3-minute Public Comment. <https://citymb-info.zoom.us/j/93376200363>

3) View all BBTF reports here!!!! <https://www.citymb.info/home/showdocument?id=45945>

4) Stay informed, join our Network of like-minded MB residents and share with a friend:

[BruceBeachGetTheFacts@gmail.com](mailto:BruceBeachGetTheFacts@gmail.com)

PAID FOR BY “CONCERNED RESIDENTS OF MB.”  
WE ARE A NETWORK OF MANY.

BP 11427016 0311



# WE SUPPORT A JUST AND WELCOMING MANHATTAN BEACH AND THAT INCLUDES AN APOLOGY

A hundred years ago the City abused its power of eminent domain with a racist objective. Scan the QR code on the right to go to the City's website and read the history compiled by the Bruce's Beach Task Force.



## WHY APOLOGIZE?

- *An apology expresses regret for the impact that action had on the Bruce family and other affected property owners and their families.*
- *An apology distinguishes our intentions for our City from that shameful action of our forebearers.*
- *An apology demonstrates to our children that, when an institution acts unjustly, it should seek the truth, apologize for its failings, and re-commit to justice.*
- *An apology does not label our City or our residents "racist;" it shows that we understand and reject a racist act from the City's history and, as a community, repudiate racism.*



We are residents of Manhattan Beach who love this community. Our names are below. We urge our neighbors to reject anonymous fear-mongering ads and mailings. Join us as we build a more welcoming community. Join us in asking the City Council to adopt an apology.

Take a moment and email your request for an apology before April 6 to:

citycouncil@citymb.info  
 snapolitano@citymb.info  
 shadley@citymb.info  
 hstern@citymb.info

cm@citymb.info  
 rmontgomery@citymb.info  
 jfranklin@citymb.info

**SIGNED BY MANHATTAN BEACH RESIDENTS & BUSINESS OWNERS**

AARON WATKINS  
 AISHA QAASIM-DAVILA  
 ALAN & KAREN ROSEMAN  
 ALEXANDER TUCK-SHERMAN  
 ALICE NEUHAUSER  
 ALICIA MARSHALL  
 ALISON CHAVEZ  
 ALISON WRIGHT  
 ALISSA MARQUIS

AMANDA BEHESHTI  
 AMANDA PARK  
 AMY CRUM  
 AMY HEINZ DELGADO & JORGE DELGADO  
 AMY POYER  
 AMY THOMAS HOWORTH  
 ANDREA HYNES  
 ANDREA MCCrackEN  
 ANDREA MILLER  
 ANTHONY LEE  
 APRIL WAYLAND  
 ARTHUR COHEN

ASHLEY GRAHAM-WILCOX  
 AUDREY JUDSON  
 AVA CATO-WERHANE  
 AVIGAL HORROW  
 AVNER PAPOUCHADO  
 BARB GARRISON  
 BARRY SEYMOUR  
 BEN GREEN  
 BEN LEWIS  
 BETHANY SMITH  
 BILL & DIANE KAINSINGER  
 BOB KELLOGG  
 BRENDA J. O'LEARY  
 BRIAN NICKERSON

CAMDEN PADILLA  
 CAMERON JOHNSON  
 CARA CUTLER  
 CAREN & RICK SHECKTER  
 CAROL LEE KOLE  
 CAROL RATHBUN-SHIBUYA  
 CASEY FRANCO  
 CATHERINE COAN  
 CATHERINE LAWRENCE  
 CEDRIC JONES  
 CEDRIC TUCK-SHERMAN  
 CHAD DREW  
 CHARLOTTE MUTH  
 CHAZ FLEMMINGS

CHRIS CUTRONEO  
 CHRISTI HOGIN  
 CHRISTIAN TREGILLIS  
 CHRISTINE BEATTY  
 CHRISTOPH PACHLER  
 CHRISTOPHER O'BRIEN  
 CINDY DAVIDSON  
 CINTHIA E JOYCE  
 CLARENCE WOOTEN  
 COLLEEN CALKINS  
 COLLEEN SOULIS  
 CORRINN LAVI  
 CRAIG DAVIS  
 CRAIG KAPLAN  
 CRISA CASTRO-NAOE

DALE, GRACE, RYAN & EMILY CHASE	JASON FRANK	Laurie, Dan, Bela & River Angress	PAM & JON YARBROUGH	THE BEEZHOLD/O'CONNOR FAMILY
DANA TORREY	JAY & JEN DOHNER	Laurie James	Patricia Torrey	THE CAFFEY FAMILY
DAVID GAMBLE	JAY BERMAN	Leah Lavi	Patricia Yates	THE CERVANTES FAMILY
DAVID LESSER	JAY HENNEBERRY	Lenora Marouani	Paul H Martinez	THE CHANG FAMILY
DAVIDSON-LATHBURY FAMILY	JEN BLASKOVICH	Leslie and Robert Katzberg	Paula Parker	THE CLINTON FAMILY
DAWN TAMIR	JENNA AHMED	Lily Kohler	Peter W Joyce	THE CORVALAN FAMILY
DAWN WILCOX	JENNIFER LIN	Linda Green	Pierre Leveaux	THE CRAIG FAMILY
DEBBIE TRAN	JENNIFER SALEM	Linda Obradovich	Piper Redman	THE DAVIS FAMILY
DELPHA FLAD	JEREMY H. STERN	Linda K. Reeves	P MCKNIFF	THE EDWARDS FAMILY
DENISE, ERIC, MAX & ZOE BERGER	JESSICA TORREY	Linda Wong	Priya Chatwani (She/Her)	THE FOURNELL FAMILY
DENNIS CHAVEZ	JOAN ENGELHAUPT	Lindsey Fox	Rachel Clinton	THE GALE FAMILY
DENNIS AND ETTA MAY	JOANNE HADLEY	Lisa Silver	Rachel Morris	THE GIBBONS FAMILY
DEREN SINKOWITZ	JOANNE MEUSSNER BENDIG	Lisa Taub	Randy Renner	THE GORZKOWSKI FAMILY
DESIREE BROWN	JOE SCHICKLER	Liz & Tim Kelly	Raquel Gerard	THE HOLTON FAMILY
DIANA AND DAVID SKAAR	JOHANNA CAMERON	Liz Glozman	Ravi Chatwani	THE ITZKOWITZ FAMILY
DIANE WALLACE	JOHN & CHERYL GILLIS	Liz Spear	Richard Rizika	THE JONES FAMILY
DOLORES GAMBLE	JOHN D. OLIVAS	Lori Furth	Robert Yap	THE KALLE FAMILY
DOMINIC PERELLA	JOHN MATICH	Lowell Anger	Robert Zwissler	THE KIM FAMILY
DONNA, DAVID, BEN & MILES CHOROMANSKI	JOHN PARKER	Luc Kleiner	Roberta Manshel	THE LAMKIN FAMILY
DUNCAN AND MINNA ORRELL-JONES	JOHN RANDOLPH	Madeleine Kaplan	Roger Spencer	THE MALONE FAMILY
ED WOLFMAN	JON SCALABRINI	Madeleine Sharples	Ronald Clinton	THE MATTHEWS FAMILY
ELISABETH LESSER	JONATHAN JACKSON	Madeleine Taylor	Ross Chan	THE MCAREE FAMILY
ELISE JOHNSON	JULIE BIRKEL	Madelyn Lathbury	Roy and Julie Gonella	THE MCRAE FAMILY
ELIZABETH BAILEY	JULIE CRUM	Madhu Chatwani	Roy Park	THE OGDEN/TAYLOR FAMILY
ELIZABETH TORREY	JULIE WILNER	Mae Sinkowitz	Ryan Cosner	THE PACKER FAMILY
ELLA BROWN	JUNE SUSILO	Marc Gerard	S Morse	THE RANDOLPH FAMILY
ELLEN KUBO	JUSTIN NADE	Margaret Ng	Sally Alder	THE RAPHAEL FAMILY
ELSA GERARD	JUSTIN VERBIEST	Margie Luong	Sally Peel	THE REISIG FAMILY
EMMA BROUSSARD-WILSON	KAITLYN MCQUOWN	Maria Caponi	Samantha Broussard-Wilson	THE RENSHAW/ZWISSLER FAMILY
ERIC FURTH	KAREN ROSEMAN	Maria Olivas	Samantha Mattis	THE RIDDELL FAMILY
ERIK JACKSON	KARI ESTRIN	Mark Howorth	Sandy Irons	THE RILEY FAMILY
ERIN YARBROUGH	KARNI SYED	Matthew Schwartz	Sara Chamberlain	THE ROTH FAMILY
ETHAN PARK	KATHARINE NYHUS	Max Becker	Sarah Kahn	THE SPENCE FAMILY
EYANA CARBALLO	KATHERINE JOYCE	ME. GRANT	Sarah Papouchado	THE STRATTON FAMILY
FARA WEINER	KATJA NEWMAN	Meghan Arthur	Scott McQuown	THE TOBIS FAMILY
FARNAZ GOLSHANI FLECHNER	KAVON WARD	Michael and Laura Kiely	Shannon Whaley	THE TOWNS FAMILY
FLOE GEOLA	KAY SCHICKLER	Michael Cohen	Sharon Krauss	THE VENTURA FAMILY
FRANK MARSHALL	KELLY GORDON	Michael Jenkins	Shereen Lavi	THE WALDRON FAMILY
GABBY FRANCO	KEN LANDSMAN	Michael Lewis	Soheil Samimi	THE WHINFREY FAMILY
GABRIELLE OLIVAS	KEN SUSILO	Michelle Reniche	Spear Family	THOMAS CONROY
GAIL WINTHROP	KEN WILTON	Michelle Chu	Spencer McFarland	TIM AND KATE BERGIN
GARY OSTERHOUT	KERRY WIEDER	Michelle Murphy	Stephan Oliveira	TIM BRAND
GRACE LOU	KIERAN MALIK	Michelle Tran	Stephanie Badum	TINA HARTNEY
HANNAH BERGIN	KIM BRANT-LUCICH	Mike Pitts	Stephanie Caridad	TOM LEVEE
HENRY EHRHARD	KIM LESERMAN	Mona Kawamoto	Steve Hershkovitz	TOMMY NUNAN
HILDY STERN	KIMBERLY JOHNSON	Nadeg Conger	Steve Fredriksz	TONA BROUSSARD WILSON
HOWARD BEECH	KOHEI NEW	Nadine Jackson	Steve Obradovich	TONY SALVAGGIO
IDA VANDERPOORTE	KRIS POOLEY	Nate Harrington	Susan Goodlerner MD	TREVI SAWALICH
ISABEL LATHBURY	KRISHNA BERKES	Neely and Larry Swanson	Suzanne Lerner	TREVOR RAISCH
ISABELLA OLIVAS	KRISTIN LONG DREW	Nick Hartney	Talia Gerard	TREVOR VERBIEST
ISABELLA YOUNG	KURT & LAURA KAINSINGER	Nicole and Dan Brozost	Talia Rizika	TYLER ST. BERNARD
ISLA GARRAWAY	LAILA SAMIMI	Nicole Sevier	Taylor Day	VICTORIA O'BRIEN
ISAAC SIEGEMUND-BROKA	LANA RIZIKA	Nina Bate	Taylor Gamble	VIVIAN RAHE
JAKE SCHEINBERG	LAURA AND MICHAEL KIELY	Nina Tarnay	Taylor West	WANDA ARCOS
JAMES OLIVAS	LAURA DOTSON	Noah Rizika	TERRI L PREMEAUX	WENDY AND JON RESIN
JASON BOXER	LAURA SHECKTER	Noura Samimi	The Acosta Family	WENDY PURCELL
	LAUREN FOURNELL	Oly Sholotan	The Arzewski Family	YVONNE STEVENS
	LAUREN GURBACH	Otis Ginoza	The Atkinson Family	ZACK ESTRIN
			The Becker Family	ZENA FONG

