



CITY OF

NEWPORT BEACH

Harbor Commission Staff Report

November 13, 2024
Agenda Item No. 6.3

TO: HARBOR COMMISSION

FROM: Paul Blank, Harbormaster - (949) 270-8158
pblank@newportbeachca.gov

TITLE: Consider the Proposal for Day Use Moorings in Corona del Mar Cove

ABSTRACT:

Included in the Harbor Commission's 2024 Objectives is objective number 9 the title of which is "Evaluate establishing day moorings off Big Corona Beach." The full Commission will consider a proposal prepared by the subcommittee responsible for that objective

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) 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
- b) Consider a proposal from the subcommittee responsible for current Harbor Commission Objective 9 on establishing day-use moorings in Corona del Mar Cove; and
- c) If approved, direct Staff to forward the proposal to the City Council for approval and funding

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS:

There is no fiscal impact related to this item as the proposal is considered by the Harbor Commission. If the Commission recommends the proposal be forwarded to the City Council, a financial analysis will be performed, and estimated costs included in what the Council considers.

DISCUSSION:

The Harbor Commission is currently considering a proposal to install four "day use" moorings within Corona del Mar Cove. The proposal has been brought forth for public review and comment as the Harbor Commission evaluates the potential benefits and impacts of adding these limited-use mooring locations.

The proposed moorings would be intended for short-term, recreational use by boaters visiting the picturesque Corona del Mar coastline. If approved, the moorings would provide an opportunity for safe and secure use of the cove by mariners without the need for anchoring. This could help manage boat traffic and reduce impacts to the seafloor and nearshore environment in the sensitive cove area.

As part of the review process, the Harbor Commission will carefully examine factors such as navigational safety, ecological effects, and balancing public access needs. Community input will be an important consideration as the Commission works to determine whether the proposed moorings align with the broader goals and management of the Newport Harbor. Also, to be considered are the operational characteristics of the proposed moorings and how misuse will be prevented.

This proposal resulted from the subcommittee responsible for the current Harbor Commission Objective number 9. The subcommittee tasked itself to evaluate establishing day moorings off Big Corona Beach. The suggestion to establish such day moorings came from a member of the public several years ago.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

Staff recommends the Harbor Commission find this action is not subject to 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 a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

NOTICING:

The agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the Harbor Commission considers the item).

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Proposal for day Moorings in Corona del Mar Cove