

**CITY OF REDONDO BEACH
HARBOR COMMISSION AGENDA
Monday, February 8, 2021**

**THIS VIRTUAL MEETING IS HELD PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY
GOVERNOR NEWSOM ON MARCH 17, 2020.**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE HARBOR COMMISSION - 6:30 PM

**ALL COMMISSION MEMBERS ARE PARTICIPATING BY VIRTUAL
MEETING. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ONLY PARTICIPATE BY
ZOOM, EMAIL OR eCOMMENT.**

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If you are participating by phone, be sure to provide your phone # when registering. You will be provided a Toll Free number and a Meeting ID to access the meeting. Note; press # to bypass Participant ID. Attendees will be muted until the public participation period is opened. When you are called on to speak, press *6 to unmute your line. Note, comments from the public are limited to 3 minutes per speaker.

eCOMMENT: COMMENTS MAY BE ENTERED DIRECTLY ON WEBSITE AGENDA PAGE:

- 1) Public comments can be entered before and during the meeting.
- 2) Select a SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM to enter your comment;
- 3) Public will be prompted to Sign-Up to create a free personal account (one-time) and then comments may be added to each Agenda item of interest.
- 4) Public comments entered into eComment (up to 2200 characters; equal to approximately 3 minutes of oral comments) will become part of the official meeting record. Comments may be read out loud during the meeting.

EMAIL: TO PARTICIPATE BY WRITTEN COMMUNICATION WITH ATTACHED DOCUMENTS BEFORE 3PM DAY OF MEETING:

Written materials that include attachments pertaining to matters listed on the posted agenda received after the agenda has been published will be added as supplemental materials under

REGULAR MEETING OF THE HARBOR COMMISSION - 6:30 PM

- A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- B. ROLL CALL**
- C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**
- D. APPROVE ORDER OF AGENDA**
- E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS - ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS**

Blue folder items are additional back up material to administrative reports and/or public comments received after the printing and distribution of the agenda packet for receive and file.

- E.1. [For Blue Folder Documents Approved at the Harbor Commission Meeting](#)**

- F. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Business items, except those formally noticed for public hearing, or discussion are assigned to the Consent Calendar. The Commission Members may request that any Consent Calendar item(s) be removed, discussed, and acted upon separately. Items removed from the Consent Calendar will be taken up under the "Excluded Consent Calendar" section below. Those items remaining on the Consent Calendar will be approved in one motion following Oral Communications.

- F.1. [APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2021.](#)**
- F.2. [APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: JANUARY 11, 2021](#)**

- G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

- H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

This section is intended to provide members of the public with the opportunity to comment on any subject that does not appear on this agenda for action. This section is limited to 30 minutes. Each speaker will be afforded three minutes to address the Commission. Each speaker will be permitted to speak only once. Written requests, if any, will be considered first under this section.

- H.1. [For eComments and Emails Received from the Public](#)**

- I. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS**

- J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION**

- J.1. [RECEIVE AND FILE LETTER FROM HARBOR COMMISSION TO ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGARDING THE DREDGING OF KING HARBOR](#)**

[DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A LETTER TO THE REDONDO BEACH CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE DREDGING OF KING HARBOR](#)
- J.2. [DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PREPARE A PUBLIC AMENITIES MASTER PLAN FOR KING HARBOR](#)**
- J.3. [DIRECTOR'S REPORT](#)**

K. MEMBER ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF

L. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Redondo Beach Harbor Commission will be a regular meeting to be held at 6:30 p.m. on March 8, 2021, in the Redondo Beach Council Chambers, at 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California via teleconference.

It is the intention of the City of Redondo Beach 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, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 318-0656 at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Please advise us at that time if you will need accommodations to attend or participate in meetings on a regular basis.

An agenda packet is available 24 hours at www.redondo.org under the City Clerk.



Administrative Report

E.1., File # HC21-2035

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

TITLE

For Blue Folder Documents Approved at the Harbor Commission Meeting



Administrative Report

F.1., File # HC21-2033

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

TO: HARBOR COMMISSION

FROM: STEPHEN PROUD, WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

TITLE

APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING OF
FEBRUARY 8, 2021.

ATTACHMENTS

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR FEBRUARY 8, 2021 HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING

Waterfront & Economic
Development Department

415 Diamond Street
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

tel 310-372-1171
fax 310-937-6621

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) SS
CITY OF REDONDO BEACH)

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

In compliance with the Brown Act, the following materials have been posted at the locations indicated below.

Legislative Body Harbor Commission

Posting Type Regular Meeting Agenda

Posting Locations 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, CA 90277
✓ City Hall Kiosk

Meeting Date & Time February 8, 2021, 6:30 pm

As the W.E.D. representative at the City of Redondo Beach, I declare, under penalty of perjury, the document noted above was posted at the date displayed below.



Elizabeth Hause, Senior Management Analyst

Date: February 3, 2021



Administrative Report

F.2., File # HC21-2034

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

TO: HARBOR COMMISSION

FROM: STEPHEN PROUD, WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

TITLE

APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: JANUARY 11, 2021

ATTACHMENTS

MINUTES - JANUARY 11, 2021

**MINUTES OF THE
REDONDO BEACH HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 11, 2021**

A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A Virtual regular meeting of the Harbor Commission was held pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020 and was called to order by Chair Light at 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Bauer, Callahan, Carlson, Chrzan, Light, Kilroy

Commissioners Absent: Walters

Officials Present: Stephen Proud, W.E.D. Director
Elizabeth Hause, W.E.D.
Robert Metzger, Fire Chief, RBFD
Mario Fizulich, Police Patrol Captain, RBPB
Jeffrey Mendence, Police Lieutenant, RBPB
Ted Samaan, Public Works Director
Mike Klein, Public Works Assistant Director
Craig Stanton, Manager, RB Marina

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Carlson led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

D. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan to approve the order of the agenda. Motion carried, without objection.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS - None

E.1. For Blue Folder Documents Approved at the Harbor Commission Meeting

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1. APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2021

F.2. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: OCTOBER 12 AND 27, 2020

Commissioner Callahan pulled Item No. F.2. from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion.

W.E.D. Director Proud announced there were no public eComments or emails received from the public regarding the Consent Calendar.

Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to approve Item No. F.1. of the Consent Calendar, as presented. Motion carried, without objection.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

G.1. (F.2.) APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: OCTOBER 12 AND 27, 2020

Commissioner Callahan referenced Page 4, second paragraph of the minutes from October 27, 2020 relative to her question regarding dredging in the Harbor and clarified she questioned why the proposal was to dump so close to the entrance of the Harbor.

There were no public or eComments on this item.

Motion by Commissioner Callahan, seconded by Commissioner Bauer, to approve Item No. G.1. with the minutes of October 12, 2020 as presented and the minutes of October 27, 2020, as corrected. Motion carried, without objection.

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

W.E.D. Director Proud announced there were no public, eComments or emails received from the public.

I. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS

Chair Light referenced previous discussions regarding generating a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers and to Council and requested adding the latter to a future agenda.

J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

J.1. QUARTERLY PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Fire Chief Robert Metzger presented a quarterly update of Fire Department Harbor Patrol statistics and comparisons between 2019 and 2020 for various categories of activities and addressed notable incidents and issuance of citations.

Chair Kilroy commented on increased swimming incidents, PFDs, and SUPs and in response to his questions, Chief Metzger clarified the location of the boat fire and expanded on the matter of the Harbor Patrol having authority to issue citations. The matter is being reviewed by the City Attorney's office in terms of the need to change the Municipal Code.

Commissioner Carlson discussed PFDs; noted there is a restroom sign close to and around the area of the hand launch and asked about staff coverage. Chief Metzger reported positively on staffing; noted challenges with the recruiting/hiring process and speculated it will be completed by third quarter or mid-year.

Commissioner Callahan commented on the significant events of 2020; noted increased activities at the Harbor and thanked Chief Metzger for the report.

Commissioner Bauer asked about increases in sea life disposal and Chief Metzger stated he has no explanation.

Chair Kilroy mentioned parties in the harbor and asked for an update. Chief Metzger reported there have been several incidents; noted there are processes that must be followed for planned events that are being disregarded. Chair Kilroy expressed concerns that people may not be taking proper safety precautions.

Commissioner Chrzan referenced PFD violations and suggested the need for increased education to lower incidents.

Police Patrol Captain Mario Fizulich introduced himself and looked forward to working with the Commission in the future.

Lieutenant Jeffrey Mendence presented an overview of statistics; addressed calls for service in the harbor; spoke about striking a balance in terms of enforcement; discussed public outreach, foot patrols and safety-related messaging and listed typical violations, citations issued and provided an update on the repair and maintenance of the vessel.

Chair Kilroy asked about the Police level of engagement related to boat parties and Lieutenant Mendence reported on enforcement monitoring and actions taken.

Sergeant Jason Sapien reported no citations have been issued but crime reports were taken and submitted to the City Attorney's office.

Chair Kilroy requested copies of crime reports related to boat parties. Lieutenant Mendence will check with the City Attorney's office to determine whether they can be released and distributed. Sergeant Sapien explained citations related to poaching were issued for poaching inside the harbor.

Commissioner Callahan asked about the number of mental illness reports and Lieutenant Mendence explained the Police Department has a co-response model for mental illness calls where clinicians from the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health ride with officers for critical incidents. He added every officer is trained on the signs of mental illness and appropriate referrals for assessment; discussed a shortfall of LPS beds, assessment, and processing.

Commissioner Carlson asked about staffing on the water and Lieutenant Mendence reported no drastic changes. Commissioner Carlson suggested adding boater license checks to future reports.

Discussion followed regarding handling boat parties according to individual circumstances and assessments, maintaining relations with the community, the wide range of possible violations, enforcing existing regulations and encouraging people to follow proper procedures in terms of completing the City's permitting process.

In response to Commissioner Carlson's question, W.E.D. Director Proud explained the application and permitting process for special events.

Lieutenant Mendence discussed potential steps in enforcement.

Commissioner Callahan questioned requiring permits for other events; suggested issuing an alert to City staff, Police and Harbor Patrol and recommended distributing rules to the public. She added that she trusts the Police and other City Departments to deal with violators.

Commissioner Callahan agreed with Commissioner Callahan and commended the Police Department and Harbor Patrol for dealing with the situation.
Commissioner Chrzan agreed; reiterated that education may resolve the matter and urged the City to take a proactive approach.

Chair Kilroy commended on the need for residents to feel responsible and be accountable.

Commissioner Bauer spoke positively regarding the issuance of permits and streamlining the process to be user-friendly; discussed the need to disseminate the rules and recommended taking a proactive approach.

Commissioner Kilroy agreed with Commissioner Callahan's comments and suggested leaving the item in the hands of public safety personnel to resolve.

Chief Metzger noted music on the water qualifies as a special event and the City already has a process in place to address them. He added that the value of the permitting process in reviewing the application describing the event noted it is a clear process.

Lieutenant Mendence reiterated the Fire Department would issue a crime report regarding the violation(s) to the City Attorney's office for review and actions.

