



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, February 6, 2025 – 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
Marshall Witkowski	Marine Oriented Business
Jeremiah O'Brien	Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization
Vacant	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 prior to the meeting. Agenda Correspondence received at 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 & COUNCIL LIAISON ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC OUTREACH REPORTING

PRESENTATIONS

Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary & Advisory Council Opportunities, Paul Michel, Senior Advisor, NOAA Sanctuaries West Coast Region

PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the audience wishing to address the Harbor Advisory Board (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 Approval of Minutes from the Harbor Advisory Board meeting held on October 3, 2024
RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.
- A-2 Approval of Minutes from the Harbor Advisory Board meeting held on December 5, 2024
RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.
- A-3 Harbor Department Status Report
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file report.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

- B-1 Appoint a Harbor Advisory Board member to the City's Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee
RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Harbor Advisory Board appoint a member to the City's Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee
- B-2 Election of Harbor Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair
RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Harbor Advisory Board elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the upcoming year

C. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Pending items previously declared:

- TOT Derived from Waterfront to be used by the Harbor Fund
- Goals Work Planning Process - Reform Ad-hoc Committees
- Coleman Park Update
- CFAC Joint Ad-Hoc Committee
- Parking Ad-Hoc
- Waterfront Master Plan

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 805-772-6254 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. 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.

MINUTES-MORRO BAY HARBOR ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 3, 2024
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HALL – 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA NO: A-1

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2025

PRESENT:	Cal Myers	Chair
	Cherise Hansson	Vice-Chair
	Christopher Vaile	Member
	Jeremiah O'Brien	Member
	Sean Green	Member
	Gene Doughty	Member
ABSENT:	Mary Witkowski	Member
STAFF:	Chief Dan McCrain	Interim Harbor Director
	Lori Thompson	Harbor Business Coordinator
	Becka Kelly	Harbor Patrol Supervisor

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

<https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=ANIMuZBI0J4GOM0T&t=13>

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., with a quorum present.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PRESENTATIONS

https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=1t3gVPne_ym7O9Wh&t=1127

Waterfront Master Plan Update - Airlin Singewald, Community Development Director

PUBLIC COMMENT

<https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=vvvXrWnfmauFBeN0&t=2256>

The public comment period was opened.

Kim Fowler, Planning Manager for City of Morro Bay spoke to eel grass planning requirements and mitigation.

The public comment period was closed.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

<https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=0TLXmPQteXe5jmfY&t=2461>

Unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Board, the following actions are approved without discussion.

A-1 Harbor Department Status Report.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file report.

MOTION: Board Member Chair Vaile moved to approve the consent agenda. The Motion was seconded by Board Member Myers and carried 6-0-1, with Member Witkowski absent.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=56wzYW-HkeNm77PX&t=2512>

B-1 INTERIM HARBOR DIRECTOR – DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Interim Harbor Director, Fire Chief, Dan McCrain presented a brief oral report on the status of current Harbor department projects, including the Harbor Vitality Director job announcement and answered Board member inquiries.

The public comment period was opened and closed with no comments.

B-2 COMMERCIAL VESSEL FEES AD-HOC COMMITTEE

<https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=YRUwexS4Vv-bBsil&t=3081>

The committee had no new updates

The public comment period was opened and closed with no comments.

B-3 MOORING FIELD AD-HOC COMMITTEE

https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=id_PqgwzciQNTfbm&t=3223

The committee had no new updates.

The public comment period was opened. The public comment period was closed.

C. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

https://youtu.be/NeBnkb6pPwk?si=SSuicogY_sNJL3VQ&t=3331

There was Board consensus to remove Creation of an Embarcadero Business District to Fund Harbor Infrastructure and Ironman Subcommittee was removed from the future agenda item list.

Member Doughty left the dais at 6:27 p.m.

D. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Lori Thompson
Harbor Department

MINUTES-MORRO BAY HARBOR ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING – DECEMBER 5, 2024
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HALL – 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA NO: A-2

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2025

PRESENT:	Cal Myers	Chair
	Cherise Hansson	Vice-Chair
	Jeremiah O'Brien	Member
	Sean Green	Member
	Gene Doughty	Member
ABSENT:	Christopher Vaile	Member
	Mary Witkowski	Member
STAFF:	Chris Munson	Harbor Director
	Lori Thompson	Harbor Business Coordinator
	Becka Kelly	Harbor Patrol Supervisor

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=PhjwxI7CbFJOBPY&t=9>

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m., with a quorum present.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PRESENTATIONS

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=N9bl38tOcN6fc9SE&t=491>

January 2025 Bird Festival - Robbie Revel, Executive Director MBBF Planning Committee

PUBLIC COMMENT

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=Kj9ZEm-fZm8iHq4T&t=1621>

The public comment period was opened.

Bill Luffee announced he will be stepping down as President of the Friends of the Morro Bay Harbor Department and introduced Cal Myers as the new President.

The public comment period was closed.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=CuDCx3rKrSQx01xa&t=1789>

Unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Board, the following actions are approved without discussion.

