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PORT COMMISSIONERS
Toby Goddard
Dennis Smith
Reed Geisreiter
Stephen Reed
Darren Gertler

HARBOR NEWS

SANTA CRUZ SMALL CRAFT HARBOR

FEBRUARY 2023

FY24 DRAFT BUDGET

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023, 7 PM

Slip renters and members of the public are encouraged to attend the Port District's special public budget session on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 7 PM to provide input and hear highlights regarding the upcoming fiscal year.

SPECIAL PUBLIC DRAFT BUDGET MEETING:

February 15, 2023, 7 PM

Join us in person at the Harbor Public Meeting Room (365 A Lake Avenue) or online via Zoom!

To review the Draft FY24 Budget, click here.

TRANSITION TO DISTRICT-BASED ELECTIONS

MEET THE TEAM!

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023, 5 PM TO 7 PM

Harbor users and tenants are cordially invited to stop by and meet the Port District's management team at the Santa Cruz Yacht Club (244 4th Avenue) on Thursday, March 9, 2023, anytime between 5 PM to 7 PM.

Please park in the harbor's west side parking lot and use the stairs or tram to access the Yacht Club.



Pictured left to right: Harbormaster Blake Anderson, Port Director Holland MacLaurie, Administrative Services Manager Christine Bouchard, and Facilities Maintenance & Engineering Manager Carl Wulf.

The Santa Cruz Port District has always had an at-large election system, where voters of the entire Port District boundary elect all members of the Port Commission. The Port District will be transitioning to a district-based election system, which will divide the District's boundary into five geographic sections. Voters within said section (district) will vote only for candidates residing within the same district. Voters will not be able to vote for candidates outside of their own district.

Between now and May 22, 2023, the Santa Cruz Port Commission will conduct four (4) Public Hearings to receive community feedback on the proposed composition of the five districts. With the assistance of a professional demographer, two (2) Public Hearings will be held "pre-map", in which residents will be asked to provide input on potential "communities of interest" that will be used to influence the shaping of district maps. Two additional Public Hearings will be held "post-map" to provide the Port Commission with feedback in selecting a preferred district map for adoption. <u>Download</u> a schedule of the Public Hearings (PDF).

If you are interested in learning more about this transition process or influencing the shaping of the district maps, please visit the Port District's <u>website</u> for additional information.



2023 PORT COMMISSIONERS



Darren Gertler, Chair



Steve Reed, Vice-Chair



Dennis Smith, Commissioner



Toby Goddard, Commissioner



Reed Geisreiter, Commissioner

Commissioners Reed Geisreiter and Toby Goddard were reelected in the November 2022 General Election to serve on the Santa Cruz Port District's Board of Port Commissioners. Please help us congratulate our incumbents, as we look forward to their continued leadership and guidance over the next four years.

DEPUTY HARBORMASTER KYLE KINGDOM

The Port District is excited to welcome its newest Deputy Harbormaster, Kyle Kingdom, to the team. Kyle is a Santa Cruz native and for the last seven years has worked as a Lifeguard for State Parks and brings with him extensive ocean background and good working knowledge of the Harbor Patrol's search and rescue program.

Kyle began his field training on November 4, 2022, and was sworn in prior to the Port Commission's January meeting. Please join us in welcoming Kyle to the Port District's Harbor Patrol team!



WAITING LIST RENEWALS

It's not too late to pay your 2023 waiting list renewal! To avoid late fees and interest, payments must be received by February 20, 2023. Failure to pay waiting list renewal fees by March 1, will result in removal from the list.

If you have any questions regarding your placement on the waiting list, please contact the harbor office at (831) 475-6161.

2023 PARKING PERMITS

Slip renter parking permits are available for pickup at the harbor office. All licensees must pick up the 2023 parking stickers in person at the harbor office. Please bring photo identification.

Enforcement of 2023 parking permits will begin on February 15, 2023. Please ensure that your 2023 parking stickers are displayed correctly to avoid being issued a citation.



