



# CITY OF MORRO BAY HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

*The City of Morro Bay provides essential public services and infrastructure to maintain a safe, clean and healthy place for residents and visitors to live, work and play.*

## **Regular Meeting Thursday, October 5, 2023 – 5:30 P.M. Veterans Memorial Hall 209 Surf St., Morro Bay, CA**

Cal Myers	Recreational Boating
Cherise Hansson	Waterfront Leaseholders
Gene Doughty	South Bay/Los Osos
Sean Green	Member at Large
Christopher Vaile	Member at Large
Mary Witkowski	Marine Oriented Business
Jeremiah O'Brien	Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization
Lori French	Alternate to Jeremiah O'Brien (MBCFO)

### Public Participation:

*Public participation is allowed in the following ways:*

- *Community members may attend the meeting in person at the Morro Bay Veterans Memorial Hall.*
- *Alternatively, members of the public may watch the meeting and speak during general Public Comment or on a specific agenda item by logging in to the Zoom webinar using the information provided below. Please use the "raise hand" feature to indicate your desire to provide public comment.*

*Please click the link below to join the webinar:*

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82722747698?pwd=aWZpTzcwTHlRTk9xaTlmWVNWRWFUQT09>

*Password: 135692*

- *Or Telephone Attendee: 1 (408) 638-0968 or 1 (669) 900 6833 or 1 (346) 248 7799; Webinar ID: 827 2274 7698; Password: 135692; Press \* 9 to "Raise Hand" for Public Comment*
- *Members of the public may watch the meeting either on cable Channel 20 or as streamed on the City [website](#).*
- *Community members are encouraged to submit agenda correspondence in advance of the meeting via email to the Harbor Advisory Board at [hab@morrobayca.gov](mailto:hab@morrobayca.gov) prior to the meeting. Agenda Correspondence received at [hab@morrobayca.gov](mailto:hab@morrobayca.gov) by 10 a.m. on the meeting day will be posted on the City website.*

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIR, ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER & LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC OUTREACH REPORTING

PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the audience wishing to address the HAB on Harbor business matters not on the agenda may do so at this time. For those desiring to speak on items on the agenda, but unable to stay for the item, may also address the HAB at this time.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

Unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Board, the following actions are approved without discussion. The public will also be provided with an opportunity to comment on consent agenda items.

A-1 Harbor Department Status Report.  
**RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file report.**

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

B-1 Harbor Director – Departmental Updates  
**RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file update.**

B-2 Update from the Commercial Vessel Fees Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee’s Recent Activities  
**RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file committee update.**

B-3 Update from the Harbor Liability Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee’s Recent Activities  
**RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file committee update.**

C. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

C-1 Harbor Director – Review and Prioritize Declared Future Agenda Items  
**RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.**

D. ADJOURNMENT

This agenda is subject to amendment up to 72 hours prior to the date and time set for the meeting. Please refer to the agenda posted at the Morro Bay Harbor Department, 1275 Embarcadero, for any revisions or call the department at 772-6254 for further information.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Harbor Department, 1275 Embarcadero Road, or online at [www.morrobayca.gov](http://www.morrobayca.gov). Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board after publication of the Agenda packet are available for inspection at the Harbor Department during normal business hours or at the scheduled meeting.



AGENDA NO: A-1

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2023

# Staff Report

**TO:** Harbor Advisory Board  
**FROM:** Ted Schiafone, Harbor Director  
**SUBJECT:** Harbor Department Status Report

**DATE:** September 26, 2023

## RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file report.

## DISCUSSION

### **Recent Department Activity:**

Harbor Patrol statistics for **September 2023:**

75 bay patrols  
156 land patrols  
10 emergency responses  
85 calls for service  
34 assists of other agencies  
32 enforcement contacts  
24 Trainings  
216 maintenance actions  
13 weather warnings, and 1 hazardous bar warnings

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### **Harbor Patrol Activity.**

**Snowy Plover Fencing.** State Park Biologists and Harbor Patrol removed the symbolic fencing from the sandspit that protects the snowy plover nesting habitat. This fencing is in critical nesting habitat during March through September of each year. A quick summary of the snowy plover recovery plan and what needs to be accomplished for the plover to be considered for delisting are:

1. Average of 3,000 breeding adults maintained for 10 years and distributed among the 6 recovery units. Our recovery unit is San Luis Obispo through Ventura Counties. We're supposed to have 1,200 breeding adults in our recovery unit. In 2022, there were 2,371 breeding adults throughout the entire range. Our recovery unit had 804 breeding adults. Currently, Oregon is the only recovery unit that has reached its breeding target.
2. A yearly average productivity of at least 1.0 fledged chick per male maintained in the 5 years prior to delisting.