A-1 Approval of Minutes from the Harbor Advisory Board meeting held on August 1, 2024

RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted

A-2 Harbor Department Status Report.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file report.

A-2 was pulled by Member Green for discussion.

MOTION: Board Member O'Brien moved to approve A-1 on the consent agenda. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Hansson and carried 5-0-2, with Member's Witkowski and Vaile absent.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=npELq7zGmQpJuULi&t=1927>

B-1 INTERIM HARBOR DIRECTOR – DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Fire Chief Dan McCrain presented a brief oral report and introduced the newly hired Harbor Vitality Director, Chris Munson.

Director Munson briefly introduced himself and thanked the board.

The public comment was opened and closed with no comments

B-2 MOORING FIELD AD-HOC COMMITTEE

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=owYqhzITz6qUdqU &t=2348>

Committee Member Myers gave a brief oral report on the committee's last meeting and presented their final report.

Harbor Patrol Supervisor Kelly thanked the committee for their involvement in the mooring field review.

The public comment period was opened and closed with no comments.

C. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/Q359XuZDIMM?si=bzBx6xcdcAyLm3Pn&t=2565>

No new items were added.

D. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Lori Thompson
Harbor Department



AGENDA NO: A-3

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2025

Staff Report

TO: Harbor Advisory Board

DATE: January 24, 2025

FROM: Harbor Staff

SUBJECT: Harbor Department Status Report

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file report.

DISCUSSION

Recent Harbor Department Activity:

Harbor Patrol Statistics

<p>December 2024: Bay Patrols: 75 Land Patrols: 185 Emergency Responses: 13 Calls for Service: 134 Assist Other Agencies: 52 Enforcement Contacts: 18 Trainings: 36 Maintenance Actions: 213 Days with Restricted Harbor Entrance: 9</p>	<p>As of January 27, 2025: Bay Patrols: 75 Land Patrols: 152 Emergency Responses: 8 Calls for Service: 105 Assists Other Agencies: 48 Enforcement Contacts: 22 Trainings: 34 Maintenance Actions: 186 Days with Restricted Harbor Entrance: 0</p>
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Harbor Patrol Activity

Winter Weather Event: December 23, 2024 was reported by Meteorologist John Lindsey as the most powerful ever recorded wave event. The period and wavelength for the swell were the longest observed and that combination resulted in unprecedented wave energy. Harbor Patrol performed multiple preventative actions to ensure public safety on the beaches, jetties, surf zone and entrance of the harbor. The Coast Guard declared a Captain of the Port Order to restrict all vessel traffic in or out of Morro Bay that day. Harbor Patrol and Morro Bay Fire responded that day to a surfer in distress at Morro Rock who was unable to make it back to the beach and ended up climbing onto Morro Rock. Rescuers assisted the surfer to climb around the Rock to safety in the parking lot where they counseled him on better judgement of where and when to paddle out. Since that day we have had much less swell and zero advisories for the Harbor Entrance in the month of January.

Prepared By: BK/LT

Dept Review: LT

City Manager Review: _____

City Attorney Review: _____

Navigational Hazard: A shallow shoaling area has been identified in the Harbor between Channel Markers 8 and 10 opposite of the North T Pier. A shallow water buoy has been placed at N 35° 22.190' W 120° 51.526' as a warning for the entire vicinity on the sandspit side of the channel. Safe navigation guidelines must be followed when transiting in this area by adhering to the seafarer's expression, "red right returning" as a reminder that the red buoys are kept to the starboard (right) side when proceeding from the open sea. Conversely, when proceeding towards the open sea, red buoys are kept to port (left) side.



California Boater Card: As of January 1, 2025 all motorized vessel operators regardless of age are required to carry a California Boater Card. This law requires the operator to take a Safe Boating Course, either online or in person, fill out an application and pay a \$10 fee to obtain the card. More information can be found at <https://californiaboatercard.com>. According to California law the only persons not required to have a boater card to operate a motorized vessel on California waterways is listed below:

- *A person operating a rental vessel.*
- *A person operating a vessel while under the direct supervision of a person 18 years of age or older who is in possession of a California Boater Card.*
- *A person who is a resident of a state other than California who is temporarily operating a vessel in California for less than 60 days and meets the boating requirements, if any, of his/her state.*
- *A person who is a resident of a country other than the United States who is temporarily operating a vessel in California for less than 90 days and meets the boating requirements, if any, of his/her country.*
- *A person operating a vessel in an organized regatta or vessel race, or water ski race.*
- *A person who is in possession of a current commercial fishing license.*

- *A person who is in possession of a valid marine operator license, for the waters upon which the licensee is operating, issued by the United States Coast Guard, or who is in possession of a valid certificate issued pursuant to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended.*
- *A person who has successfully completed a boating course approved by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training Post.*

New Year's Day: Harbor Patrol Rescue Watercraft and Beach Lifeguards provided water safety at the 45th Annual Carlin Soule Memorial Polar Bear Dip with Cal Fire and Cayucos Lifeguards for more than 2000 participants in Cayucos. In Morro Bay, the Harbor Patrol commemorated the day by spraying water for those who plunged and honored the life of longtime business owner of Toobs, Jerome "Buzz" Morasca.



