



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH HARBOR COMMISSION AGENDA

City Council Chambers-100 Civic Center Dr, Newport Beach CA 92660

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 - 5:00 PM

Harbor Commission Members:

Ira Beer, Chair
Marie Marston, Vice Chair
Steve Scully, Secretary
Bob Miller, Commissioner
Rudy Svrcek, Commissioner
Gary Williams, Commissioner
Don Yahn, Commissioner

Staff Members:

Paul Blank, Harbormaster
Cynthia Shintaku, Management Analyst

The Harbor Commission meeting is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Among other things, the Brown Act requires that the Harbor Commission agenda be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of each regular meeting and that the public be allowed to comment on agenda items before the Commission and items not on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Harbor Commission. The Chair may limit public comments to a reasonable amount of time, generally three (3) minutes per person.

The City of Newport Beach's goal is to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, we will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact Paul Blank, Harbormaster, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible at (949) 270-8158 or pblank@newportbeachca.gov.

Questions and comments may be submitted in writing for the Harbor Commission's consideration by sending them to harborfeedback@newportbeachca.gov. To give the Harbor Commission adequate time to review your questions and comments, please submit your written comments no later than 5 p.m. the day prior to the Harbor Commission meeting. All correspondence will be made part of the record.

NOTICE REGARDING PRESENTATIONS REQUIRING USE OF CITY EQUIPMENT

Any presentation requiring the use of the City of Newport Beach's equipment must be submitted to the Harbor Department 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

- 1) **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2) **ROLL CALL**
- 3) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4) **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments are invited on agenda and non-agenda items . Speakers must limit comments to three (3) minutes. Before speaking, we invite, but do not require, you to state your name for the record. The Harbor Commission has the discretion to extend or shorten the speakers' time limit on agenda or non-agenda items, provided the time limit adjustment is applied equally to all speakers. As a courtesy, please turn cell phones off or set them in the silent mode.

- 5) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

5.1) **Draft minutes of the March 11, 2026 Harbor Commission Regular Meeting**

[03.11.2026 Harbor Commission Meeting Minutes Draft](#)

6) **CURRENT BUSINESS**

6.1) Resolution Adopting Recommended Revisions to the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code

At the February 11, 2026 Harbor Commission meeting, Commissioners agreed to recommendations of the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code and directed staff return with a resolution reflecting the recommended changes.

This action will adopt the resolution.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
2. Approve staff recommendation to adopt Harbor Commission Resolution HC2026-1 reflecting recommended revisions to the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code

[Staff Report](#)

[Attachment A- Resolution to Approve Revisions to Newport Beach Municipal Code\(3450056.1\)](#)

[Attachment B - Adopted Recommended Revisions to NBMC - REDLINE](#)

[Attachment C- Adopted Recommended Revisions to NBMC - CLEAN](#)

6.2) Review and Discuss Proposed Additions to Mooring Specifications and Inspection Requirements for Helical Anchor and Dynamic Tackle Systems

In November of 2024, the Harbor Commission recommended a pilot program to convert three City-owned moorings in the C field from traditional anchors to helical systems. The tests have proved successful, and the City now wishes to update the approved mooring specifications and inspection requirements to include the helical anchor and dynamic tackle systems for other mooring permittees who are interested in converting to this system.

Any change to the mooring specifications requires Harbor Commission approval.

Any change to the inspection requirements requires a Harbor Commission recommendation to update the municipal code that would be forwarded to the City Council for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly;
2. Provide direction to staff regarding the adoption of recommended additions to mooring specifications and inspection requirements for helical anchor and dynamic tackle mooring systems; and
3. Review and discuss the proposed amendments to Chapter 17 of the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code and related Mooring Specifications.

[Staff Report](#)

[Attachment A - Current Mooring Specifications](#)

[Attachment B - Draft Revised Mooring Specifications](#)

[Attachment C - Inspection Overhaul and Maintenance Requirements with DRAFT Revisions](#)

6.3) Review and Approve Recommended Harbor Commission Objectives for 2026

The Harbor Commission Objectives ad hoc committee periodically reviews and updates the commissions objectives. In late 2025, the ad hoc committee revised the 2024 objectives to better align with the commission's goals for Newport Harbor. The subcommittee has prepared a list of proposed objectives for 2026 and seeks the commission's approval on the recommendations. If approved, the recommended 2026 objectives will be forwarded to the City Council for review and consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
2. Approve the recommended 2026 Harbor Commission Objectives and forward them to the City Council for review and consideration.

[Staff Reports](#)

[Attachment A- 2026 Harbor Commission Objectives](#)

6.4) Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Several ad hoc committees have been established to address short term projects outside of the Harbor Commission objectives. This is the time the ad hoc committees will provide an update on their projects.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Find this action exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
2. Receive and file.

[Staff Report](#)

6.5) Harbor Commission 2024 Objectives

Each ad hoc committee studying their respective Objective within the Commission's 2024 Objectives, will provide a progress update.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Find this action exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
2. Receive and file.

[Staff Report](#)

[Attachment A-2024 Goals and Objectives](#)

6.6) Harbormaster Update - March 2026 Activities

The Harbormaster oversees the City Harbor Department and is responsible for the management of the City's mooring fields and Balboa Yacht Basin marina, support for the Harbor Commission, municipal code enforcement on the harbor, events and marine activities permitting, safety and rescue operations, management of the Marina Park visitor serving marina, marine sanitation pump out equipment and public pier maintenance, water quality monitoring and maintenance, impound and disposition of abandoned and unclaimed vessels and public relations and information dissemination on and about Newport Harbor as well as several special projects.

This report will update the Harbor Commission and the public on the Harbor Department's recent activities.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly; and
2. Receive and file.

[Staff Report](#)

[Attachment A - Harbor Department Statistics Infographic](#)

7) MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

A motion to reconsider any action taken by the Harbor Commission must be made at the same meeting or the subsequent meeting at which the action was taken and may only be made by one of the Harbor Commission members who voted with the prevailing side.

8) COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS (NON-DISCUSSION ITEMS)**9) MATTERS WHICH COMMISSIONERS WOULD LIKE PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION, ACTION OR REPORT (NON-DISCUSSION ITEM)****10) DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 @ 5 p.m.****11) ADJOURNMENT**