

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

Approved January 12, 2021

2021 Objectives	Functional Area
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct an annual review of Title 17 and recommend updates to the City Council where necessary. (Yahn) 2. Conduct an annual review of the Marine Activities Permits and recommend updates thereto as necessary. (Williams, Yahn) 3. Review the onshore and offshore mooring permit forms and recommend updates as necessary. (Beer, Cunningham) 4. Study and provide recommendations to the transfer permit policy for onshore and offshore moorings. (Beer, Cunningham) 5. Work with City staff on an update of the market rent to be charged for onshore and offshore moorings. (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 and/or services to City amenities which will improve the operation and enjoyment of the Harbor for mooring permittees, residents, commercial slip holders, and visitors. (Scully) 2. With the assistance of Staff, continue the process for establishing a permanent anchorage at the west end of Lido Island. (Beer) 3. Finalize a new Harbor Policy H-3 to set guidelines for approving mooring extension requests by mooring permittees, and better defining the rows and fairways within the mooring fields for improved navigation, safety and optimization of space. (Beer) 4. Review the On-shore mooring vessel specifications providing a long-term plan with the goal of insuring adequate spacing between moorings, residential docks, and street ends. (Cunningham, Scully) 5. Evaluate options for additional City Moorings and/or Multi Vessel Mooring Systems (MVMS) for temporary use by visiting mariners or long-term mooring permittees. (Williams) 	<p>2. Harbor Viability (Beer)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Assets, Amenities, and Access.</i></p>

2021 Objectives	Functional Area
<p>6. Complete evaluation for establishing day moorings off Big Corona beach and harbor moorings. (Williams)</p> <p>7. Evaluate and make recommendations for Lower Castaways. (Marston)</p>	
<p>1. Secure timely closure of RGP54 permit renewal with emphasis on a more streamlined process.</p> <p>2. Recommend a long-term plan for harbor beach enhancements, which includes the option of eliminating shore mooring tackle on our most popular beaches. (Marston, Scully)</p> <p>3. Support Staff to obtain funding and approval to dredge the federal navigational channels to its authorized design depth.</p> <p>4. Kick off fine grain sediment disposal study in near shore waters. Evaluate sustainable dredging options for beneficial reuse along the Newport Beach shoreline. (Marston)</p>	<p>3. Harbor Infrastructure (Cunningham)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Sea Walls, Sea Level Rise, Dredging, Docks, and Beaches.</i></p>
<p>1. Develop a plan to communicate and assist Stakeholders required to complete and meet the newly defined Marine Activities Permit program. Work with Harbor Department staff to identify all Stakeholders within the Harbor who will require a Marine Activities permit and assist Stakeholders in obtaining the same. (Marston)</p> <p>2. Develop a communication outreach program for all Stakeholders within Newport Harbor to ensure that all Residential, Recreational and Commercial users have a voice in the management and development of Newport Harbor. (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 all charter and commercial boat operations in Newport Harbor with particular attention to vessel sizes, number of vessels, noise and pollution control/compliance and long-range plans for berthing. (Williams)</p>	<p>4. Harbor Stakeholders (Scully)</p> <p><i>Matters pertaining to Residential, Recreational, and Commercial Users.</i></p>