**SIGNED BY ORGANIZATIONS:** JUSTICE FOR BRUCE'S BEACH | JUSTICE FOR MB | MB PANEL 4 EQUITY | SB 4 RACIAL JUSTICE

SB ANTI-RACIST SOCIETY | BLACK SAND SURF | CULTURE CLUB SB | REPRESENT COLLABORATIVE | GENERATION BLUE | SB CARES | SB COMMUNITY CARE

**SPECIAL THANKS TO NON-MB RESIDENTS:** BRICK HOWZE MIKE SALAZAR JESSA WILLIAMS JOE DELAPLAINE JOSE ALAMILLO FRANK GRUBER ALI HINDS

BILL HEUISLER ANTHONY C ACCOSTA MAXWELL KLINEMAN DEE JONES TOOBA WASI MORGAN MANCUSO NANCY CARTER STEPHANIE KELLY ALEXIS CORMIER JASMINE LE VEUX MEA BRAHIER MICHELINE LEVY THE MILLER FAMILY KRISTEN ZALESKI BENNETT OLUPO ADRIENNE GRIFFIN LAURIE BONGARD COOPER POWERS BRANDY ROLLINS MELISSA DECHANDT N. MANNING TALIA FRAGNER MELISSA HODGAN KAITLIN KIM KEVIN M WASON RACHEL REEVES SHAR CORRIGAN ESTHER KANG LISHA KIM RACHEL ROMAN KILEY WOLFF CHARITY BAILEY ERIN CROSS LIZELLE JACKSON JASMINE DRAKE JASON BIRI AMY WILLIAMS SUMMER ATWOOD-HANKS JEN CLARK GRAHAM HAMILTON SIERRA BROWN JESSA WILLIAMS SCELLY ANDERSON KRIS WOODS NANA TATIBOIT REGAN FAMILY KIM MULLER EVELYN THOMPSON SAMANTHA CHLANDA JOSE LOPEZ JOSE HURTADO CHRISTIAN HODGE MADAME CHANG DEVANTE DESCHWANDEN SKY SMITH ANNA GONWA RAMONDA INES WARE EDDIE J DUCHATELIER ROBERT A YARBROUGH CARLY YARBROUGH DANIELLE ANDERSON ELIANA RODRIGUEZ LAURA QUINN ALISON ROSE JEFFERSON KAMALA HORWITZ LORI KOZAK MARIKAH BURNETT ELIZABETH HILLERY LAURA KASTNER NOEMIE TATIBOIT MAYA CLARK ALEXANDRA AU HELENE ABIOLA MAXIE LIEBERMAN LU PIERRE GEORGINA DEL VECCHO DANIELLE FURUICHI THE GALLAGHER FAMILY NZINGAH AFRYKAH HOTEK CARLY MONTAN KAREEM LEWIS JAMES BENNETT SAXON ROSE KAUINA CHRIS DUENAS KAREN MENDOZA ANDREW LEE EDWARD LEE KARLI WALLACE JANET LEVIN THE SNOWDEN FAMILY KIM MULLER SARAH JORDY SAMUEL HALL KATHERINE FUKUDA ALEX MORO LATOYA HEUISLER SECILY ANDERSON KATRINA MATTHEWS DORIAN LAM ANNA GARVEY KAREN KLINK DEIDRE RUSSO ANNE AKORSU THE CODLING FAMILY WINNIE CHING BONET LEATE NIKKI CIN MEGAN JENSEN

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Hannah Scott <hannah.scott@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:55 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Task force disbandment

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern,

In 1912 the Bruce family purchased a plot of land now known as Bruce's Beach. It was taken from them due to eminent domain less than 15 years later. This act of excluding Black people from owning land is nothing new to our country. We need to set right this wrong and give this land back to the family for them to cherish and create a beautiful space for the community.

We cannot erase the racism and wrongs of our past, but we should do everything in our power to right those wrongs and give back what was taken from this family nearly a century ago.

Thank you for reading this and kindly consider reconvening the task force. We can't continue to be on the wrong side of history.

Regards,  
Hannah Scott

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Maxine Leral <maxineleral@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:44 AM  
**To:** List - City Council

Dear City Council Members:

Please No Apology!!! Is the Manhattan Beach Historical Society involved in the history of MB? If not, it should be.

Maxine & Murray Leral

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bob Perkins <bperkins@destinationcinema.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:33 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Issue - City Council Meeting tonight

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

Please do not issue any Resolution regarding Bruce's Beach. A Resolution by our city only opens the door to further action against us. We are not a systemically racist city; we are inclusive in every regard. I have standing on this matter. I've lived in MB for 32 years and raised 3 children, all of which went through the public school system. I was active in many youth sports programs, both school and community sponsored, as a coach and Board member. If racism existed, I would have seen it.

Let's move on from this divisive time.

Thank you,

Bob Perkins

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Taylor Haden <btaylorhaden@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:31 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] No Resolution

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cinthia Joyce <cinthiajoyceartist@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:18 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am in favor of an apology to the Bruce family whose livelihood and dignity were affected so profoundly by the racism of the past in Manhattan Beach.

In issuing this apology it is my feeling that this will do much to express our regret for the past actions in our city. Our leadership in setting this example will have a positive effect on the rest of the cities of United States which also participated in a racist attitude of repression. I believe we, the majority of the people in Manhattan Beach today believe in inclusion and equality. We are aspiring to live that out with more and more awareness every day. This apology is one way of declaring we do not condone the racism of the past and acknowledging it did happen here. It expresses our sadness and regret that it did happen in our city, a place we perceive as friendly and welcoming. We wish to insure a future we can be proud of for our city and cities all over our country as we make these efforts to set things right.

With sincere appreciation for your forthright efforts,

Cinthia Joyce  
45 year resident of Manhattan Beach, CA

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**Cinthia Joyce**  
[www.CinthiaJoyce.com](http://www.CinthiaJoyce.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Alvin Fletcher <alvinjerry@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:15 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach citizens,

I have lived in Manhattan Beach for over 50 years. Manhattan Beach is not and has never been systemically racist. The far left is chipping away at our way of life and use race as a means to divide us. There is nothing to acknowledge or apologize for. Stand up to the far left and stand for the truth. Any action that adds credence to Manhattan Beach being systemically racist would be an action in support of a lie. Standup for truth and make no motions regarding Bruce Beach.

Alvin

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Taylor Gamble <taylormgamble@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:12 AM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Support of an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I am a four-year resident of Manhattan Beach, and I'm writing to express my support for issuing a formal apology to the Bruce family. The task force has exposed the wrongful acts of the past, and now it is the city's collective responsibility to condone such actions - not just acknowledge them. Councilmember Franklin's statement of acknowledgement and condemnation does not come anywhere near meeting the magnitude of the moment. The City should do the right thing (as numerous other cities have done - Tampa, Greensboro, Spartanburg, etc.) and issue an apology for past racist acts, and pledge to become a more welcoming and inclusive community for all. I urge you to do the right thing!

Best,

Taylor Gamble

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Terri Warren <terrifwarren@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:08 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council - I have been following this issue closely, read the BBTF report and listened in on the last MB Council meeting when they presented. My view is that there is too much that is unsubstantiated, the Bruce's and their supporters seem to be opportunistically using the current national unrest to cash in, and no one in our City was involved with what happened 100 years ago. So my vote would be for the City to not issue anything on this matter other than to denounce any forms of racism and to commit that we as a City welcome all people regardless of race, religion, sexual preference, etc.

Thank you for all you do for our City!

Respectfully, Terri Warren

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Greg Vena <greg@venavineyards.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Councilmembers:

**Please reject all forms of the proposed resolutions regarding the Bruce's Beach issue.** Whether constructed as an acknowledgment or an apology, a resolution is unnecessary and would further promote a toxic environment in our city. Those who are pushing the narrative about our city will never be mollified either way. An acknowledgment or apology will be referenced by the woke mob and used as fuel to exact further measures that would undoubtedly continue to divide us.

Please stand up for the majority of Manhattan Beach residents who feel like we do, that our community is welcoming and fair-minded to all who wish to live, shop, work and play here. Don't be swayed by a tiny segment of residents who have resorted to attributing support from their minor children in a 2-page Beach Reporter ad. I find it particularly disgusting that a former mayor has weighed in with a vile attribution about many in our community whom she doesn't even know. It must be rejected on every level, no matter one's position on this issue. Thank you for doing the right thing.

**Gregory F. Vena**

President



Vena Vineyards LLC

O: 310-545-9417

C: 310-503-4029

greg@venavineyards.com

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Karen Shapiro <kshapiro1248@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:04 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach, comment from MB resident for your review

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Reps and Neighbors,

Please permit me to describe what I see as an incendiary phenomena that has spread across the country and, indeed, into our own city. A small group of individuals accuses someone or something of being racist and demands an apology or at least an acknowledgement that the accusations are accurate. Most will be silent, some will agree, and many who are vocal do so with the hopes of preventing the same accusations hurled at them.

Many do not agree, and are silent. A good historical analogy would be the Salem witch trials. That hysteria culminated with innocent women being burnt at the stake.

It is not just Manhattan Beach that is under threat from a vocal minority of "woke" individuals. It is affecting broad swaths of our country now, extending into even major league baseball and soda companies. I contend that many baseball fans and consumers of soft drinks do not appreciate this, but the companies fear organized retribution if they do not state their allegiance with the vocal minority.

We acknowledge what happened in the 1920s in Manhattan Beach against the Bruce's, and we regret that incidence and all incidences of racism against any groups. We are not in that time and not of that time. Most of us grew up in a time where we learned to judge people by their character and not by the color of their skin.

