

City of Newport Beach

Harbor Commission Purpose & Charter

Newport Harbor supports numerous recreational and commercial activities, waterfront residential communities and scenic and biological resources. The purpose of the Harbor Commission is to provide the City of Newport Beach with an advisory body representing these diverse uses of Newport Harbor and its waterfront.

1. Advise the City Council in all matters pertaining to the use, control, operation, promotion and regulation of all vessels and watercraft within Newport Harbor.
2. Approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove applications on all harbor permits where the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code assigns the authority for the decision to the Harbor Commission.
3. Serve as an appellate and reviewing body for decisions of the City Manager on harbor permits, leases, and other harbor-related administrative matters where the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code assigns such authority to the Harbor Commission.
4. Advise the City Council on proposed harbor-related improvements.
5. Advise the Planning Commission and City Council on land use and property development applications referred to the Harbor Commission by the City Council, Planning Commission, or the City Manager.
6. Make recommendations to the City Council for the adoption of regulations and programs necessary for the ongoing implementation of the goals, objectives, policies of the Harbor and Bay Element of the General Plan, the Harbor Area Management Plan, and the Tidelands Capital Plan.
7. Advise the City Council on the implementation of assigned parts of the Tidelands Capital Plan such as:
 - Dredging priorities
 - In-bay beach sand replenishment priorities
 - Harbor amenities such as mooring support service areas and public docks

Harbor Commission - Objectives

The following objectives are intended to support the mission of the Harbor Area Management Plan and the two most essential responsibilities of the Harbor Commission: (1) Ensuring the long-term welfare of Newport Harbor for all residential, recreational, and commercial users; (2) Promoting Newport Harbor as a preferred and welcoming destination for visitors and residents alike.

These updated objectives are subject to the review and approval of the Commission, and final approval by the Newport Beach City Council. Harbor Commission ad hoc committees, as established by the Commission, bear principal responsibility for coordinating the Commission's efforts, along with staff support, in achieving these Objectives.

City of Newport Beach - Harbor Commission Objectives

Updated July 8, 2020

2020 Objectives	Functional Area
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete current version of Title 17 while maintaining suggestions for future revisions. (Yahn) 2. Study and make recommendations for changes on Marine Activities Permits. Identify all Stakeholders within the Harbor who will require a Marine Activities Permit. (Williams, Yahn) 3. Help identify derelict vessels in the harbor including recommendations for limiting the inflow of derelict vessels into the harbor. (Beer) 4. Study and provide recommendations for shore moorings including transfer permit policy. (Beer, Cunningham) 	<p>1. Harbor Operations (Kenney)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to the Management, Policies, Codes, Regulations, and Enforcement.</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate potential enhancements to City amenities provided to mooring permittees, residents, and visitors. (Scully) 2. Support Staff with permanent anchorage at the west end of Lido Island. (Williams) 3. Evaluate options to consolidate and reduce the footprint of the mooring fields. (Yahn) 4. Continue pursuit of a second public launch ramp. (Kenney) 5. Complete evaluation for establishing day moorings off Big Corona beach. (Williams) 	<p>2. Harbor Viability (Beer)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Assets, Amenities, and Access.</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure timely closure of RGP54 permit renewal with emphasis on a more streamlined process. 2. Establish a sustainable program that consistently re-nourishes our harbor beaches. (Marston) 3. Support Staff to obtain funding and approval to dredge the federal navigational channels to its authorized design depth. 4. Study various dredging methodologies that provides consistent maintenance dredging and could help combat sea level rise and coastal erosion. (Marston) 	<p>3. Harbor Infrastructure (Cunningham)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Sea Walls, Sea Level Rise, Dredging, Docks, and Beaches.</i></p>

2020 Objectives	Functional Area
<p>1. Develop a plan to communicate and assist Stakeholders required to complete and meet the newly defined Marine Activities Permit program. (Marston)</p> <p>2. Assist Staff in developing a communication outreach to the Stakeholders similar to the program in place with the Mooring Association. (Marston)</p> <p>3. Continue a dialogue with representatives of the Harbor Charter Fleet industry, other commercial vessel operators and rental concessionaires to promote best practices for charter and commercial boat operations in Newport Harbor with particular attention to vessel specifications, noise and pollution control/compliance and long-range plans for berthing. (Williams)</p> <p>4. Support Staff in the Harbor Attendance Study. (Yahn)</p>	<p>4. Harbor Stakeholders (Scully)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Residential, Recreational, and Commercial Users.</i></p>
<p>1. Draft a Harbor Plan that can be used independently or in conjunction with an update to the General Plan. Special attention should be made to preservation of marine related activities and businesses in Newport Harbor. (Williams)</p> <p>2. Evaluate and make recommendations for Lower Castaways. (Marston)</p>	<p>5. Harbor Vision (Yahn)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Community Outreach and the General Plan update</i></p>