Council Activity

December 10, 2024

Council authorized a three-person delegation to attend the California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (C-MANC) 2025 "Washington Week" meetings in Washington, D.C. slated for February 10 – 14, 2025, and to represent the City's interests in the nation's capital. It is anticipated the Mayor, City Manager and Harbor Vitality Director will attend the Conference; however, staff recommends the Council authorize Council Member Landrum, as the liaison to the Harbor Advisory Board, as an alternate to be the third representative should one of the others be unable to attend.

January 14, 2025

Council adopted Resolution No. 03-25 allowing the Mayor to authorize the assignment and assumption, and authorizing the Mayor to execute necessary documents, and accepting deeds of

trust related thereto regarding sale of the leasehold interest at Lease Site 53-56/53W-56W (Estero Inn, 501 Embarcadero) to Russel Curtis, Don Nelson, Daniel McCall, and Justin Larabee (LLC Pending), with documents subject to approval of the City Attorney.

Council conducted interviews to fill upcoming vacancies on the Planning Commission, Public Works Advisory Board, Harbor Advisory Board and Recreation & Parks Commission.

Council confirmed the makeup of the Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee (WMPAC) and initiate a recruitment process.

January 28, 2025

Council upheld an appeal by Paul Gillen and reserved the Planning Commission's denial of Conditional Use Permit CUP24-04, and approved a revised project for the demolition of existing structures and redevelopment of Lease Sites at 431, 451, and 495 Embarcadero Road.

Council received a progress report on the City Council goals and action items and provided direction on remaining items.

Upcoming Events

March 21-23, 2025

Morro Bay City Wide Yard Sale

The dates will be the weekend of March 21st, 22nd, & 23rd. To participate email info@morrobay.org.

April 25-27, 2025

Morro Bay Kite Festival

The Kite festival will be April 25th, 26th, & 27th, 2025. Discover one of the most fun FREE events on the Central Coast at the Morro Bay Kite Festival! Hosted on the beach just north of Morro Rock find kites of every size and color soaring in the abundant wind. It's a family event for all ages and lifestyles.

May 1-3, 2025

Cruisin Morro Bay Car Show

Cruisin Morro Bay Car Show May 1st - 3rd the Cruisin' Morro Bay Car Show returns for its 29th year in 2025! Starting Thursday evening, rare cars will begin arriving in Morro Bay for registration. On Friday, secure a spot on Main Street for Cruise Night at 6 p.m. as classic and other rare cars cruise past. Continue the "Show & Shine" on Saturday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and talk with the car owners.

June 28, 2025

Morro Bay Marine Swap Meet

Mark your calendars and get your stuff out you want to sell! This event began in 2018 and has been a successful gathering for both buyers and sellers. For more information contact info@friendsofthembhd.org or check out their website at friendsofthembhd.org



AGENDA NO: B-1

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2025

Staff Report

TO: Harbor Advisory Board

DATE: January 29, 2025

FROM: Lori Thompson, Harbor Business Coordinator

SUBJECT: Appoint a Harbor Advisory Board member to the City's Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Harbor Advisory Board (HAB) appoint a member to the City's Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee (WMPAC)

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The City's Waterfront Master Plan has not been updated since it was first adopted in 1996. The Waterfront Master Plan is a vision for the future development, land use, circulation, and infrastructure for both sides of the Embarcadero from Tidelands Park to Morro Rock.

On October 9, 2024, the California Coastal Commission approved the City's grant application for \$750,000 to update the City's Waterfront Master Plan Update. The estimated timeline to complete the update is November 2026.

At the January 14, 2025 Council meeting, the Council approved the formation of a WMPAC consisting of community members and local stakeholders to act in an advisory capacity and provide recommendations to the Planning Commission and City Council for consideration. The WMPAC will hold monthly public meetings to provide recommendations on policy and design components on the WMP.

The Council specified that the committee member assigned from HAB could not be the Waterfront Leaseholder member, since the Embarcadero Master Leaseholder group will also be assigning a delegate.

The expected time commitment for WMPAC members is 8 to 12 hours per month for the next 24 months.

Prepared By: LS

Dept Review: CM

City Manager Review: _____

City Attorney Review: _____



AGENDA NO: B-2

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2025

Staff Report

TO: Harbor Advisory Board **DATE:** January 30, 2025
FROM: Lori Thompson, Harbor Business Coordinator
SUBJECT: Election of Harbor Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Harbor Advisory Board elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the upcoming year.

BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION:

Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair Election

Per the Harbor Advisory Board Bylaws:

At the first regular meeting each year wherein newly appointed Members are seated, the Members shall elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson who shall hold office for a period of one year.

Board members may nominate another member or volunteer to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair. It is suggested, though not required, that it be accomplished in two separate motions, as follows:

MOTION: Board Member _____ moved to nominate Board Member _____ as Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board for 2025. (requires a second and vote)

MOTION: Board Member _____ moved to nominate Board Member _____ as Vice-Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board for 2025. (requires a second and vote)

Prepared By: LS

Dept Review: _____

City Manager Review: _____

City Attorney Review: _____