In our case, the situation with Bruce's Beach is turning neighbors against neighbors, and ruining the atmosphere of our once-pleasant beach city. With few courageous exceptions, the City Council members have the responsibility for letting this situation continue, causing disruptions and anger among neighbors.

A few that speak out to simply state the truth; in our case, our city is not racist today and we acknowledge the past, risk physical attack.

This will worsen if it is not stopped. This is the responsibility of all members of the City Council. Acknowledge what happened, re-do the plaques, the artwork is fine.....and move on, before the city erupts into further violence and hatred.

Thank you.

Karen Shapiro, Manhattan Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kathy Taylor <taylorkathymb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:04 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

The citizens of Manhattan Beach, when I first moved to Manhattan Beach 41 years ago, trusted their city council. I am so sad to say this is no longer the case in 2021.

In September of 2020, The Bruce Beach Task Force (BBTF) was created. The seemingly benign mandate of substantiating an accurate history of Bruce Beach, updating the plaque at the park and providing an art installation was a reasonable solution to the unrest in the summer of 2020. Most everyone bought into this project, although some had reservations when the task force neglected to include the Manhattan Beach Historian who already had accurate and verifiable information. The benign mandate began to further disintegrate when a subcommittee was formed to prepare an apology. There was no mandate for an apology under the BBTF umbrella. And all this was discussed before the history was completed....hmmmmmm....do we see an alternative agenda forming? Then we viewed dissension in the ranks, talks of reparations, low cost housing, temporary housing unauthorized forums, DEIC and calling the city and it's citizens racist! What was going on? How did the city council oversight members on the BBTF let this get so out of hand and off task? Why did the other council members not see what was happening and put a stop to it.

How, after months of work, do we have this:

1. An inaccurate, fictionalized history of Bruce Beach with nary a mention of the lengthy lawsuit that was adjudicated and verifiable substantiated facts.
2. This fictionalized history of Bruce Beach is on the City of MB website inviting and encouraging national and local media to excoriate Manhattan Beach.
3. Manhattan Beach long-time residents are up-in-arms at the false accusations of being called racists and a DEIC being formed to combat our racism.
4. Council member Joe Franklin has had his home vandalized for daring to propose an alternative to the apology proposals of the BBTF, Napolitano and Stern.
5. Janice Hahn is now expected to deal with the former Bruce property through County measures.

Let's correct the problem with Bruce Beach in the following manner:

1. First and foremost, there will be NO apology for something that happened to people not alive now by people not alive then.
2. We do need an accurate history that includes the lawsuit and reflects accurate and verifiable facts. Take the fictionalized history off the website.
3. Since Janice Hahn is dealing with the former Bruce property under County stewardship, she can provide for a plaque and art installation as Manhattan Beach does not bear any responsibility for same. Put the allocated \$350,000.00 to good use in the community.
4. There is No need for an acknowledgement or resolution of any sort.
5. The City Council must seek the truth and guide the city based upon facts and not on personal agendas.

6. The citizens of Manhattan Beach want and need to trust their City Council. Please focus on the issues that unite the city instead of inciting division. We citizens love our city and we expect our elected officials to do the same.

Thank you,  
Kathy Taylor

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sporty Fashion <sportyfashion123@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:59 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Manhattan beach is not a racist city. These issues brought about by Bruce's Beach is something that happened very far in the past and is not a current representation of our city today. Our residents and business owners are welcoming and open to people of all races. I myself am of Mexican descent and have never experienced racism here. In fact, I feel safer here than anywhere in Los Angeles.

**Manhattan Beach should NOT issue a resolution.**

Sincerely,

Erika Garcia

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rosalie <rosaliece@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:55 AM  
**To:** Lida Sandera  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: NO APOLOGY !!

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Of course! My CPA's mother was in a slave camp of the Japanese in WW II. My parents both lost everything in Poland and started life anew.

My dad lost his biz too, in the USA and started over again. My brother and mother worked to get him on his feet again.

Cannot stand crybabies. Everyone knows to be responsible.

This racial talk is harmful to our country but the aim is to pull the USA up by its Protestant roots.

Rosalie E. Olson

> On Apr 6, 2021, at 9:44 AM, Lida Sandera <lida.sandera@vistasir.com> wrote:

>

> I absolutely do not agree to ANY type of apology. None of us ever lived here in 1912, most of us had very hard time living in many other countries, even communist countries !

> Most of our parents at that time, or us many years later, had to leave our homeland , leaving everything, losing all possessions we ever had for FREEDOM in America.

> Took a long time to go through all legal procedures to get here and hard work ,sometimes few jobs, to be able to buy home in Manhattan beach and live here.

> I watched for years the "slow" shift to the left, did fantastic job keeping my kids well informed what is right and what is wrong. I did see even the switch to left in our MB School district and unfortunately lot of parents did not have time to watch carefully what our kids are being taught at school and now : is it too late?!

> I hope not. I just hope that residents of MB will wake up and not let the left to take over our beautiful ,and till now ,friendly, absolutely not racist town !

> Left is screaming, but it is a HISTORY and as educated people know : history was not always friendly, but did teach all what was wrong and what is right !

> Even all this will be one day History !

> NO APOLOGY !

> Lida Sandera

> Manhattan Beach resident since 1974 !!

> <signature lida.jpg>

>

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Kim Muller <kk.muller55@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 1:51 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am writing to ask that you issue a formal apology, not simply an acknowledgment, for the City's part in seizing the Bruce's and other Black families' land in a clearly race-driven attempt to keep those of color out of the City. You have one opportunity to do this right, and show us, the over 500 MB, who actually signed their names to an ad and all residents. that you are ready to help the City, and the Bruce family move forward from this ugly chapter in our history.

Please adopt Mayor Pro-Tem Stern's apology.

I would also like to ask that Council provide a complete, transparent accounting of the decision to remove Ms. Hales from her committee duties. There are many unanswered questions, and contradictions in the emails between some of the concerned parties. Might there have been Brown Acts violations in the conversations around this? So many serious missteps along the way, many of them we all heard in public meetings. It's very troubling.

Respectfully,

Kim Muller  
Meadows  
NKF Kidney Advocacy Committee  
[kk.muller55@gmail.com](mailto:kk.muller55@gmail.com)  
310.546.1332 home/ 505.310.2628 cell

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Emma Broussard-Wilson <emmabwilson16@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:53 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Support of Item F4 - Resolution of Apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

I am writing this email in support of council member Stern's resolution of apology to the Bruce family. As a resident of Manhattan Beach, I would like to urge the city council to accept the now disbanded task force's recommendation and issue a formal apology, not an acknowledgment, for the wrongful actions of Manhattan Beach when it used its powers of eminent domain to deprive the Bruce's and other Black families of their property in the 1920s.

Looking forward to seeing our council members stand on the honorable side of history.

Best,  
Emma

--

Emma Broussard-Wilson  
[emmabwilson16@gmail.com](mailto:emmabwilson16@gmail.com)  
310-630-7495

Pronouns: She/Her

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Amy Heinz-Delgado <amyhd@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:24 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please be brave as a council and issue a formal apology--not just an acknowledgement--for the wrongful actions the City used when it invoked its powers of eminent domain to deprive the Bruces and other black families of their property in the 1920s.

We all need to work towards anti-racism and this is a good first start. Please don't be swayed by the loud voices of residents who refuse to look at themselves and ourselves with clear eyes so that we can work together towards an anti-racist future for our city.

Thank you!  
Amy Heinz Delgado  
2401 N. Poinsettia Ave.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** David Choromanski <dchoromanski@staar.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:21 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** David Choromanski  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Task Force Resolution of Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To the Manhattan Beach City Council -

First and foremost, thank you for your public service in our great town.

In regards to to the multiple options presented as the Resolution of Apology, I think all demonstrate sincerity at the wrong committed 100 years ago, and nearly all offer an apology.

The difference is, only Hildy's goes a step further — points (C) and (D) — in offering specifics of “Next Steps” and as we look at the Manhattan Beach Brand posted on our website, her resolution fits best with our brand.

Namely, as a visitor to Manhattan Beach, the first tab you see is “Manhattan Beach Brand.”

In it, our community proudly communicates; “...enhancing the quality of life for our residents, businesses and our visitors.”

Hildy's (C) and (D) points deliver on this by stating:

- C. Pledges to promote racial equality and inclusion in city leadership, staffing, contracting, training, policy making and ordinances.
- D. Pledges to continue to seek opportunities for education and advise on issues of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

So not only does Hildy's resolution fit the Manhattan Beach brand, it also has specifics on how it fits the Manhattan Beach brand.

So as leaders of our Manhattan Beach brand, I think this resolution provides you with the final pieces missing from the other two options.

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Madhu Chatwani <mchatwani@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:14 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; City Manager  
**Cc:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: We Support a Just and Welcoming MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council,

By accepting the Bruce's Beach Task Force history document, the City Council has already acknowledged that the Manhattan Beach government committed a wrong when it abused its eminent domain power 100 years' ago with racist intent.

When governments have committed wrongs, they have issued formal apologies. President Reagan signed legislation in 1988 apologizing for internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. In 1995 the Prime Minister of Japan offered an apology to the countries it invaded for that country's wartime conduct during World War II. President Clinton in 1997 issued a formal apology to the survivors and families affected by the "Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male." In 2008, the Australian government issued a National Apology to the Stolen Generations for past government policies that forced child removal and assimilation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Unlike an acknowledgement, an apology expresses regret for the commission of a wrong and it opens a path to re-commit to justice.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

An apology is a sign of strength and empathy and sets an example for our children – to do the right thing and be the best version of ourselves!

Sincerely,  
Madhu Chatwani

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Athena Tan <athena.m.tan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 11:02 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Public Comment - April 6, 2021 - Agenda Item 4: Bruce's Beach Task Force Recommendation

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members and Staff:

When you continue your discussion of the Bruce's Beach Task Force recommendations today, I strongly urge you to accept Mayor Pro Tem Hildy Stern's resolution of apology.

Mayor Pro Tem Stern's resolution contains the key lines:

"The City of Manhattan Beach formally apologizes for ... (E) The role that the City played in the 1920's, and the effect it had, to discourage Black Americans from living, owning a business and visiting Manhattan Beach which contributed to limiting Black Americans' access to wealth accumulation, employment, housing, healthcare, and equally funded education."

Many Manhattan Beach residents have treated the city's injustices toward the Bruce family and fellow Black property owners as a thing of the past. But structural racism is never relegated to the past. What happens in one generation is carried forward in, as Mayor Pro Tem Stern's resolution notes, a lack of opportunity to accumulate intergenerational wealth and to access the resources that are critical to giving one's descendents the full capacity to thrive, not to mention intergenerational trauma. A formal acknowledgement to the Bruce family says: "Something bad happened." A formal apology says: "We unequivocally wronged you and enabled further wrongs, we understand that that harm continues, and we will do better."

