



Santa Cruz Harbor
Public Information Statement
Storm Surge Event of December 23, 2024

MEDIA CONTACT:

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As a result of the significant surge event on Monday, December 23, 2024, emergency conditions within the harbor remain in effect. Significant damage to north harbor docks, utility infrastructure, pilings, and embankment areas have occurred.

This bulletin is presented as an update for slip licensees and harbor users who are interested in the ongoing recovery efforts. There are multiple repair and replacement projects currently underway, as well as significant planning, engineering, and financing efforts to address the damage caused by the surge event.

Debris Removal

The Port District has contracted with Woolpert for a comprehensive bathymetric survey of the harbor to identify and map all submerged hazards. Based off the survey results, Cushman Construction will begin salvage operations to remove portions of broken docks, pilings, vessels, and other submerged objects.

North Harbor Docks

There are several areas in the north harbor in need of immediate repair or replacement, notably the damaged sections and missing slips on G-Dock and X-Docks. The Port District is currently evaluating and prioritizing engineering work to facilitate repair and replacement in these areas.

Dock Access

South Harbor: All south harbor docks are open and accessible. As a result of the surge event, the electrical transformer at F-Dock sustained significant water damage and remains inoperable. Without a serviceable transformer, power is unable to be restored. The Port District has contracted with an electrical firm to assist with resolving the issue. Crews have been working diligently to regain service, but the timeline for power restoration remains undetermined.

North Harbor: **G-Dock and X-Dock remain closed.** Access to all other north harbor docks is permitted during daylight hours only until engineering assessments are completed. There is no power or water available to any portions of the north harbor and significant hazards remain.

North Harbor Liveboards

Temporary resources are available to registered liveboards in need of short-term accommodations. Registered liveboards may contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767 to learn more about temporary resources. The timeline for restoring power and water to the north harbor docks remains undetermined. Liveboards in the area should make arrangement for long-term accommodations, as a return to the docks is not imminent.

CalOES Emergency Proclamation

The Port District is awaiting a determination from CalOES regarding whether a State of Emergency Proclamation will be declared for this event. If declared, CDAA funding will become available to support recovery efforts.