Prepared By: LS/BK

Dept Review: TS

City Manager Review: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney Review: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Mechanisms in place to assure long-term protection and management of breeding, wintering, and migration areas.

According to the recovery plan (finalized in 2007), delisting could occur by 2047 if the recovery criteria have been met.



**Lifeguards.** Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> was the last day of Lifeguards on the beach north of the Rock. Statistics from the season will be shared at the next HAB meeting. The Lifeguard Towers on the beach will be removed for the winter season by mid-October. Tower 0, in the parking lot, remains year-round for special events and staging area for off-season rescues. We are thankful for our young Lifeguard staff, most of them local high school kids, for their dedication to our community and their skill level in the water.

**Wildlife.** September is a fun month for wildlife in the waters of Morro Bay. The bait balls and bird activity create an awesome sight. Bait fish were abundant in the harbor and offshore. Whale sightings were also frequent. Photos taken by Head Lifeguard Colt Laurie.



**Tows:** Harbor Patrol responded and towed to safety two vessels in distress off Montana de Oro last week. The first being a 16' vessel fishing near Spooner's Cove that was broken down and drifting towards shore. The second call was for a jet ski "tow surfing" at Coon Creek during the large swells. Unfortunate operator error caused the vessel to capsize in the surf. The jet ski washed up on the rocks and sustained hull damage. The operator narrowly made it back out through the surf, shot off emergency flares and called in for help for the sinking vessel. Harbor Patrol boat 3864 and RWC (Rescue Water Craft) 3801, Coast Guard and one additional unit from Morro Bay Fire on RWC 3802 responded to the call. Harbor Patrol 3864 had a quick response time to the scene, hooked up the tow and transferred the operator to RWC 3801 for a safe return back to Morro Bay.

**Skiff Permits.** As previously discussed, the Harbor Department has not yet implemented skiff permits. A timeline is provided here to help keep this program on track for the FY 24/25 fiscal year.

December 2023

- Program policy, application & forms, and Municipal Codes drafted for review. Along with changes to the Harbor Rules & Regulations.

February 2024

- Program policy, application & forms, Municipal Codes and Harbor Rules & Regulations submitted for final approval.

March 2024

- New signage for all city docks to be ordered and staff briefing for rollout of program.

April 2024

- Skiff program policy sent to mooring owners and their renters.

May 2024

- New skiff program signage installed and permits available for purchase.

June 2024

- Reminders and warnings given to all those required to purchase a permit.

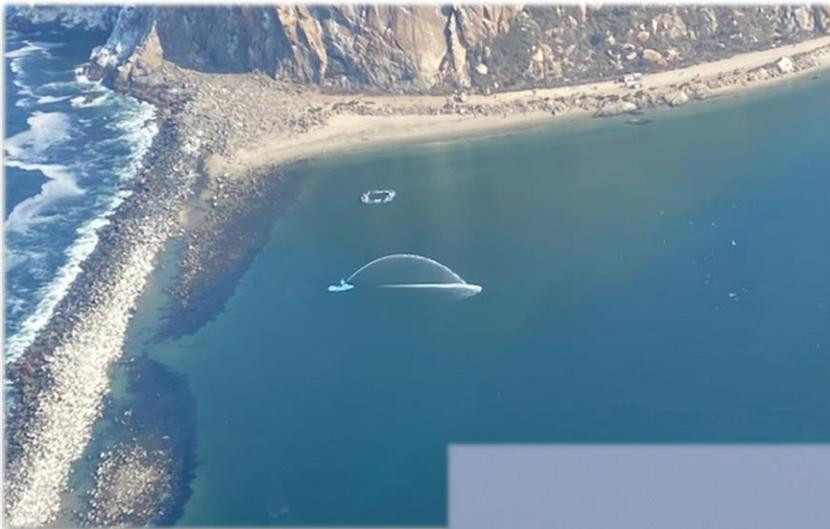
July 2024

- Full implementation, permit checks and enforcement begins.