Chief Metzger added the permit process identifies a responsible party through whom violations would be addressed.

Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to receive and file the Quarterly Public Safety Reports. Motion carried, without objection.

W.E.D. Director Proud announced Chief Metzger will be leaving the City and thanked him for all his support and work and wished him well in his new endeavors.

J.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE STATUS OF TRANSIENT VESSEL MOORINGS IN THE MAIN HARBOR CHANNEL

W.E.D. Director Proud presented an overview of the item; addressed direction from City Council to staff to explore removal of all or a portion of the moorings to reduce maintenance expenses; provided background; spoke about requirements in the agreement pertaining to reimbursement of funds on a pro-rata basis for moorings that might be removed; talked about the formula used to determine the value of moorings; listed reimbursement amounts for removal of 15 and 25 moorings; discussed mooring maintenance, costs, revenues and retaining versus removing moorings and presented recommendations.

Discussion followed regarding the impact on maintenance costs by reducing moorings by 50%, the possibility of rotating disabled moorings back into service, continual monitoring and adjustments, steps to take to avoid triggering repayment of the grant, the present mooring percent occupancy, availability of peak-season mooring statistics, assessing opportunities to increase mooring usage and quarterly cleanings and annual underwater inspections.

Commissioner Kilroy asked about total costs to install the 25 moorings; agreed with hibernating a set number of moorings but keeping the mooring field alive and well; suggested cutting maintenance in proportion to the number of operational moorings; talked about the number of moorings needed to

accommodate demand and noted the need to consider mooring hibernating costs. He suggested adjusting the number of available moorings on a quarterly basis.

Commissioner Chrzan commented on the need for flexibility; asked about pass-through of revenues and decrease in revenues in past years. W.E.D. Director Proud reported a decrease in revenues occurred when the harbor was being operated by the Harbor Patrol Division.

Commissioner Carlson agreed with previous comments; noted this is a good time to save money and asked about Beach Life paying for a lot of the mooring field. RB Marina Manager Stanton noted there was a spike from the Beach Life Festival in 2019 and addressed the policy for use of the dingy dock. Commissioner Carlson commented in favor of keeping mooring buoys as they serve as a feature or barriers for stand-up paddle boarders.

Commissioner Callahan stated one of the reason moorings are not used is due to the lack of amenities in the harbor; spoke in support of hibernating moorings rather than removing them and asked about plans for the mooring during dredging. W.E.D. Director Proud reported he would need to review whether there are any conflicts relative to disposition of the dredge materials versus the mooring field.

Commissioner Bauer spoke about increasing the utilization of moorings and asked why utilization increased when the marina took over. RB Marina Manager Stanton suggested they were more accessible than the Harbor Patrol. W.E.D. Director Proud added the City increased outreach and advertising and increased presence/awareness in various locations.

Brief discussion followed regarding the moorings to be hibernated and recommended actions.

W.E.D. Director Proud announced there were no public, eComments or emails received from the public on this item.

Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, that the Harbor Commission recommend to the City Council not to permanently remove any moorings, not to be in a position to refund grant moneys, and let staff determine how many moorings to hibernate in any given quarter to reduce maintenance expenses. Motion carried, unanimously, by roll call vote.

Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to receive and file the report. Motion carried, without objection.

J.3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Previous Council Items

- City Council considered consents to amendments for subleases on Redondo Beach Landing leaseholds
- Discussed the Skate Park at pad ten
- Held a strategic plan meeting and discussed a public amenity plan
- Moved forward with the Kingsdale site for the pallet shelter program
- Approved free holiday parking for the pier garage
- Received an annual report from the Redondo Beach Tourism Management District

Upcoming Council Items

- City Council will consider development of a Public Amenities Master Plan

Miscellaneous Follow-up Items

- Changing COVID-19 restrictions and rent deferrals
- Harbor Patrol docks
- Hotel renaming/rebranding
- Dredging

Commissioner Carlson asked about upcoming events and W.E.D. Director Proud reported the Kite Festival will be postponed and the Pier Association is not undertaking any events through the end of April. Commissioner Carlson suggested considering car service for the pier restaurant group.

Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to receive and file the report. Motion carried, without objection.

K. MEMBER ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF

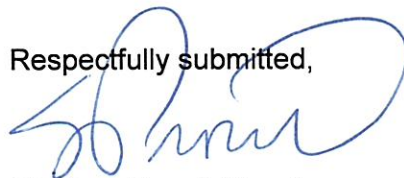
Commissioner Callahan asked to place an updated Vacancy Report on the agenda for the Commission's meeting in February and requested reviewing the dredging overlay of the moorings.

Chair Light discussed a review of the dredging letter to City Council and requested an update on the Skate Park and the EAS site.

L. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:00 p.m., Chair Light adjourned the meeting to the next regular meeting of the Harbor Commission on February 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Proud, Director
Waterfront & Economic Development



Administrative Report

H.1., **File #** HC21-2039

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

TITLE

For eComments and Emails Received from the Public



Administrative Report

J.1., File # HC21-2051

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

To: HARBOR COMMISSION

From: STEPHEN PROUD, WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

TITLE

RECEIVE AND FILE LETTER FROM HARBOR COMMISSION TO ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGARDING THE DREDGING OF KING HARBOR

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A LETTER TO THE REDONDO BEACH CITY COUNCIL REGARDING THE DREDGING OF KING HARBOR

BACKGROUND

On October 27, 2020, the Redondo Beach Harbor Commission held a special meeting to discuss the proposed maintenance dredging in King Harbor. The meeting was convened to discuss and respond to a public notice issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers ("ACOE") soliciting public comment on the proposed dredging project. After an extensive discussion, the Harbor Commission voted to prepare and send two letters. The first was a comment letter sent to the ACOE on October 29, 2020 expressing the Commission's concern related to various technical aspects of the project (attached as Exhibit A). The second letter is to the Redondo Beach City Council outlining several requests/recommendations to the Council regarding the dredging project (attached as Exhibit B).

Staff is recommending that the Harbor Commission receive and file the letter to the ACOE and that the Commission review the draft letter to the City Council and provide appropriate direction.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A: 2020-10-29 Comment Letter to ACOE

Exhibit B: Draft Letter to Redondo Beach City Council

From: Roger Carlson <xxxxxxx@xxx.com>

Subject: Comments on from Redondo Beach Harbor Commission, re SPL-2019-00541-VN, King Harbor Maintenance Dredging

Date: October 29, 2020 at 08:04:59 PDT

To: vanessa.navarro@usace.army.mil

10/29/2020

To: Vanessa Navarro

Project Manager, SPL-2019-00541-VN, King Harbor Maintenance Dredging

US Army Corps of Engineers

Los Angeles District

From:

The Redondo Beach Harbor Commission

415 Diamond St,

Redondo Beach, California 90277

Ms. Navarro:

The Redondo Beach Harbor Commission respectfully submits the following comments regarding Public Notice / Application Number SPL-2019-00541-VN, King Harbor Maintenance Dredging.

The Harbor Commission is in favor of this project and welcomes the continued support for King Harbor from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The project (and any future usage of the USACE Nearshore Placement Site) should be scheduled to occur between January 1st and July 15 in any given year, to minimize impact on Giant Sea Bass, *Stereolepis gigas*, an internationally recognized critically endangered species, due to presence of juvenile giant sea bass from July 15 to Dec 31.

Additionally, the exact location of the placement site should be clearly defined, and should be south of the rock groin at Topaz Street, to minimize impact on the area over which juvenile giant sea bass are found.

The Harbor Commission would like to bring the attached paper and statement regarding the presence of juvenile giant sea bass to the attention of the Army Corps. Refer to attachment A and B.

The Harbor Commission requests that the permit allow up to 100% of dredged material to be placed at the USACE Nearshore Placement Site, for the following reasons:

- Existing sand flow has caused material buildup in the narrow basin 3 channel, the proposed southern dredging site. Similar material, dense large grain sand, has built up significantly at the hand launch vessel dock, in the northeast area of the turning basin, and is unassessed in the submitted analysis. This area is also one possible site for a future boat ramp. The Harbor Commission is concerned that sand migration within the harbor has not been evaluated and is not fully understood. Without further study, the Commission has significant concerns that placing sand in the in-harbor placement site will necessitate additional dredging sooner and

more frequently than is desirable.

- The effect of redistributing lighter material, silt, and chemicals including DDT, PCBs, and Chlordane, even in relatively smaller quantities, in the enclosed harbor area, will have an unknown but potentially negative impact on harbor activity including stand up paddleboarding, outrigger canoes, other paddlecraft, fishing, and the take of localized species including finfish, lobster and oysters. It is preferable to place the material outside the harbor where it will receive greater dilution and unrestricted current flow.
- The impact on environmentally sensitive species within the harbor cannot be determined and should be avoided. There are reports of Broomtail Grouper, *Mycteroperca xenarcha*, within the harbor, and recent unofficial surveys have found eelgrass, assumed to be present seasonally. Refer to attachment C.

Thank you for managing this project. The members of the Harbor Commission are all residents of Redondo Beach, and we greatly appreciate the Corps' work in our community.

Very respectfully,

Redondo Beach Harbor Commission Harbor Dredging Subcommittee

Roger Carlson, Subcommittee Chairperson

Matt Kilroy, Subcommittee Member

Jim Light, Subcommittee Member



Grey Owl Biological Consulting
716 Marguerite Avenue, Corona del Mar, California 92625
(949) 644-7127 mikecouffer@gmail.com

October 27, 2020

Ms. Vanessa Navarro
United States Army Corps of Engineers

Subject: Comments on King Harbor Maintenance Dredging Project Permit Application
SPL-2019-00541-VN and Supportive Documentation Relating to the Redondo Beach
Giant Sea Bass Nursery Site

Dear Ms. Navarro,

What follows are comments on the King Harbor Maintenance Dredging Project permit application SPL-2019-00541-VN and its supportive documentation that was submitted to the Redondo Beach Harbor Commission in mid-October of 2020.

Michael C. Couffer is a professional consulting biologist who has studied the Giant Sea Bass (*Stereolepis gigas*) nursery site along the City of Redondo's shoreline since 2014. I have spent over 365 hours underwater surveying known and potential nursery sites in California, and my research is ongoing. My latest and most relevant scientific paper on the species was published in the premier issue of California Department of Fish and Wildlife's *California Fish and Wildlife Journal* in February of 2020 titled *Planning shoreline infrastructure projects at Redondo Beach, California to avoid impacting a Giant Sea Bass (Stereolepis gigas) nursery site* (February 2020, California Fish and Wildlife Journal 106(1):11-18.). A PDF of my published paper accompanies this letter.

The paper provides information about Giant Sea Bass (GSB) nursery sites where young-of-the-year of GSB mature for the first few months after planktonic settlement and it makes recommendations for avoiding or minimizing impacts on young-of-the-year of GSB or their habitat during beach sand replenishment, harbor dredging, substantial pier or jetty construction, or other major nearshore construction and maintenance projects planned within or adjacent to GSB nursery sites. This paper was published primarily to provide a road map to avoiding potential impacts on the most important GSB nursery site in California and it has been submitted and accepted into the City of Redondo Beach's public record.

