

## **RESOLUTION NO. HC2025-1**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE HARBOR COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA, MODIFYING SPECIFICATIONS FOR MOORINGS LOCATED UPON TIDELANDS IN NEWPORT HARBOR**

**WHEREAS**, the 1978 Beacon Bay Bill, as amended, (“Beacon Bay Bill”) authorizes the City of Newport Beach (“City”) to act on behalf of the state of California as trustee of certain tidelands located within the City’s limits, including Newport Harbor (“City Tidelands”);

**WHEREAS**, the Beacon Bay Bill and Newport Beach Municipal Code (“NBMC”) Chapter 17.60 allow the City to issue permits and sub-permits to third parties to place, erect, maintain, use and tie moorings upon City Tidelands;

**WHEREAS**, the City offers two types of moorings, onshore and offshore, which provide affordable options for the public to use and enjoy City Tidelands;

**WHEREAS**, onshore moorings are located on the perimeter of the shore within Newport Harbor and offshore moorings are located offshore, bayward of the pierhead line, within the waters of Newport Harbor;

**WHEREAS**, the mooring permits, sub-permits, and licenses issued by the City do not convey any underlying property interest and, instead, only allow for the temporary mooring of a vessel upon City Tidelands;

**WHEREAS**, NBMC Section 17.25.020(J) provides that the specifications for the size of chains required on moorings and weights of moorings shall be established by the City’s Harbor Commission;

**WHEREAS**, City staff has worked with the Harbor Commission and various Newport Harbor stakeholders, including, but not limited to, the Newport Mooring Association, to review specifications for mooring weight and chain size for onshore moorings only;

**WHEREAS**, the offshore mooring specifications established on January 25, 2022 by the City Council shall remain unchanged;

**WHEREAS**, the Harbor Commission desires to provide onshore mooring permittees with a compliance period to obtain the minimum weight requirements for onshore moorings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Harbor Commission finds the Onshore Mooring Specifications, attached hereto contain the minimum required weights and chain sizes for onshore moorings located on City Tidelands.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Harbor Commission of the City of Newport Beach resolves as follows:

**Section 1:** The Harbor Commission does hereby approve the modifications to the Offshore and Onshore Mooring Specifications. These modifications are detailed in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto, and incorporated into this resolution by reference.

**Section 2:** Onshore moorings that (1) lack an assigned vessel, and (2) do not meet the newly adopted specifications must be brought into compliance by the permittee's next scheduled overhaul or December 13, 2025, whichever occurs sooner.

**Section 3:** For onshore moorings with assigned vessels that meet the previous specifications, permittees will have until their second overhaul following the newly adopted Onshore Mooring Specifications to achieve compliance.

**Section 4:** The Recitals provided above are true and correct and are incorporated into the substantive portion of this resolution.

**Section 5:** The City Harbor Commission finds that the adoption of this resolution 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 156060(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.

**Section 6:** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution is, for any reason, held to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this resolution. The City Harbor Commission hereby declares that it would have passed this resolution, and each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**Section 7:** This action shall become final and effective 14 days following the date of adoption of this Resolution unless within such time an appeal or call for review is made in accordance with the provisions of NBMC Chapter 17.65 (Appeals or Calls for Review).

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_TH DAY OF JULY, 2025.**

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NOES: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chair

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary

Exhibit(s):

Exhibit A – Special Conditions

**EXHIBIT A**  
**City of Newport Beach**  
**OFFSHORE MOORING SPECIFICATIONS**  
**January 2022**

1. All mooring weights must be metal.
2. All chain must be a minimum of Grade 30 Proof Coil steel chain. Chain size specifications must be adhered to regardless of chain grade. Top and bottom chain must be shackled together to form one continuous length. Material other than steel chain may be used only upon written approval of the City of Newport Beach ("City") Harbormaster or his or her designee (collectively, "Harbormaster").
3. All mooring buoys must be: (1) the "tube-style" type (tube down the center of the buoy) or of such type as approved by the Harbormaster; and (2) painted in compliance with State and Newport Beach Municipal Code requirements, displaying numbers assigned by the Harbormaster. Any existing "ring-style" type buoys in use as of the date above may continue to be used if a safety chain is attached to the vessel, independent of the buoy, to prevent the vessel from swinging during buoy failure.
4. Vessels must be moored fore and aft except in exposed areas designated as single point areas.
5. The required chain length will be determined by the Harbormaster and is governed by the depth of water in various mooring areas.
6. Sand-line moorings may be allowed upon written approval of the Harbormaster.
7. The length of any vessel attached to a mooring must be equal to or less than the City approved mooring length.
8. If a mooring fails (i.e., moves) due to insufficient weight, the mooring permittee shall immediately increase the mooring's weight by at least 20%.
9. Minimum mooring weight, chain size, and line requirements are as follows:

10. Mooring (feet)	Mooring Weight* (pounds)	Bottom Chain Size*(inches)	Top Chain Size*(inches)
20'	500	1/2"	1/2"
25'	650	1/2"	1/2"
30'	750	1/2"	1/2"
35' or 20'	1,000	5/8"	1/2"
40' or 40'	1,500	5/8"	1/2"
45'	2,000	3/4"	1/2"
50'	2,000	3/4"	1/2"
55'	2,500	3/4"	1/2"
60'	3,000	3/4"	1/2"
65'	3,000	1"	1/2"
70'	3,500	1"	5/8"
75'	3,500	1"	5/8"
80'	4,000	1"	3/4"
85'	4,500	1"	3/4"
90'	5,000	1"	3/4"
95'	5,000	1"	3/4"

\* Weight and chain size shown in this table are minimums. Mooring permittee may adjust upward.

Minimum Line Requirements		
Length of Boat in Feet	Diameter of Nylon or Dacron in Inches	Length of Line Not to Exceed
18' to 20'	1/2	10 Feet
20' to 25'	1/2	10 Feet
25' to 30'	5/8	10 Feet
30' to 40'	5/8	12 Feet
40' to 50'	3/4	15 Feet
50' to 70'	1	15 Feet

**City of Newport Beach**  
**ONSHORE MOORING SPECIFICATIONS**  
**June 2025**

1. All mooring weights shall be metal.
2. Posts are not allowed for onshore moorings unless there is not a wall for securing the mooring.
3. Onshore moorings should connect directly to the seawall with an eyebolt.
4. Buoy and post / eyebolt shall have a pulley attached with a line of not less than 3/8 inch diameter at all times. Vessel is to be moored securely thereto, bow and stern and must not be left on the beach.
5. All mooring buoys shall be of such type as approved by the Harbormaster, painted in compliance with State and Newport Beach Municipal Code requirements and displaying numbers assigned by the Harbormaster.
6. Minimum mooring weight and chain requirements are as follows:

<u>Mooring Length</u>	<u>Weight of Mooring</u>	<u>Size of Chain</u>	<u>Length of Chain</u>
18 feet	300 pounds	3/8 inches	25 feet