RESOLUTION NO. 21-011

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
SUPPORTING REUSE OF THE NATIONAL OCEANIC ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

FINDINGS

1. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) building on Lighthouse
Avenue, Pacific Grove, California will be for sale this summer by the federal
government.

2. The building, with sea murals by Guggenheim-honored artist Ray Troll, overlooking
Monterey Bay and the Great Tide Pool, could be transformed into an environmentally
appropriate public workspace and art gallery, enabling the convergence of cutting-edge
marine scientific and technological innovation with ocean-inspired art and virtual reality.

3. Creative reuse of the Pacific Grove NOAA property gives Pacific Grove and the
Monterey Peninsula a new opportunity to highlight ocean science, conservation, and art,
while enhancing the area’s attraction to visitors as a world-renowned center for public
education focused on the Asilomar and Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary.

4. A Center for Ocean, Art, Science and Technology (COAST) would provide space
to convene scientific workshops seeking ocean solutions to some of the greatest challenges
facing society, including Climate, Energy, and Food Security; gallery space to exhibit the
ocean-inspired artwork of the region’s world-renowned artistic community; educational
and outreach opportunities to immerse students and visitors in virtual ocean experiences
unlike anything offered elsewhere in the world.

5. Key proponents of COAST are Steve Hauk, who envisioned COAST and is a Pacific
Grove art dealer and writer, Dr. Charles Greene, Professor of Earth and Atmospheric
Sciences at Cornell University, and Darcie Fohrman who creates museum exhibitions
nationally and locally.

6. Project Supporters include Dr. Steve Palumbi, former Director of Stanford’s Hopkins
Marine Station; Dr. Drew Harvell, Cornell Professor of Marine Biology and author of the
award-winning books Sea of Glass and Ocean Outbreak; Dr. Kenneth Parker, climate
change oceanographer and fine art photographer; Dr. Jennifer Carson, astrophysicist and
former science museum manager; Dixie Layne, local historian, writer and board member
of the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove; Moe Ammar, President of the Pacific Grove
Chamber of Commerce; Donna Gates, board member of the Heritage Society of Pacific
Grove; Frank Miscione, artist and civil engineer; Rick Steres, architect, researcher and
board member of the Heritage Society of Pacific Grove; Lisa Ledin, radio announcer for
NPR’s KAZU.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE:

1. The Council determines that each Finding set forth above is true and correct, and by this reference incorporates those Findings as an integral part of this Resolution.

2. The Council authorizes adoption of this resolution to support reuse of the NOAA building and encourages next steps for COAST as follows:
   a. Investigate the possibility to acquire this property.
   b. Create a detailed plan to develop COAST.
   c. Estimate capital as well as ongoing operational and maintenance costs.
   d. Develop community support.
   e. Explore local and national fundraising opportunities.

3. This Resolution shall become effective immediately following passage and adoption thereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
this 5th day of May 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Peake, Councilmembers Coletti, McAdams, Poduri, Smith, and Tomlinson.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Amelio

APPROVED:

BILLY PEAKE, Mayor

ATTEST:
SANDRA KANDELL, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAVID C. LAREDO, City Attorney