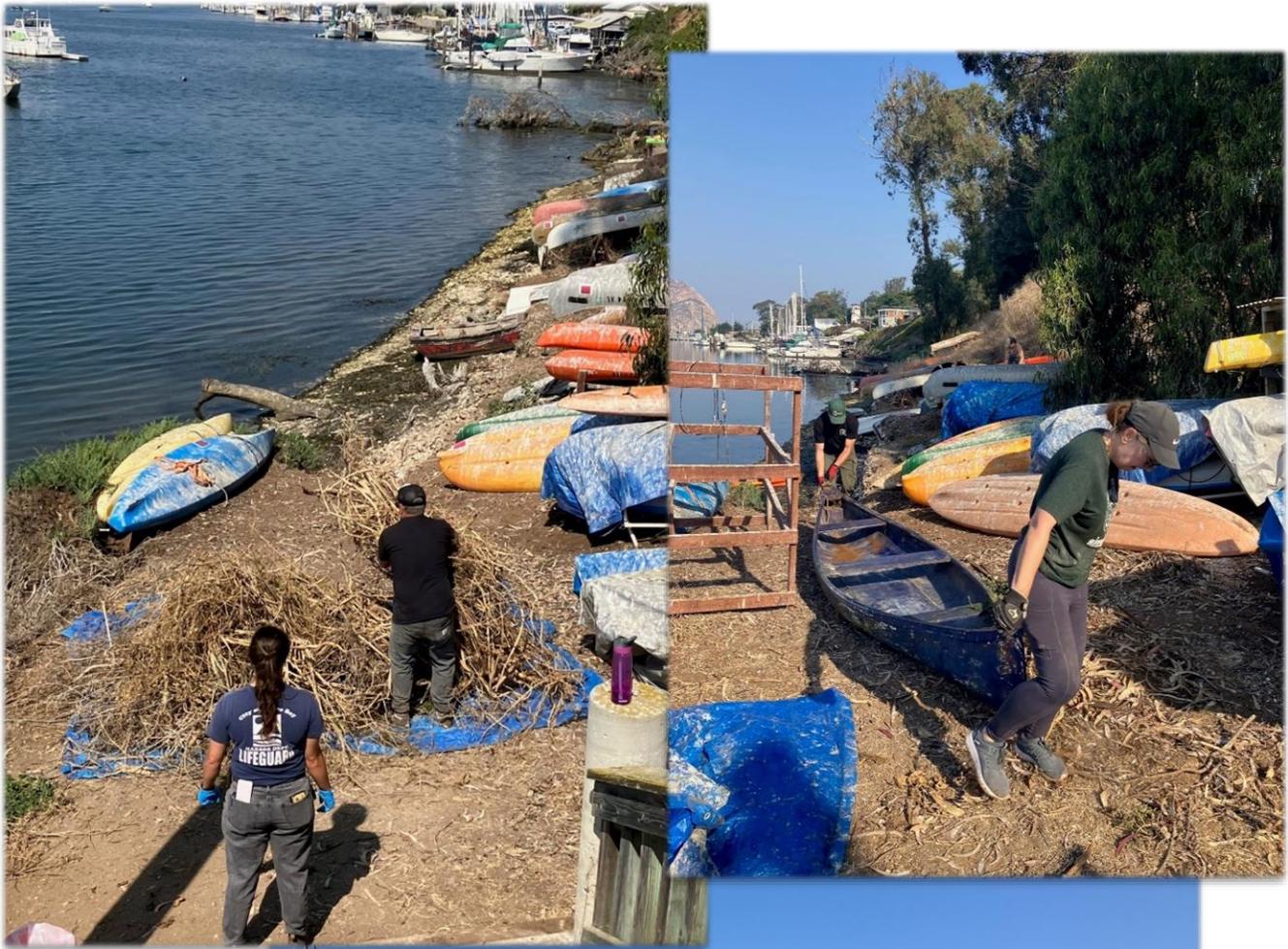
**Special Occasions.** Harbor Patrol sometimes offer a sentimental feeling to special occasions by standing by with the boat and spraying water from the fire monitor. We welcomed sailing vessel Althea back home to Morro Bay after sailing around the globe for the last 8 years, checking each box on their bucket list. We were inspired by Larry and Margie Linder following their dreams!