Giant Sea Bass are designated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature as a Critically-Endangered species and were also prohibited from intentional take in California. After planktonic settlement, the majority of the young-of-the-year of GSB appear at depths between 2

and 38 meters (7 to 125 feet) at the heads of submarine canyons that begin close to soft-bottomed beaches. Young-of-the-year of GSB between total lengths of 10mm and 80mm (3/8 in to 3 1/4 in) occupy these nursery sites for several months. Of the only four GSB nursery sites found within California, the shallows between Redondo Beach Pier and Topaz Groin Jetty in the City of Redondo Beach have been found to support the highest density of the young-of-the-year of GSB anywhere in California.

Giant Sea Bass nursery sites are primarily occupied from mid-July to December 31; therefore, scheduling sand replenishment and major shoreline infrastructure projects to be implemented for the 6 1/2 months between January 1 and July 15 should avoid or greatly minimize impacts on the young-of-the-year of GSB because they are absent or at a very low density during that period. It appears that that clean sand placed on the beach by dump trucks or piped from barges and spread across beaches by rubber-tired equipment avoids or greatly minimizes impacts on GSB nursery sites throughout the year. No activities that could impact a GSB nursery site should occur between July 16 and December 31.

This paper was in large part written to offer the City of Redondo Beach and resource regulatory agencies some best management practices to follow when planning shoreline infrastructure projects. If permits restrict work to the months when the nursery site is unoccupied and dredge spoils are dumped in the harbor and the Temporary Nearshore Placement Area as mapped, there should be no significant impact on the young-of-the-year of GSB. No work schedule has yet been proposed, but the project would take at most 60 days. This gives the city and regulators the opportunity to restrict dredging and dumping to the 6 1/2 months between January 1st and July 15th to avoid potentially impacting this important nursery site.

The dredging project permit application states that "The dredging would be performed outside of the seabass spawning season between July and September." This is helpful but only partially correct -- the nursery site is active from July 15 to the end of the year.

The farther southward down the coast spoils are placed from the jetty and the nursery site, the better, but if spoils are placed in the Temporary Nearshore Placement Area, also called the Outer Harbor Placement Area as mapped in the Noble Consultants' and Chambers Group documentation during the period when the nursery site is unoccupied this should minimize or avoid impacts on nursery site. If spoils are placed or drift closer to Topaz Groin Jetty than the mapping indicates it could impact the nursery site; the nursery site begins off the end of Topaz Groin Jetty, not 3/4 of a mile north of the Placement Area as the Chambers Group biological technical report indicates.

For future projects, acquisition and screening of Placement Area sand should only occur between January 1 and July 15 when the nursery site is inactive and NOT between July 15 and the end of each year. Screening should also not occur in the water above or directly offshore from the nursery site between Redondo Pier and Topaz Groin Jetty.

Spoils pumped from the barge onto the dry sand along Redondo Beach could be done at any time of year without impacting the young-of-the-year of GSB. This would also help to replenish Redondo's beach sand, which must be undertaken periodically.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Couffer". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "M" and "C".

Michael C. Couffer
Grey Owl Biological Consulting

California Fish and Wildlife JOURNAL

VOLUME 106 • WINTER 2020 • NUMBER 1



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--LDA--

Planning shoreline infrastructure projects at Redondo Beach, California to avoid impacting a Giant Sea Bass nursery site

MICHAEL C. COUFFER*

Grey Owl Biological Consulting, Orange County, California

Present address: 716 Marguerite Avenue, Corona del Mar, California 92625, USA

**Corresponding Author: mikecouffer@gmail.com*

Key Words: Beach rehabilitation, giant sea bass, nursery site, *Stereolepis gigas*

Adult Giant Sea Bass (*Stereolepis gigas*) (GSB) are the largest bony fish inhabiting California's near-shore habitats (Love 2011). They were historically recorded at over 250 kg (551 lbs) (Domeier 2001) and have been dated to live up to 76 years of age (Hawk and Allen 2014). House et al. (2016) measured a fish by laser rangefinder at 2.75 m (9 ft) total length and estimated its weight at 381 kg (839 lbs). They range from Humboldt Bay, California to Oaxaca, Mexico, including the Gulf of California (Kells et al. 2016). After a population crash in the early 1900s, they were listed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a Critically-Endangered species (Musick et al. 2000; Cornish 2004), and were also prohibited from intentional take in California by fishermen.

While regulatory protection of adult GSB is important, protecting their young from take is also necessary in order to manage the species throughout its entire life cycle. Until recently, almost nothing was known about the habitat preferences and behavior of the young-of-the-year (YOY) of GSB so resource regulatory agencies had little information on which to base recommendations for avoidance or minimization of take during the planning and implementation of shoreline infrastructure construction or maintenance projects. This document provides information on the occupation of GSB nursery sites and makes recommendations for avoiding or minimizing GSB take during beach sand replenishment, harbor dredging, substantial pier or jetty maintenance, or other near-shore construction and maintenance projects planned within and near GSB nursery sites.

The YOY of GSB spend just under a month as floating eggs and planktonic larvae before settling (Benseman and Allen 2018). After planktonic settlement, YOY of GSB of total lengths between 10 and 80 mm (3/8 in to 3 1/4 in) have been found to occupy habitat between 2 and 38 m (7 to 125 ft) in depth (Couffer and Benseman 2015; Couffer 2017; Benseman and Allen 2018). YOY of GSB at this size range occupy wide expanses of open sand or sandy-mud habitat away from rocks, jetties, piers, debris, and other hard structures that often hold predators large enough to eat them at this vulnerable stage (Couffer and Benseman 2015; Couffer 2017; Benseman and Allen 2018; Benseman et al. *in press*).

Benseman and Allen (2018) found that newly-settled young were most abundant over soft-bottomed habitat at depths from 2 to 18 m (6 to 60 ft) within 300 m (984 ft) of the heads of submarine canyons that began close to shore, and that density fell precipitously at distances beyond 500 m (1,640 ft) from the heads of submarine canyons. Locations found to support the YOY of GSB included Redondo Beach at the southern end of Santa Monica Bay in Los Angeles County, the shallows surrounding Newport Pier and Big Corona del Mar State Beach in the City of Newport Beach in Orange County, and La Jolla Shores in San Diego County. To date, no focused surveys for the YOY of GSB have been conducted in Mexico. No significant submarine canyons that closely approach sandy shorelines exist along the Pacific coast of the Baja California peninsula until one rounds the tip of the peninsula. The topic of nursery sites within the Mexican portion of the species' range remains unexplored. Other locations within 2 km (1.2 mi) of California's submarine canyons were surveyed to sample soft-bottomed habitat at equivalent depths that were not significantly influenced by the presence of canyons. The author assisted with this field work and coordinated trained observer and photo-verified YOY of GSB detection reports from citizen scientist divers who dived year-round and opportunistically located the YOY of GSB between 2015 and December 2019. It was rare for the YOY of GSB to be found outside of the few YOY of GSB nursery sites mentioned above. An 760 m (831 yd) stretch of habitat off Redondo Beach in Los Angeles County inshore from the Redondo Submarine Canyon was found to support the highest seasonal density of the YOY of GSB of any location known (Benseman and Allen 2018). The Redondo Beach Giant Sea Bass Nursery Site is located south of King Harbor between the Redondo Pier and Topaz Jetty (Figure 1).

Following the completion of field work for Benseman and Allen's study, the author continued focused surveys within known and possible nursery sites during all appropriate seasons to date, amassing over 320 hours of focused YOY of GSB survey bottom time. The data collected at each YOY of GSB contact included color phase, overall length, bottom time to contact, initial behavior, depth, and temperature. Specific fish locations were determined by surfacing over each YOY of GSB for a few seconds and describing an object that was directly onshore. After the dive, a GPS was used to record coordinates at the waterline below that object, and the depth of the fish recorded during the dive was used to locate the fish directly offshore from these coordinates on a 1-foot contour chart (Figure 1). Figure 1 includes the color phase, depth, and specific location of all YOY of GSB that the author has detected within the Redondo Beach Nursery Site to date.

At least one YOY of GSB was detected within a nursery site during every month of the year except April and June. November produced the highest number of detections ($n = 63$), followed by September ($n = 45$) and December ($n = 40$). The collated dates of 210 YOY of GSB detections showed that GSB nursery sites were primarily occupied from August to the end of December.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) provides a regulatory framework for the identification and consideration of native species' nursery sites that might be negatively impacted by construction or maintenance projects requiring state permits. The Redondo Beach Nursery Site lies outside of all protected marine habitat and is subject to potential disturbance from periodic shoreline and infrastructure maintenance projects. King Harbor requires occasional dredging to keep channels open, and periodic activities are needed to maintain Redondo's pier, jetties and harbor channels. Man-made and natural sand transport barriers and coastal processes cause sand to erode from this stretch of coastline that is not