Mayor Hadley has publicly stated that offering a formal apology to the Bruce family would be like accepting a scarlet letter on the city for racism. This is like saying that the city must continue being racist because if there were a formal apology for racism and commitment to do better, people will start to notice that Manhattan Beach is racist!

One problem with Mayor Hadley's view is that it reduces racism to a type of identity, something you are or are not. In reality, we live in a racist society, and we can all either choose to uphold that reality or consciously change it. A full apology to the Bruce family would be far from a "scarlet letter" for racism. It would be the start of an admirable public commitment to combat racism and actively reset the baseline for what equity and justice mean in Manhattan Beach. A formal apology followed by meaningful action would set an important precedent for cities around the country. Why would the present council members not want to wear that badge?

I am a frequent visitor to Manhattan Beach due to my family living just outside the city line. As a non-Black person of color, I have seen so much ugliness, i.e. white entitlement, surface through the discussion about Bruce's Beach that cannot be wished away or buried under a formal "acknowledgement" of the past. I can clearly see that I am not safe in Manhattan Beach, and neither are other people of color, especially Black people, who tell the truth. If you are not willing to commit to changing this situation, then Manhattan Beach will indeed wear that scarlet letter for racism.

Sincerely,



## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Cinthia Joyce <cinthiajoyceartist@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:18 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am in favor of an apology to the Bruce family whose livelihood and dignity were affected so profoundly by the racism of the past in Manhattan Beach.

In issuing this apology it is my feeling that this will do much to express our regret for the past actions in our city. Our leadership in setting this example will have a positive effect on the rest of the cities of United States which also participated in a racist attitude of repression. I believe we, the majority of the people in Manhattan Beach today believe in inclusion and equality. We are aspiring to live that out with more and more awareness every day. This apology is one way of declaring we do not condone the racism of the past and acknowledging it did happen here. It expresses our sadness and regret that it did happen in our city, a place we perceive as friendly and welcoming. We wish to insure a future we can be proud of for our city and cities all over our country as we make these efforts to set things right.

With sincere appreciation for your forthright efforts,

Cinthia Joyce  
45 year resident of Manhattan Beach, CA

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**Cinthia Joyce**  
[www.CinthiaJoyce.com](http://www.CinthiaJoyce.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Taylor Gamble <taylormgamble@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 10:12 AM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Support of an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

I am a four-year resident of Manhattan Beach, and I'm writing to express my support for issuing a formal apology to the Bruce family. The task force has exposed the wrongful acts of the past, and now it is the city's collective responsibility to condone such actions - not just acknowledge them. Councilmember Franklin's statement of acknowledgement and condemnation does not come anywhere near meeting the magnitude of the moment. The City should do the right thing (as numerous other cities have done - Tampa, Greensboro, Spartanburg, etc.) and issue an apology for past racist acts, and pledge to become a more welcoming and inclusive community for all. I urge you to do the right thing!

Best,

Taylor Gamble

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Alice Neuhauser <apntrc@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:32 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach - Justice, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

We were disappointed to see the Task Force dismantled. After all of the time, dedication and demonstration of our need to face our collective histories, this was a big step backward. If the fear was that continuing to acknowledge our past pasted a big red R on the city, that has now quite unfortunately come to pass. The extreme, and extremely hostile reactions, that we have seen by a great many people to openly discussing the facts of our history, seeking to cancel that reality, has been profoundly dispiriting and embarrassing.

We hope that the next step will be a meaningful one. An acknowledgement of factual history means nothing; such an acknowledgement was made in 2006 when the park's name was changed and the new signage was posted. But that failed to provide a truth and reconciliation. If certain people somehow feel that they are being maligned by apologizing for actions taken long ago, imagine how other people feel having to live with the results of those actions.

"I do not want an apology, and I don't think that you do either," is apparently what Mayor Hadley said at the last meeting. Mayor Hadley can speak for herself but she most definitely does not speak for us. And we utterly condone the entire belief that you should do the wrong thing for fear of litigation. So, let's try this time to do the right thing.

We have also read from a local resident that we have apologized enough. Well, not only have we clearly not apologized enough but we are not at all clear when there has been an apology for racism directed at Black Americans. An apology is "a regretful acknowledgment of an offense or failure." An apology is what we teach children is an important part of participating in our society. An apology provides a space for both parties to be heard, recognized and appreciated. We want these things for Black, Indigenous and other People of Color. We want them as equals in our local community and the larger community at large.

This isn't much to ask for. And if we are not willing to do this simplest, yet very meaningful, of things, it doesn't say much about who we are.

Thank you,  
Alice Neuhauser & Thomas Conroy

Alice P. Neuhauser  
P: 310-275-7505  
[apntrc@msn.com](mailto:apntrc@msn.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Misty P. Castañeda <mistyp75@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 8:05 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] YES to Bruce's Beach Apology from MB

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Council & City Clerk,

As a former resident of the South Bay (Redondo Beach) who was involved with bringing awareness to racial justice issues in the community last year (that DO exist to a great extent), I am writing to express my support of Mayor Pro Tem Hildy Stern's resolution of apology to the Bruce Family.

In addition, I would like to raise a question as to why Mayor Suzanne Hadley continues to exclude Allison Hales from the History Committee, even after making a motion to include her in the Plaque Committee during the March 3rd City Council Meeting?

Manhattan Beach has a huge opportunity to do the right thing here- or to forever tarnish its' reputation as an inclusive and welcoming community. Of course, I am in favor of the former and hope the City Council makes a decision to be on the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Misty Castaneda  
Former Resident of Redondo Beach

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Charlotte Jensen <chaoe1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:00 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to you to implore you to issue an apology for the incredible injustice suffered by the Bruce family due to the actions of Manhattan Beach.

I know council members have expressed that their sole interest is in the opinions of MB residents, but I'd like to share my perspective as a potential MB resident currently living in Redondo.

My husband and I have long intended to purchase our "forever home" in Manhattan Beach and we are now in a position to do so. The Council's reluctance to do the minimal right thing and apologize has frankly shocked me and has changed our view on where we want to settle long-term. At this moment, I no longer see the city as the kind of inclusive environment I want for my children.

Manhattan Beach will never hurt for home sales, but with no meaningful apology or action around the very national eye on Bruce's Beach, you will be sending a powerful message about who you want in your future population. While minorities and anti-racists will steer clear (can you imagine an even LESS diverse MB?), you will be dusting off the welcome mat for racists of all types - they will see your refusal to condemn racism as a sign that this is a place that will perhaps be more welcoming of their views. That's not a group I want as my neighbors, that's for sure.

The right thing is an apology. It is so clear to so many, and it is a very long time coming. Please put Manhattan Beach on the right side of history, finally.

Thank you,

Charlotte Blane

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Carter Turman <citturman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Carter Turman and I am a student at Vistamar Highschool. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Carter Turman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Turman, Carter <carterturman22@vistamarschool.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Carter Turman and I am a student at Vistamar Highschool. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Carter Turman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Rosy Travis <rosygt@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:54 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Rosy Travis and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Rosy Travis

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Grace Lu <graceludon@sent.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:02 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology Support

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My name is Grace Lu and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from current community members, but rather acknowledges wrongdoings in the past and how we can move forward and address current issues relating to systemic racism.

Grace Lu

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** jackie eanes <jackie.eanes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:37 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology to Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am a tax paying resident of Manhattan Beach and I support the city of Manhattan Beach issuing a full apology to the Bruce Family. Furthermore, I would like to see many of the recommendations made by the Bruce's Beach Task Force implemented. They are common sense recommendations that show Manhattan Beach celebrates diversity and uniqueness. I love Manhattan Beach, I love living here, I love my neighbors. I can still love Manhattan Beach even with an imperfect past.

Please apologize to the Bruce Family and implement recommendations made by the appointed (and now disbanded) Bruce's Beach Task Force.

Regards,  
Jackie Eanes

---

Jackie Eanes (she/her)  
[jackie.eanes@gmail.com](mailto:jackie.eanes@gmail.com)  
847.530.4315

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Catherine Coan <ccoan@earthlink.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology - For April 6

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council,

I am a twenty-year resident of Manhattan Beach who lived next to Bruce's Beach when it was Parque Culiacán. I believe that a city shows that it is against racism by saying so and behaving accordingly, not by working out a privileged bubble-logic whereby racism magically doesn't exist there in 2021.

No matter how innocent of racism one might be, when one is more engaged in defending their own innocence than they are in listening to how others have been harmed by their actions, they prove only that their need to feel above reproach is more important to them than are the wisdom and experiences of other human beings.

Please issue a formal apology, not an acknowledgement, for Manhattan's Beach's use of eminent domain to deprive the Bruces and other Black families of their properties here in the 1920s. I want to live in a city that models empathy, not in one that turns up its nose at the ongoing fight for equality and equity.

Thank You,

Catherine Coan  
(310) 743-3031

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Priya Chatwani <priyachatwani5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:33 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Public Comment

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council members,

Thank you again for your time and energy. I would like to share my support for an explicit apology that recognizes the generational wealth and land that were unjustly stolen from the Bruce family and other Black families. We cannot learn and grow from our mistakes without acknowledging the harm that was caused.

Thank you for listening!  
Priya Chatwani

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Izzy Bacallao <frootydoggo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Izzy Bacallao. I live in Hermosa Beach and attend Fusion Academy. I am writing today to ask that the Manhattan Beach City Council support a “Resolution of Apology” from the council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from the current community. It would rather acknowledge past wrongdoings and how we can move forward as a whole and address current issues of systemic racism. I hope you take student and community feedback on this issue to heart. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Izzy Bacallao  
90254  
--  
Izzy  
(They/Them)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Skaar, David W. <david.skaar@hoganlovells.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FW: In Favor of Apology re Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am forwarding my email comment below, because I failed to include you in the original.

