City of CB Planning Department
CB Mayor Steidel
CB Councilors

Dear Friends,
I have given testimony in front of both the CB Planning Commission and CB City Council on the above referenced subject. As you know I'm the past Board Chair of Tryon Creek State Park where I have served on the Board for over decade. I certainly hope there has been something learned from Tryon Creek's 30 year battle against non-native plant species. Hand pulling European ivy from our forest has only resorted in blisters, injury to the natural world and a waste of over 100K volunteer hours of toil.

I will be brief and summarize four points for your consideration.

1) Wisely the City of CB adopted a plan to institute, amend and adopt a Sand Management Plan for the City. A process was adopted and begun involving time and financial resources to CB. There has been enormous discussion, testimony and debate and now I feel the CB Council needs to move forward with decisions. Let's follow the process you began and move on to adoption of a plan.

2) On a more practical side I where leg braces for a neurological disease I inherited. On the North end of Town, where we reside, it is getting increasingly difficult to reach a Sandy beach. Proper dune management through lowering and sculpting the dunes will allow access. This management will assure the City is complying with the ADA.

3) Please consider amending 3 details of the currently proposed San Management Plan:

a) adjust sand building exposure from 20 feet to 36 feet.
b) attempt to integrate Native plants with Non-Native plant species in the replanting process. Give emphasis to Native, less evasive plants. In a perfect world try to decrease the use of non-native plantings by 15% commutatively for 5 years. c) adjust grading permit duration from 1 year to 5 years to eliminate fees & paperwork.

4) Good citizens on both side of this debate have weighed in with little collaboration or constructive compromise. You need to search for a mutually acceptable compromise agreement, that echoes arguments on both sides without trading your stewardship responsibilities for
CB's natural beauty and livability. Stopping Unmanaged Dune growth is a great starting point that all sides of this debate can agree on.

Good luck & thanks for wisely stewarding our special CB community.

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