



**PRESS RELEASE \*\*\*IMMEDIATE**

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## **TOWN COUNCIL HEARING 'CRISIS IN THE COVE' - THE INVASION OF THE SEA LIONS**



**La Jolla, CA.** The La Jolla Town Council will hold a hearing on the '**Crisis in the Cove**' due to the recent occupation of the popular Cove beach by California Sea Lions. The public is invited to the hearing to be held at next Town Council meeting on **Thursday, June 9th, 2016, at 5:30 PM at the La Jolla Recreation Center, 615 Prospect Street La Jolla CA.**

The Cove area has long been a source of unpleasant and business-damaging odors from mammal and bird waste. Now the environmental problem has escalated due to an expanding population of seals and sea lions that has created significant public health and safety issues. **Recently, the Cove beach has been posted "dangerous to swimmers" due to large amounts of sea lion waste in the water.** Also, the sea lions **have begun leaving the beach and coming toward the surrounding sidewalks and structures.** As a result, the sea lions are defecating in areas built for humans. Further, people are walking in the slippery waste (a safety hazard) and tracking it to other areas. In addition, there are reports of sea lion pups dying on the beach and nearby areas, creating an additional health concern that needs to be addressed.

Our organization is again urging responsive and constructive actions by responsible authorities. Realistic solutions have been studied and recommended - to no avail. La Jolla Cove is an important asset for swimmers and other water enthusiasts, as well as anyone who wishes to enjoy the scenic wonders of the Cove area. It is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the San Diego area. It should be restored and maintained in a safe and pleasant condition. Coordinated action by responsible city, state and federal authorities is need now!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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