Thank you,  
David Skaar

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**From:** Skaar, David W.  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:36 PM  
**To:** 'citycouncil@citymb.info' <citycouncil@citymb.info>  
**Subject:** In Favor of Apology re Bruce's Beach

Dear Councilmembers,

Thank you for taking the time to consider residents' ideas, proposals, and concerns regarding Bruce's Beach. I understand that one of the remaining unresolved issues is whether the City will issue a formal "apology" for, or an "acknowledgement" of, the City's actions toward the Bruce family. I am writing to express my support for an apology, for the following reasons:

1. An apology puts others before ourselves. Instead of stubbornly focusing on how an apology would "make us look," we should focus on what good an apology can do for those that were directly impacted by the City's past actions. The moral difference between an acknowledgement ("I hit you") and an apology ("I hit you, I'm very sorry, and I won't do it again") is obvious. It's plain as day. Do the right thing. Be a positive example for our kids, our community, and our country.
2. Even if you're focused on how an apology would make the City look, it is clear that a formal apology will shine a positive, not negative, light on the City. It will show that the City is willing to admit past mistakes, and take at least a small step toward making things right. There will be critics. People will continue to argue that the City should do more. But an apology would be a small positive step in the right direction.
3. Even if you're focused on how an apology would make you look personally, you must realize that the apology has nothing to do with you. Nobody believes that any of the current residents or Councilmembers were responsible for what happened to the Bruce family 100 years ago. An apology will not change that.
4. Even if you're grasping at straws to support a "slippery slope" argument, an apology cannot possibly expose the City to liability. I have heard several people, including the Mayor, voice concerns about this, and I find it baffling. The City Attorney has advised that there is no legal exposure here, and he's right. I am an experienced litigator and, for the life of me, I cannot dream up a legal theory that would hold any water against the City based on an apology for something that occurred 100 years ago. Nobody has been able to explain why they're concerned about litigation, which leads me to believe that it's a talking point, not a genuine concern.

Again, thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Yours truly,

**David W. Skaar**

Counsel

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**Hogan Lovells US LLP**1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1400  
Los Angeles, CA 90067Tel: +1 310 785 4600  
Direct: +1 310 785 4676  
Fax: +1 310 785 4601  
Email: david.skaar@hoganlovells.com  
www.hoganlovells.com

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*Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.*

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If you would like to know more about how we are managing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on our firm then take a look at our brief [Q&A](#). If you would like to know more about how to handle the COVID-19 issues facing your business then take a look at our [information hub](#).

**About Hogan Lovells**

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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Lana Rizika <lanarizika@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:07 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] An Apology for Bruce's Beach

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council,

I am rather confused by City Council's reluctance to issue an apology for the acts committed in the name of eminent domain against the Bruce and other Black families back in the 1920's. While an acknowledgement does confess to wrongdoing, it is an apology that includes more of a sense of remorse, and thereby opens the door to further action, if needed. An apology is meaningful. An acknowledgment is merely an agreement with what is written on a piece of paper.

I am very interested to understand why an acknowledgment seems to Council like the better choice. I understand there are two main concerns about an apology:

1. that it would imply we are a racist city with citizens who currently uphold racist behaviors
2. that it would make our city vulnerable to legal action by the descendants of families who were impacted by eminent domain

Both of these fears are unfounded. An apology by City Council does not label Manhattan Beach or its current citizens racist. Instead, it says we are a city aware of the harmful acts it committed 100 years ago, and we are sorry. An apology says nothing about our present-day city except that it is aware of the harm those acts caused, and is sorry. An apology does not implicate the city's current residents in a racist act of 100 years ago, nor does it imply they are racist today. An apology is an effective way for Manhattan Beach to publicly address the wrongs of its past, express its remorse and empathy, and reinforce its position as a welcoming city.

An apology would not make our city vulnerable to lawsuits, as confirmed by Councilman Steve Napolitano at the last City Council meeting. An apology does not make Manhattan Beach "more" liable for its actions of 100 years ago. We can word an apology appropriately to eliminate any possible exposure, while still apologizing.

An apology would serve the City of Manhattan Beach by expressing remorse for the City's past actions and conveying its desire to continue to be a welcoming community for all.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,  
Lana Rizika  
Member of the Disbanded Bruce's Beach Task Force

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Colleen Soulis <csoulpac@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 4:38 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology to the Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City Council Members and City Clerk:

I have written before on the importance of Manhattan Beach issuing an apology to the Bruce family and all others who were affected by Manhattan Beach city council members taking over private property by eminent domain in 1924. I write again in advance of the City Council meeting tomorrow to issue my support for an apology.

I have been a Manhattan Beach resident for 15 years. I ask the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. This apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders. An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred. This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Thank you,

Colleen  
Colleen Soulis Pachler  
[csoulpac@me.com](mailto:csoulpac@me.com)  
323.240.9229

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Ellie Meyer <elliemeyer0112@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; City Manager; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope this email finds you well. My name is Ellie Meyer and I am a sophomore at Mira Costa High School. I am reaching out to express my support regarding a "Resolution of Apology" from the City Council to the Bruce Family. For those reluctant to participate in or permit this, it is important to exemplify that this is not an expression of personal responsibility from any current community members, but rather an acknowledgment of prior events that have been detrimental to the Bruces. The aim of this apology is to place focus on wrongdoings from the past and address the systematic racism that factored into what happened. An apology from our city does not label Manhattan Beach or its community members racist under any means, but rather proves that we understand our city's history and stand against the racism that took place to impact the Bruce family. This is an opportunity for our amazing town to set an example of what a welcoming and inclusive community looks like.

Sincerely,  
Ellie Meyer

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Noura Samimi <snsamimi@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 1:33 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology letter

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To whom it may concern,

Our family in Manhattan Beach believes that:

An apology is an acknowledgement combined with remorse or sorrow; it has a moral dimension.

Apology, not an acknowledgment, sends the right message and is the meaningful step toward a more welcoming, antiracist and diverse community.

When our children hurt somebody, we teach them to apologize for it. That is how we show empathy to one another. Expressing remorse to those hurt gives them comfort.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

All the best wishes,

Samimi family

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Sam Ggin <samanthaggin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

An acknowledgement is nothing more than stating a fact.

By accepting the Bruce's Beach Task Force history document, the City Council has already acknowledged that the Manhattan Beach government committed a wrong when it abused its eminent domain power 100 years' ago with racist intent.

An apology is an acknowledgement combined with remorse or sorrow; it has a moral dimension.

When our children hurt somebody, we teach them to apologize for it. That is how we show empathy to one another. Expressing remorse to those hurt gives them comfort.

When governments have committed wrongs, they have issued formal apologies. President Reagan signed legislation in 1988 apologizing for internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II. In 1995 the Prime Minister of Japan offered an apology to the countries it invaded for that country's wartime conduct during World War II. President Clinton in 1997 issued a formal apology to the survivors and families affected by the "Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis in the Negro Male." In 2008, the Australian government issued a National Apology to the Stolen Generations for past government policies that forced child removal and assimilation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

Unlike an acknowledgement, an apology expresses regret for the commission of a wrong and it opens a path to recommit to justice.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

Thank you for joining in this important community-minded endeavor,

Committee to Diversify MB

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Piper Redman <piperredman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:29 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I support an apology for the Bruce Family

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Piper Redman and I have lived in Manhattan Beach for 28 years.

I urge the city to issue a formal apology for the Bruce family and other families of color who experienced racism at the hands of Manhattan Beach residents. When governments have committed wrongs, they have issued formal apologies.

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

The only way to disrupt racism is to be ACTIVELY anti-racist. Face our city's past and start taking the necessary steps to show the people of color in Manhattan Beach and all of the South Bay that they are welcome, they are heard, and they are safe.

Thank you,  
Piper Redman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Judy Peng <judypeng@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 12:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 4. 21-0120 Consider Bruce's Beach Task Force Recommendation 1.4 (Resolution of Apology) and Alternative Options (CONTINUED FROM MARCH 16, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING) (City Manager Moe). DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION - City of Manhattan B...

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello, Martha ..... I just called the City Clerk's office seeking assistance to edit my comment under Agenda 4 for the CC meeting tomorrow and was told to email you for help.

In my already posted comment, I left out the word RISK when I did the copy & paste. If you can help me add that word into the sentence and take out the extra space in the Ayn Rand's quote I'd really appreciate it.

**"A businessman cannot force you to buy his product; if he makes a mistake, he suffers the consequences; if he fails, he takes the loss. If bureaucrat makes a mistake, you suffer the consequences; if he fails, he passes the loss on to you." ~ Ayn Rand**

**Council members who INSIST on issuing an "APOLOGY" should fund their pet project themselves w/o having to RISK the reputation and financial wellbeing of the entire city. Thank you.**

THANK YOU SO MUCH!♥

Judy Peng 🌐♀

[https://manhattanbeach.granicusideas.com/meetings/1575-city-council-regular-meeting-april-6-2021/agenda\\_items/6065388b244398550500883f-4-21-0120-consider-bruces-beach-task-force-recom#](https://manhattanbeach.granicusideas.com/meetings/1575-city-council-regular-meeting-april-6-2021/agenda_items/6065388b244398550500883f-4-21-0120-consider-bruces-beach-task-force-recom#)

Aloha Nui Loa 🌺

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Gretchen Renshaw <zwisslers@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 11:57 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

As a long-time resident of MB, I believe an apology over the actions the city took long ago regarding Bruce's Beach is appropriate. I personally feel sorry that it happened, even though I wasn't involved. Please issue an apology to the appropriate individuals.

-Gretchen Renshaw

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Nicole Sevier <nicolesevier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; cm@citymn.info  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] MB RESIDENTS SUPPORT AN APOLOGY

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Honorable MB Mayor and MB Council Members,

I am a Manhattan Beach resident of 24 years.

I ask the City Council to support a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology.

This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Thank you

Cheers,

Nicole Sevier

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Mike Pitts <pitts2x@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

This says it well:

An apology by the City government does not label our city or its current residents racist; it shows that we understand and reject a historical racist act and that as a community, we repudiate racism.

My sense is that white people are rarely the best judges of whether they are or are not racist. In many ways, the more we insist we haven't a racist bone in our body, the greater the likelihood that we just might.

You could argue that to refuse to apologize for a racist act is an act of racism, in and of itself.

When you screw up, if you're a decent human being, you own up. You make amends. You atone. You apologize. And Manhattan Beach screwed up with the Bruce family. Badly.

Apologies don't diminish you. They speak well of you. And an apology for this heinous act will speak very well of us indeed.

Let's take the high road.

Thank you.

Mike Pitts  
861 3rd St  
Resident since 1989

## Martha Alvarez

---

**From:** Maureen Gillespie <mobgillespie@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 8:28 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Attention Richard Montgomery

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

In exploring all the facts about Bruce's Beach we feel their is no need to apologize.

Sincerely,  
Jack and Maureen Gillespie

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Brianna Egan <briannajungegan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 7:15 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item F4 (Bruce's Beach)

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello City of Manhattan Beach city council,

I am a resident of Redondo Beach and lifelong South Bay resident. I am also an Asian American and current Master's of Public Health student.

Over the past year as our country has faced a racial reckoning with acknowledging systemic injustice against Black Americans, I have followed the conversations and sentiments in our own community. I have been heartened by a greater awareness, in general, of the inequities faced by the Black community with regards to education, housing, and opportunity for generations as a result of racist and exclusionary policies and practices. Awareness and acknowledgement of these things is the first step. Education and meaningful action to rectify wrongdoings is the next logical step.

