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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOLETA BEACH PARK TO RECEIVE SAND FROM SANTA BARBARA HARBOR

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Santa Barbara County is undertaking a sand transfer project to truck sand from the Santa Barbara Harbor (West Beach) to the west end of Goleta Beach Park (Park). The project involves the excavation and trucking of up to approximately 6,000 cubic yards of sand to Goleta Beach of which 1,000 cubic yards of sand will be used for required beach maintenance. The remaining 5,000 cubic yards will be stored offsite for future maintenance.

Project activity at the harbor will occur in two phases: the first phase will occur January 9 through 13, and if necessary, the second phase will occur February 6 through 10. Work will be confined between the hours of 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is estimated that 60 trucks per day over approximately 10 days will exit the Harbor Parking Lot at Cabrillo Boulevard and use Castillo Street to access US Highway 101 for transit to Goleta Beach. Traffic control and safety and construction monitoring will be provided at both the harbor and Goleta Beach.

Currently, there's a surplus of sand available at West Beach/Santa Barbara Harbor that could build up over time and limit inner harbor water depth and open quiet water area. Excavation of excess sand will help maintain a quiet water area within the harbor and adequate depth for boating. Exporting excess sand to Goleta Beach also helps the County maintain sand cover, protect recreational resources and park facilities, and maintain safe beach access at Goleta Beach. The project is funded by the County of Santa Barbara Community Services Department and undertaken in cooperation with the City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department.

In 2010, the County successfully completed a similar project that benefited the City of Santa Barbara and the County of Santa Barbara. Both Santa Barbara Harbor and Goleta Beach Park are important recreational areas for local residents and visitors. Goleta Beach is a popular public park that hosts more than 1.5 million visitors each year, while the harbor is a popular waterfront destination. Goleta Beach provides many amenities including coastal access, free parking, a restaurant, fishing, recreational pier, barbeque amenities and recreational areas.

For more information on Goleta Beach Park and other County parks, visit www.sbparks.org.