

La Jolla Cove Wall & Bluffs

A HOCHTIEF Company

Owner

The City of San Diego

Location

La Jolla, CA

Value

\$800,000

Market

Environmental Remediation

Start - Completion Dates

3/2004 - 11/2004

- Vegetated bluffs in front of an invisible structural wall
- Slope reinforcements and sidewalk rehabilitation
- Restoration of natural habitat
- Graded earth slopes reinforced with Geogrid

Project Description

Flatiron's bluff improvements and new wall along La Jolla's coast was a very unique project. The successful design and construction features vegetated bluffs in front of an invisible structural wall. In addition, the new underground concrete retaining wall stabilizes the roadway and supports a sidewalk along the steep bluff pocketed with sea caves. With slight roadway realignment, existing traffic patterns and parking areas were reestablished in the final design.

According to the America Public Works Association, "[The project] was identified as a priority site addressing existing conditions of the bluffs where public safety and natural habitat were at risk as a result of decaying infrastructure and erosion." The project consisted of five sites along Coast Boulevard which meanders along the Pacific Ocean coastline in the town of La Jolla, California. Flatiron rehabilitated the bluff and reinforced the slope. A new structurally sound wall planted with native vegetative bluffs replaced the drab, unattractive tieback wall.

Flatiron replaced the existing tieback wall using a common material known as Geogrid—a synthetic, heavy duty netting—to reinforce the erosion-prone slope. Flatiron also widened the sidewalks and installed new guardrails and handrails for safer pedestrian access.

Company Role

Flatiron was the prime contractor for this project.

Awards

- American Public Works Association (APWA) – Project of the Year, 2004
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Award of Excellence, 2005
- Associated General Contractors San Diego Chapter (AGC) – First Place Build San Diego Award, 2005
- Consulting Engineering and Land Surveyors of California (CELSOC), Engineering Excellence Award, 2005

