



== CITY OF ==

# NEWPORT BEACH

## Harbor Commission Staff Report

February 12, 2020  
Agenda Item No. 6.2

**TO:** HARBOR COMMISSION

**FROM:** Kurt Borsting, Harbormaster, (949) 270-8158  
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**TITLE:** Harbormaster Update – January 2020 Activities

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**ABSTRACT:**

The Harbormaster is responsible for the management of the City's mooring fields, the Marina Park Guest Marina and Harbor on-water code enforcement activities. This report will update the Commission on the Harbor Department's activities for January 2020.

**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, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.
- 2) Receive and file.

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS:**

There is no fiscal impact related to this item.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Staff Recruitment Efforts**

Part-time Harbor Department staff recruitment efforts took place during January 2020 for two employee classifications, the Department Assistant as well two Harbor Service Worker Lead positions. The Department Assistant recruitment resulted in a successful hire, with the selected candidate scheduled to start work with the Harbor Department on Monday, February 17. The Harbor Service Worker Lead recruitment process remains on-going. Following the primary screening of applications, eight (8) candidates were advanced by Human Resources staff for first-round panel interviews, which took place on Thursday, January 27. Second round interviews will be scheduled soon, with the goal of completing the hiring process by the end of February.

## **2019 Pumpout Monitoring Data / Instructional Infographics**

The Bay Foundation provided the Harbor Department with summary data from their 2019 monitoring/testing efforts of public pumpout equipment owned and maintained by the City of Newport Beach. This independent organization is contracted through the Division of Boating and Waterways to conduct quarterly on-site inspections of the City's marine waste pumpout stations.

City equipment was deemed operable in nineteen out of twenty cases, as part of these quarterly inspections (during the November 2019 inspection one of the two systems at the 15<sup>th</sup> Street location was out of service). In nineteen out of twenty cases, condition of hoses were assessed as "looking new", and in sixteen out of twenty cases condition of nozzles were reported as "looking new". In the nine months between the February 2019 and November 2019 inspections, more than 237 hours of pumpout activity was collectively metered on the City's equipment.

Efforts are currently underway to improve the signage and instructional infographics located at the various City owned pumpout stations. These infographics are aimed assisting users in use of these systems as well as encouraging prompt reporting of broken or otherwise inoperable equipment.

## **West Anchorage Proposal Update**

On January 16, 2020 a follow up teleconference call was held between the US Coast Guard's LA/LB Sector Base staff and representatives of the City of Newport Beach (Commissioner Beer and staff members K. Borsting and C. Miller). The meeting focused on potential configurations of potential future anchorage area, proposed west of Lido Island. Next steps in pursuing this proposal include updating previously developed navigational studies associated with this area of the Harbor as well as conducting public outreach efforts, after which the City can resubmit the anchorage proposal for the USCG's consideration.

## **Annual Harbor Attendance**

During January 2020, Harbor Department staff and several Harbor Commissioners began preliminary outreach efforts to stakeholder groups, requesting available customer and harbor user counts associated with their respective activities. Examples of these counts include: passenger counts from commercial vessels; participant counts from collegiate programs; and attendance counts from scheduled harbor activities and special events. Outreach and data collection efforts are expected to continue for the next few months, with the goal of establishing a well-founded annualized attendance estimate of the number of people who visit and make use of Newport Harbor each year.

## **Code Enforcement Activity**

During January 2020, Code Enforcement staff opened 118 new cases and successfully resolved/closed 69 files. Staff primarily focused on permittees with significantly delinquent mooring overhauls. These overhauls were largely past due from three to six months. Eighty-two warning notices, forty-three verbal warnings and three administrative citations were issued during the month.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

Staff recommends the Harbor Commission 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, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in 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 – Harbor Department Statistics, Fiscal Year through January 2020