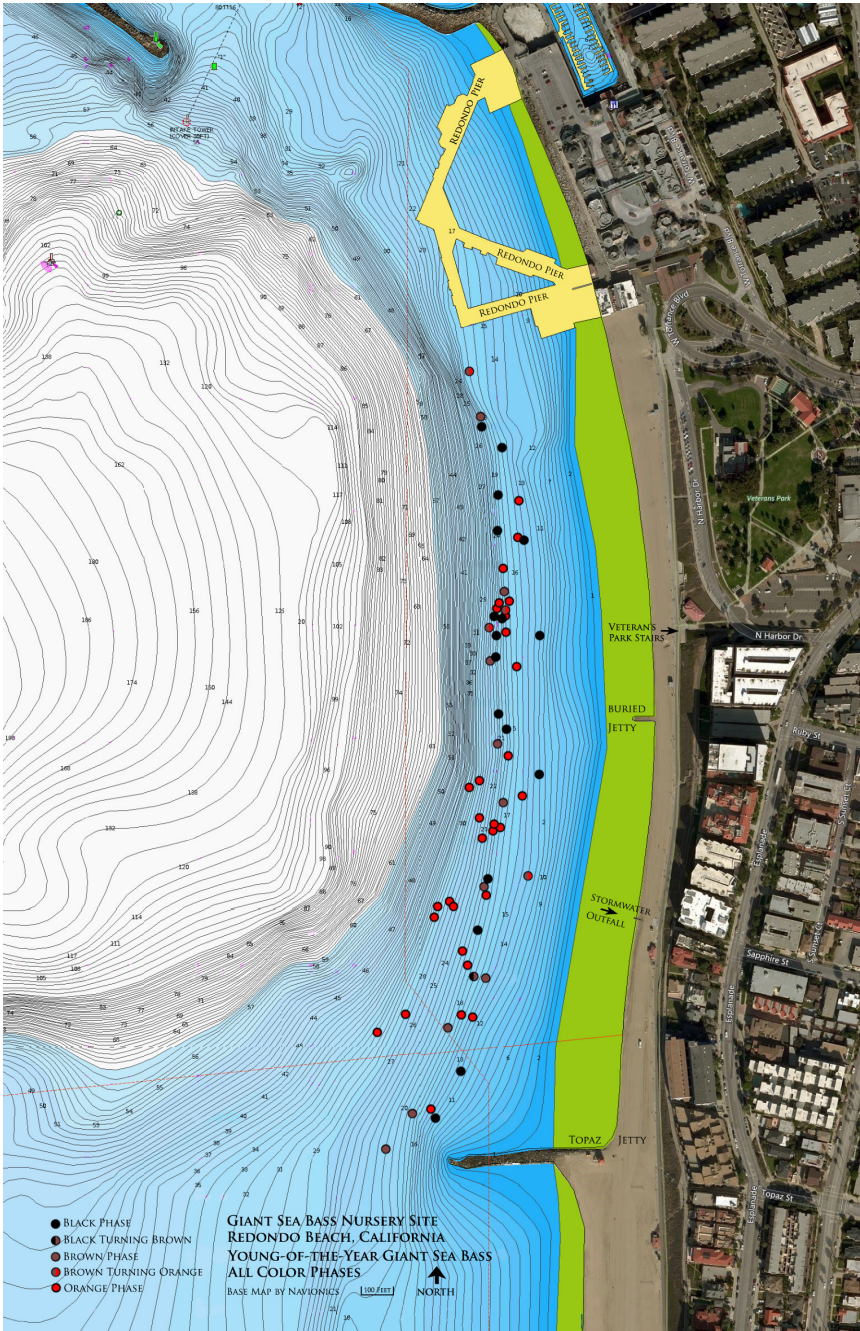


Figure 1. Young-of-the-year Giant Sea Bass detections within the Redondo Beach Nursery Site, CA, USA.

replaced by natural processes. This beach must be artificially augmented by adding sand from other sources using barges or dump trucks.

No other nursery site is subject to as many potential habitat disturbance activities as the Redondo Beach Nursery Site. The La Jolla Shores Nursery Site in San Diego County is encapsulated by the Matlahuayl State Marine Reserve where take of all living marine resources is prohibited. Big Corona del Mar State Beach in Orange County is located immediately inside the northwestern boundary of the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area. The shallows surrounding Newport Pier in Orange County lie outside of all protected marine habitat, and this area is not covered by specific restrictions on fishing or shoreline infrastructure projects. Newport Pier pilings are periodically scraped free of settling organisms and pilings are occasionally replaced, but no significant shoreline infrastructure projects have been undertaken within or adjacent to these nursery sites for many years.

A year prior to Ms. Benseman's identification of GSB nursery sites, a roughly 40-day U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project barged approximately $146,304 \text{ m}^3$ ($160,000 \text{ yd}^3$) of sand from Marina del Rey's harbor to Redondo Beach (G. A. Fuderer, U.S. Army Corps. of Engineers, personal communication). Beginning the week of 6 August 2012, approximately $68,580 \text{ m}^3$ ($75,000 \text{ yd}^3$) of sand were pumped from the barge onto the beach shore between Topaz Jetty and Redondo Pier, which is now known to be a GSB nursery site (Figure 2). Pumping sand onto the beach is not considered to have been detrimental to recruiting GSBs within the nursery site, however, approximately $77,724 \text{ m}^3$ ($85,000 \text{ yd}^3$) of sand were deposited in 9 to 15 m (30 to 50 ft) of water off Topaz Jetty where it was planned to be stored for future sand replenishment projects. Because the deposition of sand into the waters above



Figure 2. Beach sand replenishment between Topaz Jetty and Redondo Pier, CA, USA on 5 October 2012.

that nursery site coincided with YOY of GSB occupation, the timing of the replenishment project at this particular location could have had detrimental effects on recruiting GSB.

The planning and implementation phases of the 2012 Redondo Beach sand replenishment project were completed before Benseman began the first field study ever conducted of the YOY of GSB and identified the nursery sites, so the resource regulatory agencies would have been unaware of the importance of this stretch of beach for this Red-list Critically-Endangered species. It is possible that one or more of the following impacts may have resulted from depositing sediment onto the nursery site.

- 1) Sand dumped into 9 to 15 m (30 to 50 ft) of water on the nursery site could have displaced recently-settled YOY of GSB from their preferred habitat of algal fragments and small sand depressions where they hide from predators; unexpected displacement can expose their presence to predators.
- 2) Known prey species of the YOY of GSB such as mysid shrimps found within a meter of the bottom could have been buried or dispersed by falling sediment. If the horizontal and vertical distribution and/or density of mysid swarms was altered, the effectiveness of YOY of GSB feeding strategies upon them could have been reduced.
- 3) Project implementation fouled the sea floor with trash, and local divers organized several underwater cleanups to remove debris. The benefits of the underwater trash cleanup effort may have been offset by disturbance to the YOY of GSB occupying the nursery site by large numbers of divers working on the bottom from the surf line to recreational dive limits.
- 4) Large amounts of falling sediment could have fouled the gills of the YOY of GSB within the impact footprint.
- 5) Approximately 77,724 m³ (85,000 yd³) of sediment was “stored” in 9 to 15 m (30 to 50 ft) of water for future beach sand replenishment. However, large winter storm swells have altered the bottom topography to 30 m (100 ft) so any sand deposited at depths of 15 meters (30 ft) or less was probably redistributed by storms the following winter. Any attempted reacquisition of sand during the months when the nursery site supports the YOY of GSB could impact them.

The potential loss of the YOY of a Red-listed Critically Endangered fish species at the highest density nursery site for the species ever documented should be considered potentially significant. These potential impacts could have long-lasting impacts on the recruitment, population dynamics, and overall survival of GSB at this nursery site when it is most densely occupied.

After dispersal of the YOY of GSB from the nursery sites, strong winter storms can alter the topography of the nursery site bottom to a depth of at least 30 m (100 ft) before the next hatch of YOY of GSB arrives the following summer. Issues could arise if the habitat is altered when the YOY of GSB are present at the nursery sites. The Redondo Beach Nursery Site faces due west and is protected from the large south swells generated by summer storms by the Palos Verdes Peninsula which extends west to form the south-eastern rim of Santa Monica Bay. Therefore, the nursery site bottom is not significantly altered by swells for much of the period of YOY of GSB occupation.

Although the YOY of GSB have been found in California nursery sites during nearly every month of the year, these areas are very sparsely occupied for half of each year. It is recommended that beach sand replenishment and harbor dredging projects having the potential to affect nursery site bottom be implemented between 1 January and 15 July when the YOY of GSB nursery sites have been found to be the most sparsely occupied. Habitat disturbance should be avoided from 16 July through 31 December, when the majority of the YOY of GSB are arriving at and occupying the nursery sites.

Piping sand from a barge to the beach is not expected to impact the YOY of GSB; it is when a large volume of sand is deposited into the water above the nursery site that nursery site impacts could occur. Another method of sand augmentation used at Redondo Beach has been to deposit sand on the beach using dump trucks and spread the sand using rubber-tired equipment. During September of 2018, a survey for the YOY of GSB was conducted while equipment spread trucked-in sand across the beach during an incoming tide (Figure 3). Underwater survey transects to a minimum depth of 4 m (13 ft) found no visual difference in water quality between sections of the beach where sand piles were sloughing into the sea and beach sections where no sand had been deposited. No new articles of trash



Figure 3. Spreading dump truck-deposited sand at Redondo Beach with rubber-tired equipment.

were observed since the previous survey. Even during a month when the nursery site was occupied by the YOY of GSB this appears to have been a successful method for replenishing the beach with sand while having no discernible impacts on the YOY of GSB. Annual coastal cleanup events along Redondo Beach that include groups of divers have been organized for many years. Some of these events coincide with months of high density of YOY of GSB off Redondo Beach. The ability to coordinate underwater cleanups with dry beach cleanups along the entire coastline offers benefits to the habitat and to ecologically-aware members of coastal communities, and this probably outweighs the potential of disturbance to some YOY of GSB from a single day of habitat disturbance at nursery sites by groups of divers. Scuba instructors also bring classes to train and practice beach diving techniques off Redondo Beach but these classes are not believed to significantly impact the YOY of GSB. Classes typically move in groups which are closely monitored by instructors. The divers make surface swims and drop as a group, limit their movements to a relatively small area on the bottom while being watched by an instructor, and then return to shore as a group. Students do not scatter about to disturb large areas of bottom.

Both publicly and privately-funded projects require permits from federal, state, and

local governmental agencies, and often require assessments of species that are considered to have special status by resource regulatory agencies. Special status species surveys conducted for resource agencies typically follow guidelines written for the agencies by specialists who have significant experience surveying for the species. Assessments and surveys must then be conducted by qualified biologists who must follow the agency-adopted guidelines in order for their reports to be accepted by the permitting agencies. These surveys are often coupled with biological monitoring in order to assure avoidance or minimization of disturbance to special status species prior to and during construction. Effective biological monitoring of a species assumes a biologist's ability to locate individual animals within and surrounding an impact footprint in order to attempt to ascertain whether or not construction activities adversely affected those individuals. In the case of the YOY of GSB, not only would locating individuals on a daily or weekly basis be extremely difficult, but repeatedly relocating specific individuals requires close diver proximity to the fish and underwater photography of spot patterns which could increase the GSB's level of disturbance and possibly cause indirect take by a predator. Also, finding no YOY of GSB within the impact footprint would not be proof of take by the project. Rather than attempt to monitor the possible effects of construction on the YOY of GSB, a more effective approach would be to schedule construction activities that could affect the nursery site for the period between January 1 and July 15. Working during this period would either avoid impacts due to YOY of GSB absence, or if a few individuals remained it would minimize impacts by avoiding the densest seasonal presence of the YOY of GSB. Habitat disturbance within the nursery site should be avoided from July 16 to December 31 in an area extending from the shoreline to a depth of 38 m (125 ft) from the Redondo Pier to Topaz Jetty.

If it would be difficult to adjust dredging or sand deposition schedules to coincide with the season of low YOY of GSB sensitivity, changing the location of deposition of dredged material to an area that does not border a nursery site is suggested. Dredge spoils deposited into the water north of King Harbor or south of Topaz Jetty should avoid impacting the YOY of GSB.

Scheduling future Redondo Beach sand replenishment and major shoreline infrastructure projects to be implemented between January 1 and July 15 would be expected to avoid or greatly minimize impacts to the YOY of GSB at this nursery site. The large majority of the YOY of GSB are absent or at a very low density at nursery sites during this period.

It also appears that that clean sand placed on the beach by dump trucks or piped from barges and spread across the beach by rubber-tired equipment avoids or greatly minimizes impacts on GSB nursery sites at any time of year. However, no sand or sediment should be deposited into the water that could disturb the bottom at a GSB nursery site between July 16 and December 31.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I might not have learned of the existence of GSB nursery sites were it not for the insights of Masters of Science student Stephanie A. Benseman working with her advisor Larry G. Allen of California State University at Northridge who discovered that GSB nursery sites existed and worked out how to find the often-cryptic YOY of GSB within them. Their preliminary work on the distribution and recruitment, and later, our observations of the behavior of young of Giant Sea Bass provided the basis to expand our understanding

of the early development of this species and move from reporting baseline information to this practical management tool that could enhance the recovery of the species. I would like to thank Mark A. Pavelka of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (ret.), Amber S. Oneal-Heredia, Chris Lowe of California State University at Long Beach, Sharon Kramer of H. T. Harvey and Associates, and Richard Ware of Coastal Resources Management for providing valuable editorial suggestions on manuscript drafts.