This is why the story behind Bruce's Beach has been particularly resonant and important for our community today. There is no argument that what the City of Manhattan Beach did to drive out the Bruce family, their business, and a burgeoning Black community at the time was wrong. The city's own records and eyewitness accounts speak for itself. Although we might tell ourselves otherwise, California has a history of racism and exclusion, dating to Spanish colonization of Native Americans, the systematic killing of Native communities during the Gold Rush era, and the forced imprisonment of Japanese Americans during WWII. This history is important, and we must teach it in schools so we do not forget and repeat mistakes.

In the discussion you are considering on Tuesday, on whether to issue an apology or condemnation, I strongly urge you to issue a formal apology. A formal apology is the right thing to do. You have well-worded apologies in both the task force's and council member Hildy Stern's version. An "acknowledgement and condemnation" is far too weak and sends the message that the Manhattan Beach of today is no different than the one of the 1920's. It signals that the council and the city want to shirk their duties and moral obligation. When someone commits a wrongdoing against you, do you want them to "acknowledge and condemn" their wrongdoing? (The gall.) No, you'd want them to apologize. If that party is not alive to apologize, you'd still find peace and healing in the apology of their kin or later representative.

An apology is the only way the city can truly move forward, in the unearthing and reckoning of the Bruce's Beach story. Guaranteed, anything short of an apology is going to further alienate residents of color, and cement Manhattan Beach to outsiders and the zeitgeist as "so white." More importantly, an apology will be meaningful to the Bruce family, and will allow them to begin to heal from the years of trauma and hurt imposed by the city's wrongdoing. Japanese Americans received an apology from the US president, many years after internment, but it was an apology. And it was a different president, different administration, different era. Still, an apology was needed.

Please do the right thing. Show the South Bay, show LA, and the country what it means to lead the way to apologize and seek restoration, reconciliation, and reparations. It's time for the city to reaffirm its commitment to diversity and inclusion by issuing an apology and modeling what is right.

Thank you,  
Brianna Egan

--

“To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” — Audrey Hepburn

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Dawn Tamir <dawntamir@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 5, 2021 5:23 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce family apology

CAUTION: This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Council Members,

I am supporting a formal apology from the City of MB to the Bruce family. With Easter upon us we are reminded that Jesus died for our sins. I believe the least we as a city can do, is apologize for the past sins of our city. Hardly a sacrifice, (liability is not an issue according to our city attorney) but certainly the right thing to do.

Best,  
Dawn Tamir  
1416 3rd St.

Sent from my iPhone

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jennifer Salem <jensalem4@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 11:57 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In support of an apology for the past re: Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I have written to all city council members but just in case, I wanted to go on record for this meeting that I am writing again in support of issuing an apology for what occurred within our community with regards to Bruce's Beach (as well as acknowledging that as great as our community, some residents still continue to behave in overt racist ways or in subtle unintentional racist manners). Our community made mistakes back in the 1920s and although I don't believe any of us were alive back then, this does not mean we should not recognize and acknowledge and apologize for what occurred here, and vow to make sure nothing like that happens again.

I have spoken to several attorneys who have assured me that there are ways to make such an apology and a commitment to future justice that do NOT expose the city to liability. On the other hand, should our city continue to deny that anything racist ever happened, or try and dismiss what occurred as being minor or any other number of excuses that have been raised, I believe the outcome financially for our city will be far greater with drop in tourism and negative PR in media across the US, potential ongoing protests, and potential lawsuits.

Jennifer Salem  
27 Lafayette Court  
Manhattan Beach CA

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Bill Fournell <fournwi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:47 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: An apology to the Bruce family  
**Attachments:** CC Letter 04-04-21 - Fournell.docx

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Liza

I hope you are doing well. I meant to include you on the distribution of this email to the council and city manager. Sorry about that.

Thanks  
Bill

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Bill Fournell <[fournwi@gmail.com](mailto:fournwi@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Sun, Apr 4, 2021 at 10:41 PM  
**Subject:** An apology to the Bruce family  
**To:** <[shadley@citymb.info](mailto:shadley@citymb.info)>, <[hstern@citymb.info](mailto:hstern@citymb.info)>, <[snapolitano@citymb.info](mailto:snapolitano@citymb.info)>, <[rmontgomery@citymb.info](mailto:rmontgomery@citymb.info)>, <[jfranklin@citymb.info](mailto:jfranklin@citymb.info)>, <[bmoe@citymb.info](mailto:bmoe@citymb.info)>

Dear Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmembers, and City Manager

I want to encourage you to follow the recommendation from the Bruce's Beach Task Force and apologize for the actions taken by the City of Manhattan Beach against the Bruce family. There is no statute of limitations on a heartfelt and honest apology. You are the representatives of our city – past & present. Part of your responsibilities include passing proclamations and honoring the great things we have done as a city. Likewise, you represent us when we need to acknowledge our failures as a community. This is one of those times.

There will be discomfort in this action – writing this letter was difficult, as I am sure reading it is as well. But genuine apologies are always uncomfortable. But discomfort is necessary for learning and growth.

I encourage you to lean into this and lead rather than wait for this issue to fade away with time. We have the opportunity as a community to be a positive model for how to deal with these issues. I understand the pressure you are under and that the status quo is likely the “safe” path. Hopefully following the safe path is not why you stepped up to lead our city.

I also have a recommendation for how you might start this conversation with our community. It seems that many who have resisted the work of this task force have not taken the time to understand some of the facts about racism in our country. It is such a loaded word. It brings many images to the mind's eye. I believe because of that, many in our community have not taken the time to listen and learn why it is being used to describe our community and our country.

You have a tremendous opportunity to educate our community on what is really meant by systemic (or structural or institutional) racism and white privilege. Institutional racism underlies those overt acts of racism such as the firebombing of the Clinton house or the use of eminent domain to drive black families out of Manhattan Beach. Through an apology you can go beyond acknowledgement or condemnation of these terrible actions. You can

help our community acknowledge the systemic racism most all of us were unknowingly brought up in. Advantages were provided to many of us by meaningless differences in our DNA – the heroes we saw in our TV shows and movies, the advantages provided in our interactions in school, the greater acceptance we received in job interviews with people who looked like us, and in not having to fear interactions with the police. This is not about good vs bad people. Rather than being the insult so many seem to think, understanding the idea of systemic racism and white privilege are liberating and provide a positive personal path forward for those who choose to invest the time to understand what they mean.

I ask you to consider bold, honest, and fact-based statements that call what has occurred, and continues to occur, in our community and our country by its name – racism. I also encourage you to apologize for what was done. It is a logical starting point for positive change, and it is the right thing to do.

Please take this opportunity to lead and help our community reflect on ourselves, to learn, and to demonstrate empathy in our community, and to use that to build a path forward for us.

Sincerely,

Bill Fournell

Dear Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, Councilmembers, and City Manager

I want to encourage you to follow the recommendation from the Bruce's Beach Task Force to apologize for the actions taken by the City of Manhattan Beach against the Bruce family. There is no statute of limitations on a heartfelt and honest apology. You are the representatives of our city – past & present. Part of your responsibilities include passing proclamations and honoring the great things we have done as a city. Likewise, you represent us when we need to acknowledge our failures as a community. This is one of those times.

There will be discomfort in this action – writing this letter was difficult, as I am sure reading it is as well. But genuine apologies are always uncomfortable. But discomfort is necessary for learning and growth.

I encourage you to lean into this and lead rather than wait for this issue to fade away with time. We have the opportunity as a community to be a positive model for how to deal with these issues. I understand the pressure you are under and that the status quo is likely the “safe” path. Hopefully following the safe path is not why you stepped up to lead our city.

I also have a recommendation for how you might start this conversation with our community. It seems that many who have resisted the work of this task force have not taken the time to understand some of the facts about racism in our country. It is such a loaded word. It brings many images to the mind's eye. I believe because of that, many in our community have not taken the time to listen and learn why it is being used to describe our community and our country.

You have a tremendous opportunity to educate our community on what is really meant by systemic (or structural or institutional) racism and white privilege. Institutional racism underlies those overt acts of racism such as the firebombing of the Clinton house or the use of eminent domain to drive black families out of Manhattan Beach. Through an apology you can go beyond acknowledgement or condemnation of these terrible actions. You can help our community acknowledge the systemic racism most all of us were unknowingly brought up in. Advantages were provided to many of us by meaningless differences in our DNA – the heroes we saw in our TV shows and movies, the advantages provided in our interactions in school, the greater acceptance we received in job interviews with people who looked like us, and in not having to fear interactions with the police. This is not about good vs bad people. Rather than being the insult so many seem to think, understanding the idea of systemic racism and white privilege are liberating and provide a positive personal path forward for those who choose to invest the time to understand what they mean.

I ask you to consider bold, honest, and fact-based statements that call what has occurred, and continues to occur, in our community and our country by its name – racism. I also encourage you to apologize for what was done. It is a logical starting point for positive change, and it is the right thing to do.

Please take this opportunity to lead and help our community reflect on ourselves, to learn, and to demonstrate empathy in our community, and to use that to build a path forward for us.

Sincerely,

Bill Fournell

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Zena Fong <zeefong@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Issue formal apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

To Whom It May concern,

I would like to encourage the city council to issue a formal apology for the wrongful actions taken by the city of Manhattan Beach regarding the Bruce family and other black families in the 1920s. As a resident of Manhattan Beach, I feel this is an important step in showing the world that these actions were unjust and this would help in the healing of our community. It would show that Manhattan Beach is committed to justice and want to make all members of our community feel welcome.

Sincerely,

Zena Fong

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Diana Skaar <dianaskaar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 8:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Vote for an Apology, not an Acknowledgement

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Manhattan Beach City Councilmembers,

I am a Manhattan Beach mom who has contributed significantly to our schools and to our community. I have taught my daughter and her Girl Scouts how to find their voice as their Troop's Girl Scout Cookie Chair. I have volunteered countless hours at school events, and my husband and I have always happily donated the fully requested amount to MBEF and our PTA.

As a mom of 2 young kids, I feel it is important that we set good examples of (1) acknowledging when we have done something wrong (2) apologizing for those wrongs and (3) committing to doing better in the future. That is why I care so deeply about how our City Council addresses Bruce's Beach. We have an opportunity to do the right thing, and set an example for our kids and other communities. **A formal apology to the Bruce family is a necessary step.**

Unfortunately, the actions of a few of our City Councilmembers on this topic has made Manhattan Beach appear tone-deaf and privileged.

**Mayor Suzanne Hadley**, you have gone on the record for not supporting an apology because you feel it would put a scarlet letter on the City. You have mentioned that an apology would put the City at higher risk for litigation, but yet the **City Attorney has determined that an apology does NOT expose the City to liability.** So what exactly is your agenda?

