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The last meeting of the Fourth District Chambers of Commerce, held in Moneta last week adopted the following resolution together with communications which are listed below.

Since the State Highway Commission of the State of California is actively engaged in the construction of the Coast Highway from Oxnard to Santa Monica, and is engaged in the preliminary work beyond Long Beach toward Capistrano, and since no activity has been shown on the section of the Coast Highway between Redondo Beach and San Pedro, and no definite information has been secured from said State Highway Commission as to the beginning of construction of the Redondo Beach-San Pedro section; and

Since said Coast Highway is essential to the relief of traffic congestion to and from San Pedro and Los Angeles Harbor as emphasized by Major John A. Griffin, City Engineer of Los Angeles; necessary for the patrol and protection of an inaccessible coast line from smugglers, bootleggers and other law-breakers, as suggested by the Hon. John B. Elliott, Collector of Customs of the U. S. Government, and also by the Hon. C. T. Walton, U. S. Marshal of the Southern District of California, and a material means of defense against an invasion of our Southland by a military enemy, as asserted by Colonel H. J. Hatch, in command of the Headquarters of the Coast Defense of Los Angeles at Fort MacArthur;

Therefore, we, the Fourth Superior District Chamber of Commerce, representing Redondo Beach, Venice, Santa Monica, Ocean Park, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, El Segundo, Moneta, Torrance, Key Stone, Woodcrest, Gardena, Athens on-the-Hill, Harbor City, Wilmington, Lomita, San Pedro, Long Beach, Inglewood, Southern and Southwestern Los Angeles, appeal to His Excellency, Governor W. D. Stephens, to request and instruct the Highway Commission of California to proceed without further delay with the construction of the Redondo Beach and San Pedro section of the Coast Highway according to the promises published broadcast by the State Highway Commission preceding the bond election providing for said Coast Highway and accepted and supported by the various Cities and Communities here represented in good faith.

July 28, 1921.

Mr. N. B. Darlington,
State Highway Commission,
Pacific Finance Building,
Los Angeles, Calif.

My dear Mr. Darlington:

I desire to emphasize the importance of the construction of the State Highway along the Coast between San Pedro and Redondo Beach, from the standpoint of maintaining proper surveillance of the coast line by the Customs authorities in the prevention of smuggling. I do not know, of course, when the construction of this particular section of highway is contemplated, but I am moved to make this inquiry regarding the matter by the extreme activities in the smuggling of liquor and narcotics by boats from Mexico. It is difficult to keep track of the coast line unless there is good transportation facilities on land. Such a highway as I have referred to would be very helpful for the purpose mentioned.

Thanking you in advance for reply to this inquiry, I am,
Sincerely yours,
JOHN B. ELLIOTT,
Collector.

Headquarters Coast Defense of
Los Angeles,
Fort MacArthur, Calif.
August 11, 1921.

The State Highway Commission,
Pacific Finance Building,
Los Angeles, Calif.
Gentlemen:

I have been informed that the construction of a State Highway from Point Fermin along the shore line to Redondo Beach is being considered.

A good highway that would facilitate the movement of heavy mobile artillery and troops along the beach would materially assist the plans for the defense of this section of the coast against enemy landing operations.

I would appreciate any information you may be able to give me for the prospects of this construction.

Very truly yours,
H. J. HATCH,
Colonel, Coast Artillery Corps.

Department of Justice,
Office of United States Marshal,
Southern District of California,
Los Angeles.
August 5, 1921.

Mr. C. J. Colden, Pres.,
Chamber of Commerce,
San Pedro, Calif.
Dear Sir:

I am aware of the urgent need for the construction of a highway between San Pedro and Redondo, and also of some of the activities of the Chamber of Commerce of San Pedro, in urging the State Highway Commission to connect these two points by opening up a State Highway.

My work in the past eight years has made me familiar with the coast line from San Luis Obispo to San Diego, and I think there is no section of the coast where a State Highway is more needed or would be more beneficial in the ordinary work of this office, and reasoning from that standpoint, it would lead me to believe there are manifold advantages to be had to a great number of people in this vicinity by the construction of such a road. Trusting that your efforts will be successful, and that the Highway Commission will soon realize the importance of making this connection, I am,

Yours very respectfully,
C. T. WALTON,
United States Marshal.

City of Los Angeles, Cal.,
Board of Public Works,
Engineering Department,
August 26, 1921.

Mr. C. J. Colden, Pres.,
Chamber of Commerce,
San Pedro, Calif.

My dear Mr. Colden:
Knowing you to be a booster for San Pedro and interested in any development that will be a benefit thereto, I am writing to ask that you get behind the movement to hurry along the State Highway to be built along the coast from Redondo to Pt. Fermin.

You, nor your Chamber, need no one to inform you as to the importance of such a highway from a military standpoint, nor do you need any coaching to understand its immense commercial value.

The benefit to be derived from this connecting link in our important coastal chain cannot be described in words.

The already too few avenues of ingress and egress to and from San Pedro are overloaded with traffic, and on certain occasions become so congested as to be a menace to public safety.

I believe that if you, and a few of the live wires of San Pedro, were to take this matter up with the Governor and with the military authorities that early action could be had on this road.

Hoping you can get things started, I am,
Yours very truly,
JOHN A. GRIFFIN,
City Engineer.

WONDERS OF AMERICA

By T. T. MAXEY

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