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Submitted 17 June 2019

Accepted 23 September 2019

Associate Editor was K. Lindke

Eelgrass in the King Harbor Turning Basin

Roger Carlson, October 22, 2020

N 33.84204°
W118.39499°
765f 128M

Eel grass locations
Mid October 2020,
photographed
by Roger Carlson.

LELA FRAN

Discharge tower (cov 2[1/2] fms)

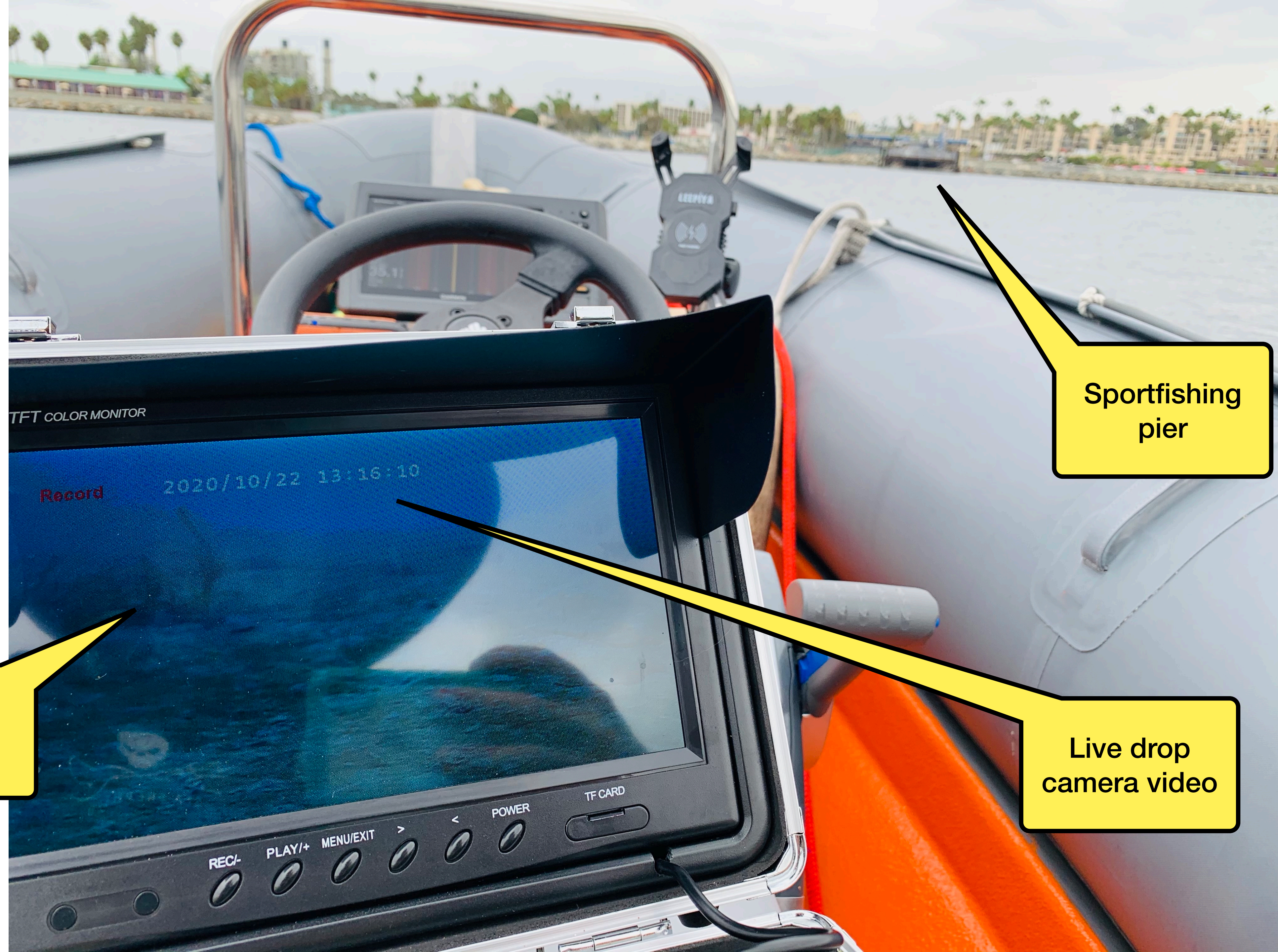
Shl rep (1977)

Rks rep 1989

SHL REP (1977)

0009





Sportfishing
pier

Eel Grass

Live drop
camera video

Redondo Beach Harbor Commission request support regarding King Harbor Dredging Project

XX February 2021

The Honorable Mayor Brand and City Council Members
City of Redondo Beach
415 Diamond Street
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

SUBJECT: Harbor Commission Request for support regarding King Harbor Dredging Project

Mayor Brand and City Council Members,

With regard to the upcoming King Harbor Dredging Project, the Harbor Commission respectfully requests the following support from the City Council. The following sentences summarize our request. Additional background detail follows.

Request:

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to amend the dredging permit to request that all of the dredged material be placed at the Army Corps of Engineers storage site outside the harbor, rather than placing 29,000 cubic yards inside the harbor, and 33,000 cubic yards outside the harbor.

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to apply for the secondary maintenance dredging permit as soon as practical, in hopes of receiving approval in time to perform any needed maintenance dredging during mobilization of equipment for the main harbor dredging project.

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to request that the Request for Proposals for the dredging contract specify that best practices to eliminate debris will be used; that bidding responses specify practices to be used and provide results from previous operations; that the harbor commission be allowed to review the RFP and responses from bidding contractors; and that the Harbor Commission or its representative be allowed to monitor the dredging project.

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to schedule the dredging operation to use the Nearshore Placement Site between January 1 and July 15 when juvenile Giant Sea Bass are not present.

Background:

City staff have begun the permitting process for much needed dredging of King Harbor. Sand has built up in the narrow channel to Basin 3, used by large commercial boats. This shoal is

Redondo Beach Harbor Commission request support regarding King Harbor Dredging Project

approximately 0.35 acres in size. A second shoal of approximately 4.1 acres in size is above water at low tide, along most of the northern section of the outer breakwall.

Dredged material placement location:

The submitted permit has requested that approximately half the dredged material (29,000 cubic yards) be placed inside the harbor, in a depression in the harbor turning basin, and the remainder (33,000 cubic yards) placed at a site used previously by the Army Corps of Engineers for sand storage, the “Nearshore Placement Site”, in the open ocean off Sapphire street and Topaz jetty. Consultants proposed filling this in-harbor depression to increase water circulation within the harbor. The Harbor Commission feels that the dredged material placed in the harbor will become a future nuisance, and migrate back to again block the channel to basin 3 and other nearby areas including the hand launch. Currently, sand has built up at the hand launch, the hand launch dock no longer floats at low tide. Finally, the material to be dredged has been tested and has been found to contain levels of DDT and PCBs, and the Commission prefers this material to be placed in open ocean at the Nearshore Placement Site where it will be exposed to open tidal flow and more rapid dilution, rather than in the harbor where boaters and paddle boarders will come in contact with it.

The Harbor Commission has shared these concerns with the US Army Corps of Engineers, during their comment period on the project. No response has been received.

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to amend the dredging permit to specify that all of the dredged material be placed at the Army Corp storage site outside the harbor, rather than placing 29,000 cubic yards inside the harbor, and 33,000 cubic yards outside the harbor at the US Army Corps of Engineers Nearshore Placement Site.

Acceleration of permitting for minor maintenance dredging:

Staff plans to apply for a permit for minor maintenance dredging to allow dredging as needed in small volumes on an ongoing basis. The southwest corner of the central basin, and the hand launch, needed dredging in 2005, and the hand launch needs dredging again now. If the maintenance dredging permit is approved before the major dredging project begins, additional maintenance dredging may be able to performed cost effectively during the larger project.

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to apply for the secondary maintenance dredging permit as soon as practical, in hopes of receiving approval in time to perform any needed maintenance dredging during mobilization of equipment for the main harbor dredging project.

Assurance that dredged material will be clean:

In 2012, the Marina Del Rey harbor channel was dredged, and dredged material was barged to the US Army Corp Nearshore Placement Site, off Topaz Jetty and Sapphire Street, for storage.

Redondo Beach Harbor Commission request support regarding King Harbor Dredging Project

Poor practices were used, the material was contaminated with trash, particularly plastic debris, which fouled our beach and the popular scuba dive site at Veterans Park. The Harbor Commission wishes to ensure that best practices are used and that debris is removed from the dredged material before being returned.

The Harbor Commission has shared these concerns with the US Army Corps of Engineers, during their comment period on the project. No response has been received.

Reference to video of divers removing debris in 2012: <https://youtu.be/rPUctdS-cCE>

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to request that the Request for Proposals for the dredging contract specify that best practices to eliminate debris will be used; that bidding responses specify practices to be used and provide results from previous operations; that the harbor commission be allowed to review the RFP and responses from bidding contractors; and that the Harbor Commission or its representative be allowed to monitor the dredging project. bidding contractors; and that the Harbor Commission or its representative be allowed to monitor the dredging project.

Dates of dredging project to accommodate presence of juvenile endangered Giant Sea Bass:

Giant Sea Bass, *Stereolepis gigas*, are endangered and protected. They are a highly charismatic species of megafauna, growing to over 500 pounds and 7 feet long. They are unrelated to white sea bass, *Atractoscion nobilis*, a gamefish supported by regional volunteer hatcheries. Research has found increased numbers of juvenile giant sea bass within hundreds of yards of the heads of submarine canyons, in particular, the Redondo Submarine Canyon which terminates off Veteran's Park, near the US Army Corp placement site. In 2019, for the first time, the Cabrillo Aquarium and the Long Beach Aquarium were able to rear hundreds of them from eggs, and in 2020 released these fish at the site best known for their survival, in front of Ruby and Sapphire Streets near the head of the Redondo Canyon, near the location of the US Army Corp of Engineers Nearshore Placement Site, which will be used for the King Harbor Dredging project.