I ask the City Council to support the alternative "Resolution of Apology" drafted by Councilmember Hildy Stern and not support the "Statement of Acknowledgement" drafted by Councilmember Joe Franklin, which falls short of an apology and **will cause the City to continue to appear tone-deaf and privileged in national headlines on this topic.**

I feel Councilmember Stern's "Resolution of Apology" strikes the right balance of an apology while **pledging to seek opportunities for education and advice on DEI issues.**

I feel Councilmember Napolitano's "Resolution of Apology" **falls short of committing to do better** by only recommitting to the STAND UP PLEDGE which the City already put in place in 2017. Not committing to any further DEI efforts risks the City for continuing to look tone-deaf.

This apology is NOT an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize misdeeds of past city leaders.

An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred.

This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Please do not let us down.

Thank you,  
Diana Skaar

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Tim Wheeler <TWheeler@gbw.law>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 4:32 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; City Manager; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Clerk  
**Cc:** Nancy Wheeler  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach: As Manhattan Beach Residents We Support an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

My wife Nancy and I have been residents of Manhattan Beach for over 46 years. During the first few years of our marriage we rented a one bedroom apartment on 28<sup>th</sup> Place a few short blocks from Bruce's Beach. It was many years before we learned how the park came to be and the sordid history that led to its creation. We were shocked and dismayed over the events that had transpired and how the property was literally stolen from the Bruce family under the guise of eminent domain with clear racist undertones and objectives. We respect the tireless effort and hard work invested by the Bruce's Beach Task Force to research the racial injustices of the past and to offer a series of recommendations regarding steps the City can take to make our community more welcoming and aware of its history and how it impacted others. To that end we ask the City Council to support the BBTF recommendation that the City adopt a "Resolution of Apology" and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. This is not a time to hide behind the shroud of historical context and use the argument of "those events happened a century ago" to excuse inaction. The City Attorney has already advised the City Council that an apology does NOT expose the City to any liability. What could possibly justify any hesitancy the City Council may have to do the right thing and apologize. As you know, an apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt, rather it serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city officials. The apology the BBTF recommended and the one we support and ask for is an apology which demonstrates that when an institution acts unjustly, it does not sit by with blinders on but still is able to seek the truth, apologize for past failings, and re-commit itself to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred. We love Manhattan Beach and the community we have seen it grow into over that last four and half decades we have lived here. This is an opportunity for that grand community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like. Regardless of where you fall on this issue personally, you were elected to represent us as a City. Please do not let us down.

Respectfully,

Nancy and Tim Wheeler

225 N Poinsettia Ave  
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

In compliance with Governor Newsom's Safer at Home directive, our entire office is working from remote locations. Pursuant to Judicial Council Emergency Rule 12 to the California Rules of Court, all written materials must be sent to us electronically, rather than through physical mail and deliveries. Please bear with us during this time. Thank you, and stay well.

**Timothy J. Wheeler ■ Attorney**



**Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP**

100 Wilshire Boulevard, 21st Floor  
P.O. Box 2131  
Santa Monica, CA 90407-2131

Office (310) 576-1200  
Fax (310) 576-1220  
Web [www.gbwlaw.com](http://www.gbwlaw.com)  
Email [TWheeler@gbw.law](mailto:TWheeler@gbw.law)



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## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Ryan Rothman <ryan90254@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 1:42 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello,

My name is Ryan Rothman. I live in Hermosa Beach and attend Chadwick School. I am writing today to ask that the Manhattan Beach City Council support a "Resolution of Apology" from the council to the Bruce Family. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility from the current community. It would rather acknowledge past wrongdoings and how we can move forward as a whole and address current issues of systemic racism. I hope you take student and community feedback on this issue to heart. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Ryan Rothman

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Stacy Myrose <msmyrose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 3:00 PM  
**To:** Steve Napolitano; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Cc:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Manhattan Beach Residents DO NOT Support an Apology

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members,

First and foremost, I would like to express my dismay about the recent [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I am ashamed of, and angered by, the members in our community who not only tolerate but celebrate this behavior against people with whom they disagree. I thought it impossible that I could be more emphatically opposed to the Resolution of Apology, but this cowardly and destructive act proved me wrong. In the 12 years we have lived in Manhattan Beach, we have never seen anything like that. Despite what you might see on social media, I do not believe for one second that it was a coincidence. I do believe that, had the beer bottle been thrown through the window of a supporter of the apology, we'd be hearing cries of racism from the same people who are shouting coincidence.

Since the inception of the BBTF, I have been closely watching their work. The behavior of some task force members towards others was sickening and on full public display. I have read every iteration of the proposed apology and while the latest one is not filled with as much divisive rhetoric as previous versions, it will still slap a racist brand on our City and its residents.

I ask the City Council to support an acknowledgement only. Some say that the apology serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders. An acknowledgement, by definition, serves that exact purpose. Yesterday's Beach Reporter ad says, among other misguided ideas, that an apology expresses regret, but fails to point out that it is also an expression of personal responsibility.

We can and should, as the ad goes on, show we "understand and reject a racist act from the City's history and, as a community, repudiate racism," but that should not require that we, as a community, accept the guilt that an apology explicitly implies.

Thank you,

Stacy Myrose

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Simona K <simonakrasn@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 12:33 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hello city of Manhattan Beach,

My name is Simona Krasnegor and I am currently a student at UCLA. I went to high school at Mira Costa and wanted to write in regards to the recent discussion of Bruce's Beach. I am asking the City Council to support a Resolution of Apology from the City Council to the Bruce Family. This is necessary to try to move forward from the city's wrongdoings of the past and address racism in our community; we are better and we must show it. In addition to a resolution, I also support giving the land back to the Bruce family, as it is rightfully theirs.

Sincerely,  
Simona

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Jenna Ahmed <jennaahmed715@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 4, 2021 10:39 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Resolution of Apology for Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Council,

Hi, hope you this email finds you well. My name is Jenna Ahmed and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I am asking the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” for to the Bruce Family and not an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. Apologizing for an act of racism in our city's history is a healthy and constructive step toward addressing the global reality of racism. I love this community and know that with this, we can heal and move forward. With and apology, we address what has happened in the past, and move forward to form a more tolerant and welcoming environment. In situations such as these I think it is important to ask ourselves what kind of example are we setting for young people? If we are teaching students to learn to say sorry, learn the importance of history, and learn what it means to be a good person who understands people's experiences and perspectives, then it is time we as a community embody that as well.

Thank you,  
Jenna Ahmed

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Anthony A. Lee <member1700@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 7:32 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Resolution of Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Honorable Council Members:

I am writing to urge the City Council to adopt a resolution of apology for its role in the history of Bruce's Beach eminent domain actions in the 1920s. This action will cost nothing and is a symbolic gesture which is the least we can do.

The only coherent argument I have heard against an apology is that it may place the City in some legal jeopardy. However, the resolution of apology proposed by Councilman Napolitano was examined by the City Attorney and found to cause no legal liability. So that argument is not valid.

There are a lot of incoherent arguments against the idea of an apology. Like for instance, that it will mark Manhattan Beach as a racist city. Clearly, the opposite is true. Failure to issue an apology will have that effect in the local and national press.

An "acknowledgement" has no meaning, because it has no moral dimension. A "condemnation" makes it sound like the City Council is talking about someone else, as if it played no role in this history.

I urge you to adopt Mr. Napolitano's resolution of apology.

Regards,  
Anthony A. Lee  
Manhattan Beach resident

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Stephanie Caridad <stephanielcaridad@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 5:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] In Favor of an Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor Hadley, Mayor Pro Tem Stern, City Council Member Napolitano, City Council Member Montgomery, and City Council Member Franklin,

I write to encourage the City Council to adopt a Resolution of Apology to the Bruce Family and for the City's action in the 1920s in regards to Bruce's Beach.

I encourage you to be leaders for the city and its residents, to move beyond numbers games and pre-determined opinions, and to act in favor of what's best for Manhattan Beach.

Doing the best thing for Manhattan Beach does not just mean protecting the City's legal interests. That is the job of the City Attorney, who has determined that an apology will not bring legal vulnerability to the city.

Doing the best thing for Manhattan Beach does not just mean protecting the City's financial health, though in this case, this decision is in fact cost neutral. An apology does not hold the City to an opening of its coffers.

The best thing for Manhattan Beach is to live up to the principles and values that we want to define us as a neighborhood. When we raise children in this city, they are taught that to be their best self, they acknowledge wrongdoing, and they apologize. The City, in its long history, was part of a miscarriage of justice to the Bruce family and other Black Americans. Remorse, not neutral acknowledgement, is crucial to move forward in our history.

In issuing an apology, Manhattan Beach would be the 4th city in America to apologize for racism in its past. We would be among the first, a leader, in what will be an increasing number of cities taking a similar step towards expressing remorse and re-committing to the neighborly compassion we all value.

It has been an honor to serve with my fellow residents and Councilmembers Stern and Napolitano - a group that was engaged, thoughtful, dedicated to our city - on the Bruce's Beach Task Force. I urge the City Council to give weight to the work completed by those you chose to serve the City. We 15 stand unanimously, with hundreds others next us, asking for the City to take the step of an Apology together. I hope Manhattan Beach can be the leader it has the potential to be.

Best,

Stephanie Caridad  
Bruce's Beach Task Force Member

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Joan and Ed <edandjoan@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 3:14 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Apology

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I write in support of a full apology, as recommended by “The Daily Breeze”. Actually, as they and our County Supervisor Janet Hahn say, we owe the Bruce family more than just an apology. Apologies have been issued at the governmental level before without inviting lawsuits, as opponents have feared (as if that were a valid reason to evade trying to rectify to a minor degree a past wrongdoing!) The U.S. government has issued an apology to the Japanese-Americans interned during WWII and to the survivors of the infamous Tuskegee experiment. Apologies have also been issued by the governments of Australia and Japan.

Opponents of an apology, in addition to expressing fears of engendering lawsuits, feel that focus on the Bruce’s Beach injustice is racially divisive and would label Manhattan Beach as a racist city. Sorry—that horse is already out of the stable. Newspapers as far away as “The New York Times” are painting my city as precisely that and largely because of the City Council’s waffling on whether or not to issue an apology. Let’s prove them wrong, step up to the plate, and take this anti-racism step. I’ve lived in Manhattan Beach for 35 years and would like to be proud of my city.

Best regards,

Joan Engelhaupt  
1751 Gates Ave.  
Manhattan Beach



This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.  
[www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Wolfe, Bob <mail.wolfe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 2:52 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council; City Manager; Suzanne Hadley; hstem@citymb.info; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item #4 - April 6, 2021 Virtual Council Meeting - Bruce's Beach Resolution of Apology  
**Attachments:** Bruce's-Beach-ltr.pdf

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councilmembers and City Staff,

Attached is a .pdf of a letter for your consideration in conjunction with the April 6, 2021 meeting regarding Bruce's Beach. As I explain in the letter, I support the alternative resolutions proposed by Councilmember Stern and Councilmember Napolitano.

