




# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Cohen and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Geoff Dolan, City Manager 

**FROM:** Lindy Coe-Juell, Assistant to the City Manager

**DATE:** October 20, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a Resolution Urging the State Legislature to Change the State Rock

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 6223 in support of the efforts by the asbestos disease awareness organization to urge the State Legislature to change the state rock.

**FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action.

**BACKGROUND:**

This issue is before the City Council this evening by request of Mayor Cohen on behalf of Linda Reinstein, the Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO).

ADAO was founded by asbestos victims and their families in 2004. ADAO seeks to give asbestos victims and concerned citizens a united voice to help ensure their rights are fairly represented and protected, while raising public awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure and often deadly asbestos related diseases. ADAO is an independent organization funded through voluntary contributions and staffed by volunteers. [www.adao.us](http://www.adao.us)

Linda Reinstein prepared the statements of fact listed in the attached resolution, which explain in detail the purpose of the request for your support for ADAO's effort to urge the State Legislature to change the state rock. Linda will also provide a brief presentation to the City Council and be available to answer any questions you may have.

Attachments: A. Resolution NO. 6223

RESOLUTION NO. 6223

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH,  
CALIFORNIA, URGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO CHANGE THE  
STATE ROCK IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS BY THE ASBESTOS  
DISEASE AWARENESS ORGANIZATION

WHEREAS, in 1907, the first case of asbestos-related disease was discussed in medical literature; and,

WHEREAS, by 1955 lung cancer was recognized as causally related to exposure from asbestos; and,

WHEREAS, in the early 1960s the rare fatal cancer mesothelioma was casually related to asbestos exposure; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, California designated serpentine our state rock; and,

WHEREAS, California the state rock, serpentine, commonly contains deadly chrysotile asbestos; and,

WHEREAS, in 1971 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) listed asbestos as a hazardous air pollutant; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos is the name given to a group of fibrous minerals that occur naturally in the environment; and,

WHEREAS, Disturbance of asbestos leads to exposure; and,

WHEREAS, in 1976, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) declared asbestos a human carcinogen; and,

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization, (WHO), International Labour Organization (ILO), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Acting U.S. Surgeon General state there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos; and,

WHEREAS, Inhalation of asbestos fibers can cause cancer, respiratory diseases and irreversible lung damage; and,

WHEREAS, Mesothelioma is a rare fatal disease caused almost entirely from exposure to asbestos; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos diseases are difficult to diagnose and treat; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos diseases have a long latency period from first exposure to development of disease of many years; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos diseases are incurable and frequently deadly; and,

WHEREAS, California ranks as one of the top five states with the highest recorded number of asbestos-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, Warren Zevon, Steve McQueen, Army Archerd, Hamilton Jordan, Paul Gleason, Congressman Bruce Vento and Admiral Elmo Zumwalt and others have died from mesothelioma; and,

WHEREAS, More than 10,000 Americans die annually from asbestos-related diseases; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos has not been banned in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos does not have any warning properties, such as visibility, taste or odor; and,

WHEREAS, Asbestos is an indestructible lethal fiber and has been used throughout California in construction, shipyards, and vermiculite insulation processing plants; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY DECLARE, FIND AND DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Manhattan Beach hereby makes the following findings:

1. That the above recitations are true and correct.
2. That the City of Manhattan Beach endorses efforts by Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization to raise asbestos awareness to prevent exposure and eliminate deadly diseases.
3. That the City of Manhattan Beach urges California Legislature to repeal government code section 425.2, which would remove Serpentine as the California State Rock.

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2009.

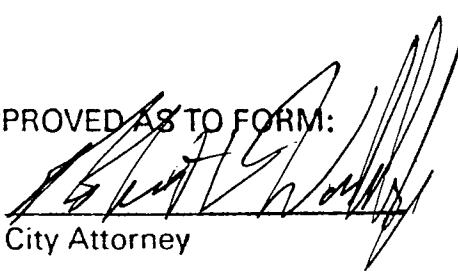
AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

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Mayor, City of Manhattan Beach, California

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By   
City Attorney