Studies have shown that juveniles are present only in the late summer and fall. Scheduling future Redondo Beach sand replenishment and major shoreline infrastructure projects to be implemented between January 1 and July 15 would be expected to avoid or greatly minimize impacts to the YOY of GSB at this nursery site

Reference to LA Times article: <https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2020-03-04/scientists-seed-local-seas-with-imperiled-fish-can-giant-sea-bass-make-a-comeback>

Reference to scientific paper:
<https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=175914&inline>

Redondo Beach Harbor Commission request support regarding King Harbor Dredging Project

The Harbor Commission respectfully requests that City Council direct staff to schedule the dredging operation to use the Nearshore Placement Site between January 1 and July 15 when juvenile Giant Sea Bass are not present.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Jim Light
Chair
Redondo Beach Harbor Commission

Rqger Carlson
Chair
Redondo Beach Harbor Commission Dredging Subcommittee

Mat Kilroy
Commissioner
Redondo Beach Harbor Commission

CC: S. Proud, J. Hoefgen, E. Manzano



Administrative Report

J.2., File # HC21-2037

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

To: HARBOR COMMISSION

**From: STEPHEN PROUD, WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR**

TITLE

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PREPARE A PUBLIC AMENITIES MASTER PLAN FOR KING HARBOR

BACKGROUND

On January 12, 2021, the Redondo Beach City Council directed staff to initiate the process of drafting a Request for Proposals ("RFP") for a qualified professional consultant (or consultant team) to prepare a public amenities plan for King Harbor. As a first step, the City Council requested staff seek the input of the Redondo Beach Harbor Commission on the draft RFP and more specifically the scope of work related to this effort. The Harbor Commission has consistently requested that the City Council initiate the preparation of a waterfront public amenities master plan as part of the City's Strategic Plan process and identified as a 3-5-year goal the creation of a master plan that would address many of the public amenities that have been under consideration and discussion for several years. The January 12, 2021 Administrative Report to the City Council is attached as Exhibit A.

Attached as Exhibit B is a draft RFP for the Harbor Commission's review. Although the Commission may provide input on any portion of the RFP, the City Council and staff are specifically focused on the Commission's input related to the scope of work for the plan, and in particular those public amenities and areas that should be addressed and included as part of the plan. Past planning and design have primarily focused on individual facilities and there has not been an effort to plan for the Waterfront as a whole and understand how the various public amenities may be organized and implemented to maximize the recreational and visitor experience.

Staff recommends the master plan first focus on the waterfront amenities located between Portofino Way to the north and Quality Seafood to the south. The plan should set forth an overall site plan for the area that addresses what amenities should be rebuilt or renovated, where the amenities should be located and what recreational and operational elements should be included in their design. Initially staff recommends that the following items be included in the first phase of master plan work:

- the location and design of the public boat launch facility and support parking;
- the location and programmatic elements of a replacement Sportfishing Pier, if any;
- a plan for the future use, design, and lay-out of Seaside Lagoon;
- a plan for the installation of an enhanced waterfront promenade that connects Mole C to the Horseshoe Pier that improves the pedestrian experience along the International Boardwalk and reduces the flooding that occurs during high tides;
- a design of replacement docks for Basin 3;

- the location and design of a dinghy dock to serve the harbor mooring field; and
- upgrades to the City's personal watercraft hand launching facility, including the consideration of a zero-depth launch option.

Although outside of the suggested planning area, the public amenities plan could be expanded to re-engage the public on the design for Moonstone Park and Mole B. This effort could address the design of the park itself; accommodations for the outrigger clubs that operate from the Mole; opportunities for dry-stack/mast-up boat storage; and use of the Mole for special events. The City Council has suggested that the Harbor Commission consider initiating the Moonstone Park planning effort early in the process and that it be advanced on a separate but parallel track with the public amenities plan.

Following commission input on the draft RFP, the RFP will be returned to the City Council for review and consideration for release. Following Council approval, staff will distribute the RFP to qualified consulting firms and obtain formal proposals that will include a proposed budget, relevant experience and planning approach. Staff will evaluate the proposals and make a recommendation to City Council for contract approval and project funding. It is anticipated that the master planning effort will include a review of the work to date, various site-specific engineering and building and planning requirement analyses, and a significant public outreach effort. It is difficult to estimate the time to complete the plan as it would be largely dependent on the number of community meetings - but it seems reasonable to assume such an effort could be completed within 12 months.

COORDINATION

The Waterfront and Economic Development Department Coordinated the preparation of this report with the City Manager's Office and the Public Works Department.

FISCAL IMPACT

Based on early conversations with various consultants, the initial estimate for the preparation of a public amenities master plan ranges from \$200k to \$250k. This effort was not included in the Waterfront and Economic Development Department work plan for FY 2020-2021 and therefore no specific funding was allocated or approved for such an effort. However, the City's Capital Improvement Plan for the waterfront includes two projects - the replacement of the public sportfishing pier and improvements to the Basin 3 seawall to address sea level rise - both of which include funding for predesign work that could be used to fund the public amenities master plan. The remaining balance in these project accounts totals approximately \$290k that could be redirected to the master planning effort.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit A: January 12, 2021 Administrative Report to Redondo Beach City Council

Exhibit B: Draft Request for Proposals for Public Amenities Plan for King Harbor



Administrative Report

N.6., File # 21-1913

Meeting Date: 1/12/2021

To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

From: STEPHEN PROUD, WATERFRONT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

TITLE

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PREPARATION OF A PUBLIC AMENITIES MASTER PLAN FOR KING HARBOR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past several years, the City of Redondo Beach has been engaged in efforts to revitalize the Redondo Beach Waterfront. To realize the promise of a Waterfront that meets the needs and interest of local residents and attracts visitors, it is imperative the City provide a series of high-quality public amenities that can serve a diverse range of recreational interests. In addition, it is important that these amenities be thoughtfully planned and delivered in a manner that sets the framework within which future additional public and private investment can occur within the Waterfront.

The public amenities that exist in the waterfront today were developed in a piecemeal fashion over many years and they lack the functionality necessary to provide a first-rate resident and visitor experience. In addition, given the advanced age of the facilities, many have or are reaching the end of their useful life and require significant expense to repair and/or replace. Although the City has taken actions in the past to plan for the replacement and/or improvement of these facilities, those actions have largely focused on individual facilities rather than the Waterfront as a whole. In addition, Measure C approved by the voters in 2017 sets forth parameters for the development of various public amenities which also need to be incorporated into City project planning efforts.

As part of the City's Strategic Plan process, the Harbor Commission has repeatedly requested that the City Council initiate the process to prepare a public amenities master plan for the Waterfront. At minimum, it is staff's feeling that the plan should address such matters as:

- the location and design of the public boat launch facility and required support parking;
- the location and programmatic elements of a replacement Sportfishing Pier, if any;
- a plan for the future use, design, and lay-out of Seaside Lagoon;
- a plan for the installation of an enhanced waterfront promenade that connects Mole C to the Horseshoe Pier and specifically identifies ways to improve the pedestrian experience along the International Boardwalk and reduce flooding that occurs along the boardwalk during high tides;
- a design and costing of replacement Basin 3 docks;
- the location and design of a dinghy dock to serve the harbor mooring field, and

- upgrades to the City's existing personal watercraft hand launching facility, including the consideration of a zero-depth launch option, and the potential for the installation of an additional hand launch facility at a separate location or inclusion as part of a separate recreational amenity.

Additionally, the master plan could be expanded to address things like:

- the recreational amenities to be included as part of the Moonstone Park Project;
- a design and costing of pedestrian and bicycle circulation improvements between Harbor Drive and Torrance Circle;
- a more detailed costing and prioritization of protective measures to help mitigate the impacts of sea level rise;

On August 18, 2020, the City Council requested that staff bring forward a discussion item regarding the process for moving forward with the preparation of the plan. This Administrative Report briefly summarizes the efforts to date on the individual planning of various public amenities in the Waterfront and outlines a path forward to prepare a more comprehensive public amenities master plan.

BACKGROUND

The City Council has made the revitalization of the waterfront a key strategic priority for many years. The City Council adopted an Asset Management Plan for the Waterfront in 2007, and the Harbor Enterprise Business Plan in 2010. Those documents have served as the general blueprint for Waterfront revitalization. Key to the revitalization effort is the need to upgrade or replace many of the public amenities within the Waterfront. These public amenities serve as the framework within which other revitalization activities can occur, including the attraction of private investment in the waterfront to improve the various commercial offerings available to residents and visitors.

Over the past several years, the City has initiated the planning process for several amenities, including the public boat launch facility and the sportfishing pier. In addition, in 2017 the voters of Redondo Beach passed Measure C which includes several parameters for the improvement/replacement of various public amenities including the Seaside Lagoon and public boat launch facility. These past actions have primarily focused on each individual facility and there has not been an effort to plan for the Waterfront as a whole and understand how the various public amenities may be organized and implemented to maximize the recreational and visitor experience.

Understanding that the various public amenities are interrelated and recognizing that these amenities set the framework for other public and commercial activities within the Waterfront, the Harbor Commission has repeatedly requested that the City Council initiate the preparation of a waterfront public amenities master plan. In their March 9, 2020 Strategic Plan letter to the City Council, the Harbor Commission identified a 3-5-year goal related to the creation of a harbor master plan that would address many of the public amenities that have been under consideration and discussion for several years.

To initiate the planning process, staff recommends the City Council consider creating a master plan that first focuses on the public waterfront amenities between Portofino Way to the north and Quality Seafood to the south. This plan would set forth an overall site plan for the area that addresses what amenities should be rebuilt or renovated, where the amenities should be located and what recreational and operational elements should be included in their design. Initially staff recommends that the following items be included in the first phase of master plan work:

- the location and design of the public boat launch facility and required support parking;
- the location and programmatic elements of a replacement Sportfishing Pier, if any;

- a plan for the future use, design, and lay-out of Seaside Lagoon;
- a plan for the installation of an enhanced waterfront promenade that connects Mole C to the Horseshoe Pier and specifically identifies ways to improve the pedestrian experience along the International Boardwalk and reduce flooding that occurs along the boardwalk during high tides;
- a design and costing of replacement Basin 3 docks;
- the location and design of a dinghy dock to serve the harbor mooring field, and
- upgrades to the City's existing personal watercraft hand launching facility, including the consideration of a zero-depth launch option, and the potential for the installation of an additional hand launch facility at a separate location or inclusion as part of a separate recreational amenity.

Although outside of the suggested planning area, the Public Amenities Master Plan could also be expanded to re-engage the public on the design for Moonstone Park and Mole B. This effort could address the design of the park itself; accommodations for the Outrigger Clubs that operate from the Mole; opportunities for dry-stack/mast-up boat storage; and use of the Mole for special events. Additionally, the plan could address pedestrian and bicycle circulation issues between Harbor Drive and Torrance Circle, and/or further cost and prioritize protective measures that could be implemented to help mitigate Sea Level Rise.

As noted earlier, the City has already begun the initial planning for several of these amenities and that work effort can provide a basis for the planning effort going forward. These include:

Boat Launch Facility

Development of a boat launch facility within the Waterfront has been considered since the initial planning and development of the Harbor in the 1950's and 1960's. Since that time, there have been numerous studies, assessments and discussions regarding the facility and the City's Local Coastal Plan requires the creation of a boat launch ramp in conjunction with new development in the Waterfront. Currently, launching of trailered boats is limited to the Mole D boat hoist which provides minimal capacity.

The City has held numerous public workshops, meetings, and discussions with the Harbor Commission related to the development of a public boat launch in the Waterfront. In addition, Measure C approved by the voters in March of 2017 set forth a series of design parameters and parking requirements for any future installation of a public boat launch facility. These efforts have narrowed the location options and the initial design ideas can serve as a launching point for further discussions.