I also provide the Council with one very specific example of an apology by the State of California for a racially motivated government action, which apology is codified in Government Code section 8722, as signed into law by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bob Wolfe

# ROBERT S. WOLFE

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April 3, 2021

Councilmembers, City Manager, City Clerk & City Attorney  
City of Manhattan Beach  
1400 Highland Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Re: City Council Virtual Meeting, April 6, 2021  
Item #4 – Consider Bruce’s Beach Task Force Recommendation 1.4  
(Resolution of Apology) & Alternative Options

I write to urge the Council to adopt either Councilmember Hildy Stern’s alternative resolution of apology or the alternative resolution offered by Councilmember Steve Napolitano. Both alternative resolutions contain two key elements: (1) they expressly acknowledge the racially motivated wrongs committed by Manhattan Beach to Black homeowners and visitors to Bruce’s Beach, and (2) they formally apologize for such wrongs while pledging to promote racial equality and inclusion in the future.

A formal apology is a critical element to any actions undertaken by the Manhattan Beach City Council and whether, as Councilmember Napolitano’s alternative resolution asserts, “[t]he Manhattan Beach of today is not the Manhattan Beach of one hundred years ago.”

Are we? Sadly, such an assertion is belied by the two-page anonymously sourced “Concerned Residents of MB” *Beach Reporter* advertisement from March 11, 2021. Some of the language used in the ongoing public discourse since then is the antithesis of a community which is “loving, tolerant and welcoming to all.”

This makes an express apology more important than ever. Under these circumstances, Councilmember Napolitano’s alternative resolution may be more of an aspirational statement of our hopes, rather than an expression of current realities. There still is much work to be done.

There is well-settled precedent to support an apology rather than a mere acknowledgment of past wrongs. As Councilmember Napolitano has pointed out, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act, formally apologizing to Japanese Americans who were interned in camps during World War II.

Let me provide other, equally cogent examples of a formal apology by a governmental body.

Beginning in 1929 and continuing through the early 1930s, federal, state and local authorities began a concerted effort to forcibly repatriate persons of Mexican ancestry, including legal residents and even U.S. citizens, to Mexico. Consequently, more than 400,000 legal Californians were pushed out of the U.S. and into Mexico against their will.

It's a little-known part of our history, euphemistically called the "Great Migration," but it in reality was a form of ethnic cleansing with the resultant family separation, property loss, and deprivation of fundamental constitutional rights. By 1936, L.A. had lost nearly one-third of its Latino residents.

In 2005, the California Legislature enacted Government Code sections 8721 and 8722 to formally apologize for these "illegal" activities. (Stats.2005, c. 663 (S.B. 670.)

Here is what Govt. Code, § 8722 says, in its entirety:

"§ 8722. **Apology.** The State of California apologizes to those individuals described in Section 8721 for the fundamental violations of their basic civil liberties and constitutional rights committed during the period of illegal deportation and coerced emigration. The State of California regrets the suffering and hardship those individuals and their families endured as a direct result of the government sponsored Repatriation Program of the 1930s."

The apology legislation was enacted in 2005 and signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. As directed by statute, the State erected a commemorative plaque at El Pueblo in Downtown Los Angeles to describe what happened and why it was wrong. (Govt. Code, §8723.) The plaque contains the state's public apology in English and Spanish.

The world did not end with this legislation. There has been no ensuing litigation or damage actions by descendants of the original victims.

## ROBERT S. WOLFE

Re: Manhattan Beach City Council Virtual Meeting, April 6, 2021

Page 3

In like fashion, the California Supreme Court in 2015 issued a published opinion to expressly acknowledge the court's "grievous wrong" and "sordid chapter" in 1890 when it refused to allow a Chinese-American lawyer to practice law in California simply because he was born in China. "Even if we cannot undo history, we can acknowledge it." (*In re Hong Yen Chang on Admission* (2015) 60 Cal.4th 1169 [posthumously admitting Chinese-American applicant to California State Bar].)

In 1993, the 103rd Congress passed a joint resolution apologizing to Native Hawaiians for the U.S. role in overthrowing the Kingdom of Hawaii on January 17, 1893.

President George H.W. Bush wrote a letter to the Japanese-American WWII internees and their families: "In . . . offering a sincere apology, your fellow Americans have, in a very real sense, renewed their traditional commitment to the ideals of freedom, equity and justice."

These are but a few examples of the use and power of an apology. The current Manhattan Beach city councilmembers obviously did not vote back in the 1920s to institute an inverse condemnation actions against the Black property owners in Bruce's Beach.

But the Manhattan Beach councilmembers are voting today. And they, like Manhattan Beach, and indeed the entire South Bay, will be judged not only by their actions, but also by failure to act. There is a clear, moral obligation to do so.

While I now reside in Hermosa Beach, I have lived in Manhattan Beach for nearly 25 years and grew up in the area, including attending Inglewood High School. I am an appellate attorney, and have worked for some two decades as a supervising attorney for the California Court of Appeal. I now write and lecture on L.A. legal history and am a board member of the leading legal history nonprofit in the State of California.

I urge you to join public figures like Presidents Reagan and Bush and Governor Schwarzenegger – no radicals they – to issue a long-deserved flat-out apology, without qualification. Let's do it not for anyone else's sake, but for our own.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Bob Wolfe

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Garry Viohl <sophie.viohl@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear MB City Clerk,

My name is Sophie Viohl and I am a student at Mira Costa High School. I ask the City Council to support a “Resolution of Apology” from the City Council to the Bruce Family and other affected property owners and their families and not support an acknowledgement which falls short of an apology. This apology is not an expression of personal responsibility or guilt of its current residents, but serves as an opportunity to recognize actions of past city leaders. An apology demonstrates that, when an institution acts unjustly, it seeks the truth, apologizes for failing, and re-commits to justice, regardless of when the unjust act occurred. This is an opportunity for our wonderful community to rise to the occasion and set a good example of what a welcoming city looks like.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sophie Viohl

**Martha Alvarez**

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**From:** Patricia Torrey <trish.torrey@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 3, 2021 12:56 PM  
**To:** List - City Council; City Clerk; Suzanne Hadley; Hildy Stern; Steve Napolitano; Richard Montgomery; Joe Franklin; City Manager  
**Cc:** Trish Torrey (danatrish@aol.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Request for Apology and helpful link regarding past political apologies

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City Council Members and City Manager,

I am writing this e-mail to show my support for the community of Manhattan Beach by requesting that the Manhattan Beach City Council show their ***courage, strength and humility*** by adopting an ***apology*** for the abuse of City power in regards to the acquisition of Bruce's Beach over 100 years ago.

I am saddened that this is a "decision" that needs to be made as opposed to a ***privilege*** you have as ***stewards of the City of Manhattan Beach***.

I realize you have all been inundated with e-mails and I hope the following article can help you view your decision from a historical perspective:

<https://www.justsecurity.org/75340/its-never-too-late-to-say-im-sorry-sovereign-apologies-over-the-years/>

When students read about the history of Manhattan Beach 100 years from now, what role do you want to play in that story?

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Riordan Torrey  
2400 John Street

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Joanne Hadley <joanne@hadleybiz.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 8:48 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] An Apology- all upside, no downside. Right to do.

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Mayor & Councilmembers,  
Thank you for your commitment to our town, our reputation and justice for all.

Please continue with our issuance of an apology for the injustice done that still hangs over us. Anything else falls short. Those who oppose an apology continue to push a false narrative and unsubstantiated claims. An apology, vs an acknowledgment, has no actual downside.

And now, think how you'd feel if someone says, "Gee, sure, our town caused you (yes you, because it was done to be your ancestors) harm, but we refuse to apologize". It's easy to do when the harm is to a stranger...but they are harmed (even to this day) just the same.

Our children are watching and will read about what we did...hoping they will be proud, not disappointed in what you decide.

Thank you,  
Joanne Hadley  
Bret Hadley

"There is always light

If we are brave enough to see it

If we are brave enough to be it."

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Michael Jenkins <mjenkins1230@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 8:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

Mayor Hadley and Council:

I regret that this discussion has been reduced to a debate between an “apology” and an “acknowledgement,” when what we really need in this community is a continuing dialogue on equity and inclusion. The anonymous messaging generated in response to the Task Force report certainly signals the need to reconcile sharp divisions among residents on the subject of race.

Some people contend that an apology could create liability. Liability flows from the act that causes the underlying harm, not an expression of remorse towards those who were harmed. If there is any liability for a 100-year old act, which seems doubtful, it is for the unlawful act itself, not the apology. If any of you doubt that, please ask the City Attorney to provide an opinion in the public meeting, citing to authority.

By accepting the history report, the Council has already acknowledged that the City committed a wrong when it abused its eminent domain powers with racist intent and a pretextual public purpose. That ship has sailed.

The bible teaches us that healing comes from repentance for our sins, not acknowledgement. As the custodians of our government, you are uniquely situated to repudiate past actions of our government. President Reagan did so in 1988 when he signed legislation apologizing to Japanese-Americans for their forced internment during World War II. Your community is counting on you to rise to the occasion.

Mike Jenkins

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 29, 2021, at 10:55 AM, Jayne Horowitz <[jaynehorowitz@gmail.com](mailto:jaynehorowitz@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Mike

Sent from my iPad

## Martha Alvarez

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**From:** Christi Hogin <Christi.Hogin@bbklaw.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 2, 2021 7:08 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I'm sorry

**CAUTION:** This Email is from an EXTERNAL source. Ensure you trust this sender before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am sorry that our city's history, like American history, has been marked by racism. Aren't you?

I believe that we, as a community and a country, can move past that history. Don't you?

An apology by this council is your opportunity to say "there's a new sheriff in town", that this government distinguishes itself from that past.

Please do it. It is the right thing to do.

Word parsing over "apology" and "acknowledgement" makes you look petty and unwilling to confront the shameful act of our forebearers.

Please rise to the occasion. Be the leaders we elected you to be and show our children that the truth matters and that redemption is always worth pursuing.

Christi



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*Stay at home and public health orders issued in multiple counties across the U.S. require our offices to be physically closed. Because all staff are working remotely, all documents (including correspondence, pleadings, and discovery) will be served via e-mail until further notice. Because we may not receive regular mail or other deliveries during this period of time, please e-mail copies of anything you send by regular mail or delivery. Send all e-served documents in your case to the e-mail addresses for any Best Best & Krieger LLP attorney who has appeared in your case, or who has communicated with you by e-mail on your matter.*

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