

BOCHCO SET TO JOIN COASTAL COMMISSION

Heal the Bay board member to replace fellow environmental champion, Sara Wan

SANTA MONICA, CA (Tuesday, May 18, 2011) – Attorney and longtime environmental activist Dayna Bochco has been tabbed for a four-year term on the California Coastal Commission, state Senator President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg announced Tuesday.

Bochco, who serves on the board of directors of regional environmental group Heal the Bay, also sits on the city of Los Angeles' Measure O Citizen Oversight Committee. In these roles, Bochco has provided leadership on establishing Marine Protected Areas in Southern California, abating stormwater pollution in Los Angeles, and tackling the global marine debris crisis.

She also serves as the president of the highly successful television production company, Steven Bochco Prods.

"Dayna Bochco will be a superb Coastal Commissioner because she deeply cares about protecting our coast, and she has strong legal and communication skills," said Mark Gold, president of Heal the Bay.

Bochco replaces commissioner Sara Wan, widely regarded in the environmental community as the most vigilant member of the Coastal Commission.

Wan has helped drive a number of important commission initiatives during her tenure, including protecting California's gray whale population, preserving and protecting numerous coastal wetlands and stopping offshore oil drilling.

She also is credited with pushing for the development and implementation of Local Coastal Plans that protect Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas, reducing pollution impacts from stormwater runoff and contaminated sediment dredging, and successfully advocating for coastal public access.

"Dayna has some big shoes to fill. Sara was the best Coastal Commissioner California ever had," Gold said. "Every time anyone watches birds or marine mammals, visits a wetland, or enjoys the beach, they should remember Sara's courage and conviction for coastal protection."

Wan has received numerous honors for her environmental leadership, including Heal the Bay's "Walk the Talk" award.

About Heal the Bay

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use research, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

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