Sportfishing Pier

The Sportfishing Pier was built in 1969 and is a conventional timber framed structure that is approximately 245 feet long and 30 feet wide. Soon after the pier's construction, a single-story light timber framed building was constructed over the western half of the pier and utilities were extended onto the pier to service the building improvements.

The Sportfishing Pier has undergone numerous inspection and maintenance repairs since its original construction. Typical repairs have included wrapping piles with polyethylene and replacing braces. The most recent inspection of the pier resulted in the operational closure of the facility due to concerns over the pier's capacity to handle structural loads. The City engaged Moffit and Nichol to begin the process of redesigning the pier with the ultimate goal of replacing the facility. Community workshops and a meeting of the Harbor Commission was held to discuss design options and programmatic elements that could be incorporated into a new pier. The input from those meetings can be incorporated into a new public amenity planning process.

Seaside Lagoon

Seaside Lagoon is a unique 3.75-acre salt water swimming and special events venue that was constructed in 1963. At the time it was built, it was designed with a mechanical system that took advantage of a heated water supply made available by the nearby power plant. The facility was constructed years before adoption of the Clean Water Act and the establishment of basic water chlorination practices for public swimming facilities. The Lagoon is currently subject to the swimming water quality standards established by the Los Angeles County Health Department and the water discharge regulations set by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Given the age and design of the system, it has become increasingly difficult for the City to maintain compliance with the established regulations. In 2009, the City evaluated three options to rebuild the Seaside Lagoon infrastructure and replace the recreational water amenity with a similar zero depth entry feature maintained by a closed circulation and filtration system that would no longer discharge water into the ocean. More recently, Measure C included several parameters for any redesign of the Lagoon which would need to be considered as part of a public amenities master plan. Additionally, the community has requested increased multi-purpose and special event use of the facility which should be incorporated in the planning effort. More than any other public amenity, the prominent location of the Lagoon within the Waterfront, along with the scope and scale of the facility, drives the need for a wholistic approach to the planning of the various public amenities.

Basin 3 Docks and Seawalls

The floating dock system within Basin 3 consists of 5 docks totaling approximately 20,000 sq. ft. An evaluation of the docks indicated several maintenance conditions that need to be addressed, including broken fascia, worn guide pile rollers, listing fingers due to water logged floats, broken and worn decking, and pipes and conduits that are in poor condition. Some of these ongoing maintenance issues have been addressed during the past few years, but the entire dock system needs to be replaced as it has reached the end of its useful life.

In addition, the City conducted a structural evaluation of the Basin Three seawalls which identified several structural deficiencies that need to be addressed to preserve the integrity of the system. That same analysis also identified improvements that could be made to the seawalls to help address the flooding that occurs on the International Boardwalk during high tide events. These improvements could also serve as the first phase of work necessary to address the effects of ongoing sea level rise (as discussed below).

Sea Level Rise

Several notable studies have attempted to predict the rates of future sea level rise. The variability in the studies highlights the uncertainty in accurately forecasting how climate change will affect sea level rise. However, the City's Waterfront Coastal Development Plan calls for certain mitigation measures and there are several low-lying structures in the Harbor, such as the International Boardwalk, that already experience routine flooding and require additional sea level rise protection.

For waterfront planning purposes, mid-range estimates have been calculated from data prepared by the California Ocean Protection Council for the 25th, 50th and 75th years from the base year of 2015. These estimates indicate that several areas of the waterfront are expected to be impacted as a result of further sea level rise. Most notable are the impacts from wave run-up at the boardwalk immediately landward of the Municipal Pier, the pedestrian walkway along Mole D, and the perimeter of Seaside Lagoon. In addition, increased tidal inundation will be exacerbated within Basin 3.

Future protective measures for these areas may include new splash walls that redirect up-rushed water back to the ocean, perimeter break walls to reduce potential inundation in these areas, and repairs to the Basin 3

bulkhead including repairs to the Bulkhead Cap.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Circulation

With the completion of the Harbor Gateway project, bicycle and pedestrian circulation within the Waterfront is significantly improved. However, the southern terminus of the project requires cyclists and pedestrians to navigate a complex and confusing path through various elements of the Waterfront before some order is restored to the network south of the Torrance Circle. The bicycle/pedestrian conflicts along this stretch are a challenge and require further modifications to various paths of travel.

In addition, within the waterfront, there are several circulation elements where gangways and walkways are substandard and where railings and guard rails may need to be replaced to enhance the safety of visitors. The various structural elements (e.g., garages, piers, boardwalks) and varying elevations, also presents challenges with meeting the ever-evolving goal of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A thorough evaluation and plan for circulation will need to be prepared and incorporated into a public facilities master plan to address the broad range of issues.

Next Steps

Creating a useful and foundational master plan that provides an accurate costing and sizing of the considered amenities and includes a feasible site plan for the future installation of a diverse set of facilities in the Waterfront requires specialized experience in various professional disciplines, with a primary focus on coastal engineering. Over the past few years, the City has utilized the engineering services of Noble Consultants and Moffatt and Nichol for the early design work on the public boat launch facility and the replacement of the sportfishing pier. Staff has conducted outreach to discuss the proposed master plan and determine an order of magnitude cost for preparing such a document. Without a defined scope of work, initial estimates for the master plan range from \$200k to \$250k.

In order to initiate a master planning process, the City must first determine the plan's scope of work. It is staff's recommendation that the City Council request input from the Harbor Commission on the scope of the plan as part of their February 8, 2021 meeting agenda. Following commission input, staff would prepare a draft Request for Proposals (RFP) that would be returned to the City Council for review and consideration of release. Following Council approval, staff would distribute the RFP to qualified marine engineering firms and obtain formal proposals from the firms that would include the firms' cost, relevant experience and planning approach. Staff would then evaluate the proposals and make a recommendation to City Council for contract approval and project funding. It is anticipated that any master planning effort would include a review of the work to date, various site-specific engineering and building and planning requirement analyses, and a significant public outreach effort. It is difficult to estimate the time to complete the plan as it would be largely dependent on the number of community meetings - but it seems reasonable to assume such an effort could be completed in 12-18 months.

COORDINATION

The Waterfront and Economic Development Department Coordinated the preparation of this report with the City Manager's Office and the Public Works Department.

FISCAL IMPACT

As noted above, the initial estimates for the preparation of a public amenities master plan range from \$200k to \$250k. This effort was not included in the Waterfront and Economic Development Department work plan for FY 2020-2021 and therefore no specific funding was allocated or approved for such an effort. However, the City's Capital Improvement Plan for the waterfront includes two projects - the replacement of the public sportfishing pier and improvements to the Basin 3 seawall to address sea level rise - both of which include

funding for predesign work that could be used to fund the public amenities master plan. The remaining balance in these project accounts totals approximately \$290k that could be redirected to the master planning effort.

APPROVED BY:

Joe Hoefgen, City Manager

DRAFT

City of Redondo Beach Statement of Qualifications AND Request for Proposal King Harbor Public Amenities Plan

I. Summary

The City of Redondo Beach is commencing a planning effort to establish a framework for various public amenities within the City's waterfront, commonly referred to as King Harbor. The City is seeking statements of qualifications and proposals from experienced marine engineering/planning firms to assist the City in preparing this plan. The general scope related to this effort includes the following:

- Review previous planning and design work related to the various public amenities located or proposed for King Harbor.
- Prepare a framework plan that focuses on the public amenities between Portofino Way to the north and Quality Seafood to the south. This plan should set forth an overall site plan for the area that addresses which amenities should be rebuilt or renovated, where the amenities should be located and what recreational and operational elements should be included in their design.
 - Establish a stakeholder group to expedite and refine the initial planning process.
 - Use web-based tools including the City's website and social media platforms as well as traditional outreach and consensus-building strategies for the public to participate in the planning process.
- Engage in a parallel but separate planning effort for the area commonly referred to as Moonstone Park located on Mole B within the Harbor.
- Develop an implementation strategy for the framework plan and assist the City in identifying potential funding sources that may include grants and loans.

The City of Redondo Beach invites your firm to submit your qualifications and a proposal for the King Harbor public amenities plan presented in further detail herein.

II. Background

The City of Redondo Beach, incorporated in 1892, is a Charter City operating under the Mayor-Council/Manager form of government and is located in southwest Los Angeles County approximately 7 miles south of Los Angeles International Airport. The City encompasses approximately six square miles of land area. Surrounding communities include Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, El Segundo, Torrance and the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The City is divided into two (North and South) areas with 190th, Anita, and Herondo streets as boundaries. North Redondo begins north of 190th Street and is primarily inland. While predominantly residential, North Redondo does contain some of the City's major industrial and commercial developments. South Redondo consists primarily of several close-knit neighborhoods, including the Riviera Village, a pedestrian scale mixed

use neighborhood and King Harbor, which includes a commercial and recreational marina and commercial pier.

The City Council has made the revitalization of the waterfront a key strategic priority for many years. Key to the revitalization effort is the need to upgrade or replace many of the public amenities within the waterfront. These public amenities serve as the framework within which other revitalization activities can occur, including the attraction of private investment to the waterfront to improve the various commercial offerings available to residents and visitors.

Over the past several years, the City has initiated the planning process for several key amenities, including a public boat launch facility and the replacement of the existing sportfishing pier. In addition, in 2017 the voters of Redondo Beach passed Measure C which includes several parameters for the improvement/replacement of various public amenities including the Seaside Lagoon and public boat launch facility. These past actions have primarily focused on the individual facilities and there has not been an effort to date to plan for the Waterfront as a whole and understand how the various public amenities may be organized and implemented to maximize the recreational and visitor experience.

Understanding that the various public amenities are interrelated and recognizing that these amenities set the framework for other public and commercial activities within the Waterfront, the City is moving forward to create a public amenities plan for the waterfront. It is expected that this plan will set forth an overall site plan for the area that addresses what amenities should be rebuilt or renovated, where the various amenities should be located and what recreational and operational elements should be included in their design.

III. Scope of Work

To realize the promise of a Waterfront that meets the needs and interest of local residents and is attractive to visitors, it is imperative the City provide a series of high-quality public amenities that can serve a diverse range of recreational interests. In addition, it is important that these amenities be thoughtfully planned and delivered in a manner that sets the framework within which future additional public and private investment can occur.

The public amenities that exist in the waterfront today were developed in a piecemeal fashion over many years and they lack the functionality necessary to provide a first-rate resident and visitor experience. In addition, given the advanced age of the facilities, many have or are reaching the end of their useful life and require significant expense to repair and/or replace. The City is seeking a qualified consultant or consultant team to assess current conditions, review various planning documents, evaluate the planning and design conducted to date for specific amenities, and prepare a framework plan for public amenities in the waterfront.

