



Media Release

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Trinidad Approves Civic Club Proposal to Move the Trinidad Memorial Lighthouse Out of Danger

The City of Trinidad has approved an emergency Coastal Development Permit application from the Trinidad Civic Club to move the Trinidad Memorial Lighthouse back from the active landslide currently undermining it. The Civic Club’s plan is to pick up the Lighthouse by crane, and attach it to a new foundation approximately 20 feet northeast of its current location.

A geology report commissioned by the City in the aftermath of significant landslide activity last winter concluded that the Lighthouse was in serious danger and needed to be moved before the current rainy season. “I am glad that the Civic Club has been able to develop a feasible plan to address this hazard. Issuing an emergency permit is unusual for the City, but appropriate in this case to prevent the disaster that would result if this iconic structure tumbled down the hill, destroying the Lighthouse and damaging sensitive resources on the Tsurai Study Area below.” said City Manager Dan Berman.

Public access to the Lighthouse and Memorial Wall and to the Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail leading to Old Home Beach will be unaffected by the project, with the exception of brief closures for public safety during construction activities.

The project has been designed to avoid soil disturbance in recognition of the sensitive cultural resources in the area. The project is also designed to facilitate the eventual removal of the Lighthouse and foundation in anticipation of future landslide activity. Geologic investigations indicate the new location may be much more stable in spite of its proximity to the landslide. “We hope the Lighthouse will be safe in this new location for years to come, but we appreciate that the Civic Club is planning ahead for its possible removal in the future as necessary.” said City Manager Dan Berman.

The emergency permit authorizes the minimum work needed to address the current threat, and requires the Civic Club to go through the regular Coastal Development Permit process for the project over the next few months.

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