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Licensed Real Estate Broker
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WILLIAM STANCEL

Associate Member
San Diego Realty Board

3420 UNIVERSITY AVENUE

San Diego, California, 1929.

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Mr. George W. Marston,
San Diego, California.

TORREY PINES ROAD.

My dear Mr. Marston:

Mr. Olmstead, Mr. Morley and I, had a conference after our last meeting of the Park Board, and we all seemed of the opinion that further opposition on the part of the Park Board to a road through Torrey Pines Park would get us nowhere, and that the most practical method of saving something out of the wreck would be to stand firm for a bridge instead of a fill across the ravine (approximately two hundred feet wide) which the proposed road will cross at approximately three thousand feet from the present causeway or embankment; this ravine is one of the most beautiful, if not the most beautiful in Torrey Pines Park, and is a future avenue of access to the beach, by building steps to get down into the ravine and constructing a pathway in the ravine, taking off near the Torrey Pines Lodge. Mr. Lockwood proposed a fill with an archway running through it, but I am of the opinion that we should stand firm for a bridge, which will be an ornament, and will not detract from the natural beauty of this eroded canyon or ravine. The construction of a bridge instead of a fill will remove my principal objection to an additional roadway through the park area. Also, as the first earth to be excavated (beginning at the causeway) will be most conveniently available in that immediate vicinity, I believe we should insist that a fill be made for a parking place for automobiles at the beginning of the slope of the present Torrey Pines grade, and that the sharp reverse curve at that point be eliminated; the grade to take off from a point further north along the causeway.

I have talked to Harold Angier and Captain Grandall about both these points and both expressed themselves as in accord with me.

I suggest that you take this up with Mr. Harper at your earliest convenience, and get him in line with us, in which case we can all unite with him in getting the sea front line which he so strongly advocated in his letter to you of June 29th.

Sincerely yours,

(COPY).

J. C. Harper,
Attorney at Law
La Jolla, Calif.

La Jolla, Calif.,
June 29, 1929.

Mr. George W. Marston,
3525 Seventh Street,
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Mr. Marston:-

The enclosed check, in payment of one-half of Mr. Nolen's fee, got buried in my desk. I am sorry for the delay. Kindly sign and return the enclosed voucher. We have a copy of Mr. Nolen's report.

I do hope that you will find time to satisfy yourself about the ocean front line for the new Torrey Pines Road. Mr. Kenneth Gardner has been out over the road twice, and others connected with the Planning Commission have been there. My understanding is that they are as enthusiastically for it as Mr. Crandall and I are. Mr. Crandall and Mr. Gardner went over the line yesterday, with reference to the proposed contours, and they find that the road has been shifted from the white flags originally set, so as to avoid a number of the pines.

Mr. Nolen's attention was not called to this line because none of us thought of it at the time, although it has been a dream with me for a long period. I feared the cost would be prohibitive. It seems to us that it generally conforms to Mr. Nolen's ideas, in that it conforms to the general contour of the land, rather than contrary to it.

In addition to the points that we made last Thursday, I want to emphasize two more:

(1) Fire hazard: The fire hazard on the present road has been great. We have spent considerable money clearing our paper and other inflammable material thrown out by tourists, and have tried to devise methods to reduce the fire hazard. I am satisfied that the proposed new line along the ocean front will immensely reduce this fire hazard and I hope will enable us to almost entirely remove it.

(2) I am satisfied that at this time it is impossible to get the Sorrento Road built. The greater cost thereof (nearly twice either Lockwood's line or the sea line), coupled with the bitter opposition of not only La Jolla, but the whole North Shore population, make it certain to my mind that some new line that will traverse part of the park will have to go through. The sea front line is vastly more picturesque and I do not think will be found to be any serious detriment to the park, itself. If it goes through, I am prepared to advise the employment of Mr. Cornell, who is greatly interested in Torrey Pines Park, to lay out a plan for beautifying the roadside as it passes through Miss Scripps' land and the park.

I hope you will see your way clear to join in securing this sea front line.

2 encl.

Sincerely yours,
J. C. Harper.

My dear Colonel:

I do not feel able to attend the ~~roads~~ dinner this evening. Am glad to hear you are going. Mr. Harper's acceptance of this sea coast road impresses me but I should like to see for myself. Yrs. GWM