The City anticipates that the creation of a waterfront public amenities plan will, at a minimum, include the following scope of work:

- A. **Review Existing Conditions and Data:** The consultant shall conduct a review and analysis of existing and relevant planning documents that may include, but is not limited to, the General Plan, the Harbor/Civic Center Specific Plan, and Local Coastal Plan. In addition, the consultant shall review existing planning and design work conducted to date for various waterfront public amenities including, but not limited to, Seaside Lagoon, the public boat launch facility, Moonstone Park, and the public sportfishing pier. In addition to reviewing existing data, the consultant will be expected to identify and compile additional data based on field observations or other required research.
- B. **Establish Working Committee:** With input from City Staff and the City's Harbor Commission, a working committee will be established that includes but is not limited to representation from the Harbor Commission, the boating community, leaseholders, and City staff. The goal of the Working Committee is to streamline the initial phases of planning and develop early phase conceptual plans that can be shared with the community through a series of community workshops.
- C. **Develop a Community Participation Program:** The consultant will be expected to develop as one of the first work efforts an effective and productive community outreach and participation program that will include a strategy to facilitate public participation throughout the entire process, and which takes into consideration the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic which limits in-person gatherings. It is expected that the consultant will organize and facilitate all public participation and agency coordination events. It is expected that web-based tools and social media are integral components of the overall "platform" for the coordination and facilitation efforts of the community participation program.
- D. **Prepare a Draft Waterfront Public Amenities Plan:** Create a framework plan that focuses on the public waterfront amenities between Portofino Way to the north and Quality Seafood to the south. This plan should set forth an overall site plan for the area that addresses what amenities should be rebuilt or renovated; where the amenities should be located; and what recreational and operational elements should be included in their design. It is expected the framework plan would include the following elements:
 - the location and design of the public boat launch facility and required support parking;
 - the location and programmatic elements of a replacement Sportfishing Pier, if any;
 - a plan for the future use, design, and lay-out of Seaside Lagoon;

- a plan for the installation of an enhanced waterfront promenade that connects Mole C to the Horseshoe Pier and specifically identifies ways to improve the pedestrian experience along the International Boardwalk and reduce flooding that occurs along the boardwalk during high tides;
- a design and costing of replacement Basin 3 docks;
- the location and design of a dinghy dock to serve the harbor mooring field, and
- upgrades to the City's existing personal watercraft hand launching facility, including the consideration of a zero-depth launch option.

In addition, the plan should address the design for Moonstone Park and Mole B. It is anticipated that this planning effort will occur on a separate but parallel track and will address the overall design of the park; accommodations for the outrigger clubs that operate from the Mole; opportunities for dry-stack/mast-up boat storage; and use of the Mole for special events.

- E. **Implementation Strategy:** Craft an implementation strategy for the framework plan that outlines the sequencing of the various public amenities and assist the City in identifying potential funding sources for the improvements that may include grants and loans.

IV. **Resource Documents Available**

In preparing a proposal, a prospective Consultant may wish to review the existing General Plan, the Harbor/Civic Center Specific Plan, and Local Coastal Plan. These documents are available on the City's website.

In addition, the City has initiated several planning and design efforts including, but not limited to Seaside Lagoon, the public boat launch facility, Moonstone Park, and the public sportfishing pier. The City has assembled these documents into a Dropbox location that will be shared upon request from the Waterfront and Economic Development Department

V. **Timeline**

The public amenities plan should be completed within 12 months from the date of Consultant contract award and execution. It is expected that the final three (3) months of that period will be reserved for public hearings before the City of Redondo Beach Harbor Commission and City Council. The majority of the Consultant's work, which will include all data gathering, analysis, plan formulation, citizen and public agency facilitation and input should occur within the first six (6) months following the date of contract execution.

VI. Role of City of Redondo Beach Personnel

The Waterfront and Economic Development Department will provide overall coordination, and will handle administrative matters, such as processing Consultant invoices. The City and the Consultant will jointly determine how the public outreach effort will be rolled out to the community, including the use of web-based tools and social media.

VII. Proposal Requirements

The City of Redondo Beach requires a work product that allows the City to realize the promise of a Waterfront that meets the needs and interests of local residents and is attractive to visitors. It is imperative that the City deliver a series of high-quality public amenities that can serve a diverse range of recreational interests. In addition, it is important that these amenities be thoughtfully planned and delivered in a manner that sets the framework within which future additional public and private investment can occur in the Waterfront. To that end, the Consultant should demonstrate not only an ability to be a problem identifier, but also a problem solver and be capable of presenting innovative approaches with workable solutions.

Proposals must be concise and focused on the specific scope of work specified in this RFP. Consultants shall submit ten (10) copies of their proposal. The proposal, at a minimum, shall contain the following information in the following order:

- A. Letter of transmittal, signed by an individual authorized to bind the proposing entity to the proposal for a period of 90 days.
- B. Table of Contents
- C. Executive Summary
- D. General description of, and capabilities and qualifications of your firm, relative to the Scope of Work and Proposed Requirements for this RFP.
 1. General information about the firm including company size, location of offices, years in business, organizational chart of staff proposed for assignment to this project.
 2. Documentation that demonstrates that personal, financial and/or organization conflicts of interests prohibited by law do not exist.
 3. Statement that the firm can meet the City's insurance requirements. Consultant shall procure and maintain for the duration of this contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work by the Consultant or its agents, representatives, employees or subconsultants.
- E. Scope of Work and Public Participation
 1. Specify the scope of the proposed public participation and the number of workshops and public hearings anticipated. Include information on type of meeting, anticipated participants and estimated length and size of meeting. Articulate your plan for utilizing web-based tools and social media to advance public participation.

2. Provide a proposed list of required tasks and milestones to address the provided scope of work.
 3. Provide a project flow chart depicting the key tasks, activities and sequences.
 4. Provide a proposed project schedule that includes the key tasks, activities, duration and milestones that will complete the scope of work in the timelines provided in this RFP.
- F. Cost Proposal: The cost proposal shall include the following at a minimum:
1. A cost analysis for the entire project and for each element in the proposed scope of work.
 2. A man-hour analysis table that lists the job classifications, compensation level, and proposed hours of personnel assigned to the various project tasks, estimated costs of materials, mileage and incidental services, total fees for labor and indirect costs, and total sub consultant fees.

VIII. Submittal Instructions

Proposals may be mailed or delivered to the City - faxed or emailed proposals will not be accepted. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to ensure delivery of the proposal to the City of Redondo Beach Waterfront and Economic Development Department prior to 5pm on April 1, 2021. Late proposals will not be considered. Proposals shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope plainly marked on the outside:

"Redondo Beach Waterfront Public Amenities Plan"

Applicants shall submit ten (10) copies of the proposal addressed to:

City of Redondo Beach Waterfront and Economic Development Department
415 Diamond Street
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Applicants shall attach a cost proposal as discussed in Section VII (F).

Issuance of this RFP and receipt of proposals does not commit the City to award a contract. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to accept any proposals, or portion thereof, to waive any irregularity, and to take the proposals under advisement for the period of time as may be required to provide for the best interests of the City of Redondo Beach. In no event will an award be made until all necessary investigations are made as to the responsibility and qualifications of the applicant to whom the award is contemplated.

A proposal may be withdrawn by a written request signed by the applicant. Such requests must be delivered to the City of Redondo Beach Waterfront and Economic Development Department. The withdrawal of a proposal will not prejudice the right of the applicant to submit a new proposal, providing there is time to do so.

All proposals must be submitted, filed, made, and executed in accordance with State and Federal laws relating to proposals for contracts of this nature whether the same are

expressly referred to herein or not. Any person submitting a proposal shall by such action thereby agree to each and all of the terms, conditions, provisions, and requirements set forth, contemplated, and referred to in scope of services, contract documents, and to full compliance therewith.

IX. Additional Stipulations

- A. The content of your proposal will become an integral part of the contract documents if you are selected to provide services to the City.
- B. The City shall not be liable for any pre-contractual expenses incurred by the Consultant in preparing a response to this RFP. The City reserves the right to withdraw the RFP at any time, the right to postpone the consideration of the proposals and to reject any and all proposals without any reasons therefore.
- C. Any and all agreements that may be generated as a result of the RFP are contingent upon approval by the City of Redondo Beach City Council. The City reserves the right to remove any firm from the RFP proposal process due to unsatisfactory performance or changes in key personnel or other factors.
- D. The Agreement between the City and the selected firm will be crafted upon the City's standard contract and contain the City's standard insurance and indemnification language for agreements of this type. Proof of insurance is not required to be submitted with your proposal, but will be required prior to the City's award of contract.

X. Method of Award

The proposal will be evaluated and ranked by a Selection Committee. Based on this evaluation of the submitted proposals, the firms may be interviewed by the Selection Committee. After hearing the responses of the interviewed firms, the Committee will select one firm and negotiations will begin immediately to finalize the personnel, hours, hourly rates, use of sub-consultants (if any), timelines, modifications to the scope of work and other direct costs. If agreement cannot be reached with the top ranked firm, the Selection Committee will identify the next most responsive and qualified firm and enter negotiations with them. This process will continue until agreement is reached with a qualified firm that can provide the required services.

XI. Selection Criteria

- 1. Qualifications and experience of the key project staff members as demonstrated by their past experience and performance on similar projects;
- 2. Familiarity with the project and with City of Redondo Beach policies, ordinances, procedures and capability to handle all aspects of the project;
- 3. Ability to begin work upon issuance of the notice to proceed;
- 4. Demonstrated ability to complete projects within proposed time lines and cost;
- 5. Firms experience and past performance and quality on similar projects;
- 6. Completeness, accuracy and clarity of submittal; and
- 7. Overall cost to the City.

These are required elements of a responsive proposal and must be covered in the response to the RFP.

I. Evaluation AND Selection Process

Timely and responsive proposals will be scored in accordance with the following scoring system for each selection criteria.

4	-	Outstanding
3	-	Good
2	-	Fair
1	-	Poor
0	-	Unacceptable

Selection criteria will be weighted as follows:

- Firm's experience and past performance and quality on similar projects, including qualifications and experience of the key project staff members as demonstrated by their past experience and performance on similar projects; - **25%**
- Familiarity with the project and with City of Redondo Beach policies, ordinances, procedures and capability to handle all aspects of the project; - **15%**
- Completeness, accuracy and clarity of submittal; - **15%**
- Ability to begin work upon issuance of the notice to proceed; - **10%**
- Demonstrated ability to complete projects within proposed time lines and cost; - **10%** and
- Overall cost to the City - **25%**

Cost will be evaluated based on the proposals submitted with the highest cost receiving no credit (0%) and the lowest cost receiving full credit (25%).

Each submittal will be reviewed to determine if it meets the required information and format specified herein. Failure to meet the requirements may be cause for eliminating the proposal from further consideration. The City shall have 60 days following the submittal of proposals within which to begin negotiations with the successful applicant. All provisions of the proposal are deemed to remain the same during that period.



Administrative Report

J.3., File # HC21-2036

Meeting Date: 2/8/2021

TO: HARBOR COMMISSION

FROM: STEPHEN PROUD, WATERFRONT & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

TITLE
DIRECTOR'S REPORT

RECOMMENDATION
Receive and File