We were also honored to be a part of two different ceremonies honoring lives lost too early. Both were avid watermen that had strong ties to our surf community. Ryan Smith and Bryan Meyer, you are missed.



**Creeks to Coast Clean Up.** September 23 was a coastal clean up day and Harbor Patrol in conjunction with EcoSlo met at the beach at Bayshore Bluffs. This stretch of beach is used by the community to store watercraft of all types. Harbor Patrol has asked for anyone storing their property there to clearly display on their watercraft either their name/phone number or DMV registration so ownership can be determined. Some of the watercraft there are long forgotten and have become marine debris. Other items like tarps or makeshift coverings become shredded over time and a mess to clean up. Several thousand pounds of trash were collected that day with the removal of derelict vessels and even green waste to make access better. We are grateful for the volunteers that came to help!





AGENDA NO: B-1

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2023

# Staff Report

**TO:** Harbor Advisory Board

**DATE:** September 25, 2023

**FROM:** Ted Schiafone, Harbor Director

**SUBJECT:** Harbor Director – Departmental Updates

**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file oral report.

**BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

The Harbor Director will be presenting an oral update on the department's activities.

Prepared By: LS

Dept Review: TS

City Manager Review: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney Review: \_\_\_\_\_



AGENDA NO: B-2

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2023

# Staff Report

**TO:** Harbor Advisory Board

**DATE:** September 25, 2023

**FROM:** Ted Schiafone, Harbor Director

**SUBJECT:** Update from the Commercial Vessel Fees Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee's Recent Activities

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file committee update.

## **BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

The Commercial Vessel Fees Ad-Hoc Committee of the Harbor Advisory Board will be presenting an oral update on their activities.

Prepared By: LS

Dept Review: TS

City Manager Review: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney Review: \_\_\_\_\_



AGENDA NO: B-3

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2023

# Staff Report

**TO:** Harbor Advisory Board

**DATE:** September 25, 2023

**FROM:** Ted Schiafone, Harbor Director

**SUBJECT:** Update from the Harbor Liability Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee's Recent Activities

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file committee update.

## **BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

The Harbor Liability Ad-Hoc Committee of the Harbor Advisory Board will be presenting an oral update on their activities.

Prepared By: LS

Dept Review: TS

City Manager Review: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney Review: \_\_\_\_\_



AGENDA NO: C-1

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2023

# Staff Report

**TO:** Harbor Advisory Board

**DATE:** September 26, 2023

**FROM:** Ted Schiafone, Harbor Director

**SUBJECT:** Review and Prioritize Declared Future Agenda Items

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file.

## **BACKGROUND**

Declared future agenda items are topics or issues that have been proposed by HAB for discussion in upcoming meetings. This process aims to ensure that the organization's resources and time are allocated efficiently to address the most pressing matters.

## **DISCUSSION**

This report aims to provide an overview of declared future agenda items and recommend review and prioritization based on urgency, significance, and alignment with City goals. Further eliminating items not currently pertinent.

- Wind Energy Generation off the Coast of Morro Bay
- Creation of an Embarcadero Business District to Fund Harbor Infrastructure
- Review the RV Camping Program
- Consideration of an RV Camping Program Ad-Hoc Committee
- Vistra Battery Community Benefits
- TOT Derived from Waterfront to be used by the Harbor Fund
- Ironman Subcommittee
- Goals Work Planning Process - Reform Ad-hoc Committees
- Update on the Skiff Permit Program
- Lease Update.

## **CONCLUSION**

By collectively prioritizing future declared agenda items, we aim to ensure that the advisory body's efforts are concentrated on matters of utmost importance to the city.

Prepared By: LS

Dept Review: TS

City Manager Review: \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney Review: \_\_\_\_\_