City Council Meeting
10-26-26
Item 1.B.5.

Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Silverstein and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Kate Maniso, Community Services Deputy Director

Reviewed by: Kristin Riesgo, Community Services Director

Approved by: Joseph D. Irvin, City Manager

Date prepared: October 7, 2026 Meeting date: October 26, 2026

Subject: Malibu Surf Legend Award

RECOMMENDED ACTION: 1) At the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission, approve the nomination of Lyon Herron as the 2026 Malibu Surf Legend Award recipient; 2) Amend the award criteria to allow two award recipients, adding a posthumous award; and 3) Award Darryn Keaster as the second award recipient.

FISCAL IMPACT: No additional appropriation is required. Funding for this recognition is included in the Adopted Budget for FY 2026-27 in Account Numbers 100-4001-6160-00 (General Recreation Operating Supplies) and 100-4001-5401-00 (General Recreation Advertising & Noticing).

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION: N/A

DISCUSSION: At the October 13, 2025 City Council Regular meeting, Council approved the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommended award criteria for the annual Malibu Surf Legend Award. The inaugural 2025 Award recipient was Randall "Crawdaddy" Miod who was a respected and cherished figure in the local surf community.

The Malibu Surf Legend award is presented annually to one recipient who must meet the following criteria,

- Demonstrate excellence in surfing
- Be a positive representative in the surf community
- Contribute to Malibu's surf culture
- Have a meaningful connection to Malibu

At the September 15, 2026 Regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission unanimously approved Lyon Herron to receive the 2026 award posthumously.

The Commission also recommended Council consider altering the award criteria to select two recipients annually. One award to a living legend and adding one posthumous award. The current award criteria only allow the award to be given annually to one individual or one group. If Council supports changing the criteria, the Commission recommends giving the award to,

- Lyon Herron, Malibu Surf Legend (Posthumous)
- Darryn Keaster, Malibu Surf Legend

Lyon Herron was a beloved member of the surf community, moto rider, and photographer that passed away in 2023 after battling a rare form of cancer. Mr. Herron was a fourth-generation Malibu resident that lived in a home at Point Dume that was built by his great-grandfather before it was lost in the Woolsey Fire. He was respected surfer, positive influencer, and cared deeply about Malibu. Mr. Herron was nominated by the Commission.

Darryn Keaster has been surfing in Malibu for over forty years. In 2015, he experienced a near-fatal heart attack while surfing and his life was saved on the beach. Following this nearly fatal incident, Mr. Keaster has given back to Malibu by volunteering with Heal the Bay, Surfrider Foundation. Mr. Keaster was nominated by Will Morstad, which was part of the public nomination process (Attachment).

Council is asked to approve the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation to change the criteria to give two Malibu Surf Legend awards annually - one posthumous and one living. Approve Lyon Herron and Darryn Keaster for the 2026 Malibu Surf Legend Award. If approved, the City will present the award to the recipients at an upcoming Regular meeting and acknowledge the recipients on the website, social media accounts, and local newspaper.

ATTACHMENTS: Nomination Application for Darryn Keaster

Print

2026 Malibu Surf Legend Award Nomination Form - Submission #44603

Date Submitted: 7/8/2026

Background

The Malibu Surf Legend Award will be presented annually to honor an individual or group who has demonstrated excellence in surfing, serves as a positive representative of the surf community, has made a significant contribution to local surf culture, and maintains a meaningful connection to Malibu.

Additional Information

Malibu Surf Legend Award

Nomination Dates

Completed nomination forms are due by Friday, July 10, 2026, at 11:59 PM, and must be submitted by completing an online form. All nominations will be considered at a Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Name of Nominee (Individual Being Nominated)*

Darryn Keaster

Affiliated Organization(s)

M.U.D., Malibu Labor Exchange

Nominee's Primary Telephone*

[redacted]

Nominee's Residential Zip Code

91361

Nominee's E-Mail Address*

[redacted]

Name of Nominator (Individual Submitting Form) *

Will Morstad

Nominator's Primary Telephone*

[redacted]

Nominator's Residential Zip Code

91361

Nominator's E-Mail Address*

[redacted]

Excellence in Surfing*

Darryn has been surfing and fishing here in the Malibu area for over 40 years. He has volunteered his time to help clean up with Heal the Bay organized by the Surfrider Foundation. He worked in the 80's at the Hughes Family Markets located in the Colony and also worked at the Fresh Faire Ralphs in the late 90's as a butcher cutting award winning meat for the Malibu Chili Cook Off. He is a Native Californian born in Canoga Park. In 2015 he experienced a near-fatal heart attack while surfing and fishing a wave back to shore. He currently resides in Westlake Village.

Excellence in Surfing: Please provide detailed information that demonstrates the nominees excellence in surfing,

Positive Representative of the Surf Community*

In 2018 he was a surf instructor for the Surf Shack in Malibu. He has a positive attitude and outlook before and now after he has survived a heart attack on the water.

Positive Representative of the Surf Community: Please describe how the nominee is a positive representative of the surf community.

Contribution to Culture and Connection:*

Darryn resided as a member of the "Van Community" there in Malibu from 2015 through 2021 helping to feed the community with fresh fish he was catching while he surfed. He also helped those in need specifically when a fellow surfer was robbed and needed a ride to his home in Marina Del Rey. He was always there to offer a leash, fin or even a board to ride for those in need.

Contribution to Culture and Connection: Please provide an example(s) of the nominee's significant contribution to local surf culture and meaningful connection to Malibu.

Signature of Nominator*

Will Morstad

Date*

7/8/2026