



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, April 3, 2025
5:30 P.M. or immediately following the Joint PWAB/HAB Meeting
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 - None

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 February 6, 2025
RECOMMENDATION: Approve as submitted.

A-2 Harbor Department Status Report
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file report.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

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

B-2 Consideration of Blanket Waiver of Slip Qualifications for Commercial Salmon Fishermen
RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend the Harbor Advisory Board take public input and consider recommending a blanket waiver of slip qualifications for salmon fishermen due to the 2024 season closure.

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 – FEBRUARY 6, 2025
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HALL – 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA NO: A-1
MEETING DATE: April 3, 2025

PRESENT:	Cal Myers	Chair
	Cherise Hansson	Vice-Chair
	Jeremiah O'Brien	Member
	Gene Doughty	Member
	Sean Green	Member
ABSENT:	Marshall Witkowski	Member
STAFF:	Lori Thompson	Harbor Business Coordinator

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

<https://youtu.be/z2fslVXznq4?si=i6lJ8CRyfTY10zAH&t=13>

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

<https://youtu.be/z2fslVXznq4?si=INf7-cp9aRhcnm8P&t=96>

Board Member Green arrived at the dais at 5:36 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

<https://youtu.be/z2fslVXznq4?si=xHb0px1ByCp0eoq2&t=473>

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

<https://youtu.be/z2fslVXznq4?si=MfvFwwHGFkEYy69l&t=2236>

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

A. CONSENT AGENDA

<https://youtu.be/z2fslVXznq4?si=3TwpPrIFg5nyqVk2&t=2286>

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 October 3, 2024

A-2 Approval of Minutes from the Harbor Advisory Board meeting held on December 5, 2024

A-3 Harbor Department Status Report.

MOTION: Board Member Hansson moved to approve the consent agenda. The Motion was seconded by Board Chair Myers and carried 5-0-1, with Board Member Witkowski absent.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

B-1 APPOINT A HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER TO THE CITY'S WATERFRONT MASTER PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

https://youtu.be/z2fsIVXzng4?si=nSrqx3DGf_UqBoPW&t=2313

Community Development Director Singewald presented the staff report for item B-1 and responded to Board Member inquiries.

MOTION: Board Chair Myers moved to appoint Board Member Doughty to the City's waterfront master plan advisory committee. The Motion was seconded by Board Member O'Brien

AMENDED

MOTION: Board Member Hansson moved to appoint Board Member Doughty to the City's waterfront master plan advisory committee, as long as there is not a conflict of interest, and along with extending Member Doughty's term on the Board. The Motion was seconded by Board Member O'Brien and carried 4-1-1, with Member Green opposed, and Board Member Witkowski absent.

The public comment was open and closed with no comments

B-2 ELECTION OF HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

<https://youtu.be/z2fsIVXzng4?si=36l9qULrcLvegXEw&t=4203>

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

MOTION: Board Member O'Brien moved to nominate Board Member Myers as Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board for 2025. The Motion was seconded by Member Doughty and carried 5-0-1, with Board Member Witkowski absent.

MOTION: Board Member O'Brien moved to nominate Board Member Hansson as Vice-Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board for 2025. The Motion was seconded by Member Green and carried 5-0-1, with Board Member Witkowski absent.

C. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/z2fsIVXzng4?si=Fil4XnZ50qEX4l7c&t=4281>

There was a consensus to add a Coleman Park update add to the future agenda items, however the item has already been agendized.

D. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Lori Thompson
Harbor Department



AGENDA NO: A-2

MEETING DATE: April 3, 2025

Staff Report

TO: Harbor Advisory Board

DATE: March 27, 2025

FROM: Harbor Staff

SUBJECT: Harbor Department Status Report

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file report.

DISCUSSION

Recent Harbor Department Activity:

Harbor Patrol Statistics

March 1st – 26th 2025:

Bay Patrols: 72

Land Patrols: 234

Emergency Responses: 16

Calls for Service: 175

Assist Other Agencies: 57

Enforcement Contacts: 17

Training: 36

Maintenance Actions: 303

Weather Advisories: 15

Entrance Restrictions: 9

Noteworthy Harbor Patrol Activity

3/3 - MBYC reported a safety concern at the lease site just north of MBYC that had broken in the wind. The piling was about to fall into the bay and was hanging on by a few screws. Harbor Patrol towed the pile from Kayak Horizon's dock to the South T Pier to hoist it out of the water. They also towed the vessels from a nearby broken dock to safe tie up locations.



Prepared By: Lt/BK

Dept Review: EF

City Manager Review:

City Attorney Review:



Harbor Patrol responded to a report of a center console skiff sunk due to bad positioning with the stern pointed into high wind/waves at the Hofbrau dock with only small amount of freeboard. They pumped the water out of the vessel and towed it to the launch ramp.

3/10 – Harbor Patrol was dispatched to a surf rescue at Cayucos pier with 4 body boarders 100 yards past the pier. Boat 3864 and RWC 3801 responded but, 3801 were cancelled in route due to self-rescue.

3/14- Phone in report to Harbor Office of a surfer struggling in outlet at Morro Rock. On scene, Harbor Patrol saw a surfer had just made it back to standing in shallow water. They watched until he got out of the water and gave him a safety lecture.

3/16- During 6 a.m. morning rounds on the Embarcadero, Harbor Patrol was flagged down by a citizen who had observed water leaking from the coffee shop, Groggy Scallywag. Water was gushing from under the door and from the wall under the counter. Harbor Patrol investigated with an employee that showed up soon after and contacted owner. Harbor Patrol shut off the breaker to kitchen area and shut off the water valve. The entire floor had 2-3" of standing water.