STORM RECOVERY EFFORTS

The Port District sustained considerable damage during the severe winter storms and surge events that persisted along the California coastline last month. On January 14, 2023, President Biden declared that federal disaster assistance has been made available to the state of California to assist in recovery efforts. The Port District has filed its initial claim with Cal OES / FEMA and will be meeting with each agency to determine next steps.

Preliminary damage estimates are anticipated to be upwards of \$1 million, and include the following:

- Broken pilings (V-dock and X-dock)
- Fuel dock damage (decking, electrical conduit, and fuel dispensers)
- Sewer lateral line damage
- Dredge pipeline damage
- Significant erosion of a critical embankment in the north harbor
- Pavement damage and displacement due to surge activity
- Shoaling of the harbor entrance

Staff has been working to actively address the storm damage, and to date has repaired the fuel dock decking and fuel dock electrical conduit, performed critical sleeving on three (3) broken pilings in the north harbor, and recovered buried dredge pipelines and other equipment.



Pictured above, maintenance and dredge crews utilizing the District's workboat, *Dauntless*, to repair one of the broken pilings on January 18, 2023.

DREDGE OPERATIONS 2022-23

FEDERAL ENTRANCE CHANNEL

The dredge crew continues working to address the sand and debris that entered the entrance channel during the repetitive winter storms, frequent swell events, and incredibly high surf that occurred last month. The dredge crew's work schedule has been extended to include additional dredge days in an effort to restore the safety and navigability of the channel.

Over the last week, the crew has made significant progress deepening the center of the entrance channel. However, shallow conditions still exist on the west side, extending outward across the entrance. Prior to transiting the entrance, mariners are advised to check tide, weather, and sounding information and know what their vessel draws to ensure a safe transit. An updated sounding can be viewed on the District's website.

NORTH HARBOR DREDGING

Crews have restored access to the offshore disposal pipeline, which was buried during the winter storms, and resumed dredging the X/J channel on Wednesday, January 25, 2023. North harbor dredging of fine-grained material is permitted through February 28, 2023, and coarsegrained material is permitted through April 30, 2023.



Pictured above, *Twin Lakes* working extended hours to address entrance channel shoaling on January 20, 2023.



REGIONAL GENERAL PERMIT

In 2019, the Port District initiated the process of obtaining a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corp) Regional General Permit (RGP) in an effort to streamline routine maintenance activities throughout the harbor. The Port District is pleased to announce that after over three years of working with consultants and regulatory agencies, a 5-year RGP has been issued (with the option of renewal for a second 5-year term).

Historically, the District has obtained individual project permits from the Corp and other regulatory agencies, which is an extensive process. The new RGP will allow the District to implement various maintenance and repair activities on an as-needed basis, including maintenance, replacement, and/or repair of existing docks, piers, and piles; repair of drainage outfalls; embankment repair; emergency pile; and other minor maintenance activities.

Annual maintenance dredging activities will continue to be permitted separately from the RGP.



Pictured above, maintenance staff repairing a pile located under the east side public pier as part of the Pile Replacement Project permit which concluded in November 2022. Similar activities will continue under the District's new RGP.

FREE DOCKWALKER TRAINING

Become a Dockwalker to help keep our harbor community clean by conducting face-to-face boater education about environmentally-sound boating practices.

Learn more about the <u>California Dockwalker Program</u> and register to become a <u>2023 Partner Dockwalker</u>

LOOKING FOR A FLEXIBLE SUMMER JOB?



Santa Cruz Harbor is seeking seasonal, part -time employees to assist with parking and launch ramp control, fuel sales, passenger shuttles, and other customer-service related duties for Spring – Summer 2023.

Hourly Pay Starting at \$15.50/hour.

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

To apply, submit a completed Port District employment application. Application and full job descriptions are available on the Port District's website.

POSSESSORY INTEREST TAX

Each year, the Santa Cruz County Assessor's office charges possessory interest tax to vessels berthed in the Santa Cruz Harbor. The possessory interests are assessments made for the private use of otherwise nontaxable publicly owned property, including boat slips.

For more information, visit the Santa Cruz County Assessor's Office website. Please direct any questions concerning your possessory interest assessment to the County Assessor's office at (831) 454-2002.