



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH HARBOR COMMISSION AGENDA

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

Wednesday, February 11, 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 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 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 January 14, 2026 Harbor Commission Regular Meeting

[01.14.2026 Harbor Commission Meeting Minutes Draft](#)

[01.14.2026 Harbor Commission Meeting Minutes Draft- Secretary Scully](#)

6) CURRENT BUSINESS

6.1 Restoring Oysters in Newport Harbor and Commensurate Benefits

James Ulcickas and Kaysha Kenney will provide information on their efforts and methods for restoring oyster populations in Newport Harbor. They will also discuss the benefits of these restoration efforts including support for harbor structures, water quality and water clarity.

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 - End of Year Impact Report](#)

6.2 Abandoned Vessel Abatement Program - Final update on vessels New Beginnings and Haven

Harbor Department staff are responsible for identifying and preventing derelict vessels from entering and remaining in Newport Harbor. If these vessels are abandoned within the harbor, code enforcement officers initiate an abatement process to remove the vessels, using SAVE grant money to cover a portion of the removal and destruction costs.

This report will update the Harbor Commission on the recent removal and destruction of two abandoned vessels, “New Beginnings” and “Haven”, highlighting difficulties and lessons learned.

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](#)

6.3 Action on Recommended Revisions to NBMC

Included in the Harbor Commission's 2024 Objectives is objective number 1 the title of which is "Conduct annual review of Title 17 and recommend updates to City Council where necessary." The full Commission will listen to and provide input on a proposal prepared by the subcommittee responsible for that objective.

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. Consider a proposal from the subcommittee responsible for the current Harbor Commission Objective 1 on potential revisions to the Newport Beach Municipal Code (NBMC) related to the harbor; and
3. If agreed to, direct staff to return at a future harbor Commission meeting with a Resolution to forward the recommended revisions to the City Council for their consideration and adoption.

Staff Report

[Attachment A - Sections to Consider for Revision 202602 - FINAL](#)

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

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

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

Attachment A- Draft 2026 Harbor Commission Objectives

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 - January 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) COMMISSIONER 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 OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 5 p.m.

11) ADJOURNMENT