3/18- F/V FILTHY RICHES was taking on water close to sinking at the North T Pier. It was determined the shore power cord on pier was disconnected from bilge pump on the sinking vessel which was the cause of the mishap. Harbor Patrol responded and set up multiple hoses to start de-watering the vessel. Both de-watering pumps on boat 3864 were running in fish hold with one gas pump as well in the cabin. Patrol deployed oil absorbent pads due to a diesel tank in the fish hold which had flipped on its side and was leaking. With the assistance of the Coast Guard, they stabilized the diesel tank by lifting upright with the wench on a patrol vehicle.



3/21- The Harbor Office received a phone report from a boater that he had lost power to his skiff in the back bay south of oyster farms. Harbor Patrol responded in boat 3869 from Tidelands area. They retrieved the skiff owner and with 2 dogs and dropped them back at Marina Square without issue.

3/24- Harbor Patrol was dispatched to a trip and fall by Three Stacks brewing. While first on scene, Harbor Patrol found a 70-year-old female with a broken arm. Fire and EMS arrived shortly after. Harbor Patrol assisted to stabilize and move patient onto gurney. Patient transported to hospital in ambulance.

Surrendered and Abandoned Vessel Exchange (SAVE)

3/24-3/27 – The Harbor Department received grant funding from the Division of Boating and Waterways to remove vessels from the waters of Morro Bay. A formal bid packet was put out for contractors to crush and haul the vessels to the dump. Ten boats were included in the demolition over the course of three days without issue.



Training

Towing is one of the most important training drills for Harbor Patrol and Coast Guard to conduct. Each boat tows differently and with different weather conditions there are considerations to how to safely retrieve a vessel and out danger. When an emergency tow is necessary all crew assisting should be well versed in the method of the tow. Recently the Coast Guard Auxiliary participated in tow training with the Harbor Patrol.



Reserve Harbor Patrol Officer MacIntosh shown below training to tow vessels while solo on the Harbor Patrol boat. It is a difficult task to get tied up in the current but teaches quick maneuvering to ensure no property is damaged.



City Council Activity

March 11, 2025

City Council adopted Resolution No. 12-25, 13-25 and 14-25 approving a new Harbor Business Manager job classification, job description and a full-time Office Assistant IV position for the Harbor Department Business Division.

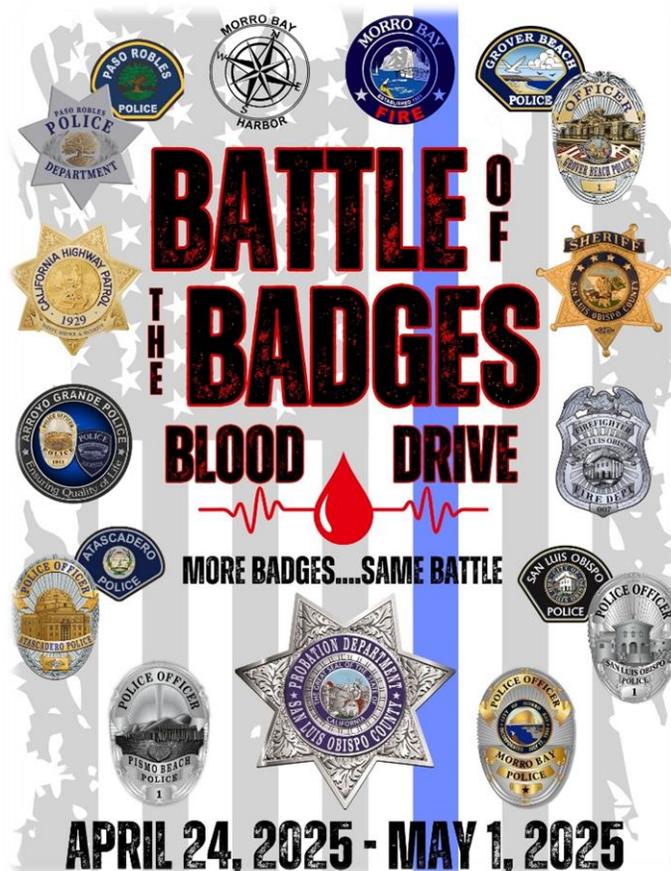
Upcoming Events

April 24 – May 1, 2025

It's that time of year to give us your blood, I mean donate your blood. Our very own MB Fire and Harbor Departments are joining in the action and we're all teaming up to take on the rest of the county agencies in this friendly competition. Last year, MBPD collected 33 pints of blood in 4-5 hours, and this year we hope to clear 40 or more pints. We cannot do that without your help again.

Click the link below to find Morro Bay's landing page so you can schedule your appointment. If you cannot make it on our assigned day (Monday, April 28th), you can always sign up at another location. Just make sure to let them know you are donating for Morro Bay when you check-in.

[SLO County Battle of the Badges](#)



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 marine treasures 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: April 3, 2025

Staff Report

TO: Harbor Advisory Board

DATE: March 27, 2024

FROM: Chris Munson, 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.

Attachment(s): City Council Goal-Setting Special Meeting Results

Prepared By: CS

Dept Review: LT

City Manager Review: _____

City Attorney Review: _____

City Council Goal-Setting Special Meeting Results

Michael Codron, Facilitator
March 25, 2025





City Council Straw Poll Results

- The City Council conducted a straw poll to identify the top goals for further consideration, including:
 - Economic Vitality and Fiscal Health
 - Infrastructure Resiliency
 - El Morro Elementary
- The following slides include the final goal statements and objectives identified by the City Council through the facilitation process.

Summary

City Council Goals – Straw Poll

Instructions:

Use the scale to apply the appropriate number to your top goals. Each Council Member may **allocate a maximum of 15 points in total**.

Scale:

- 5 = Top Priority
- 4 = Important Priority
- 3 = Priority
- 2 = If Resources Exist
- 1 = Consider for Future

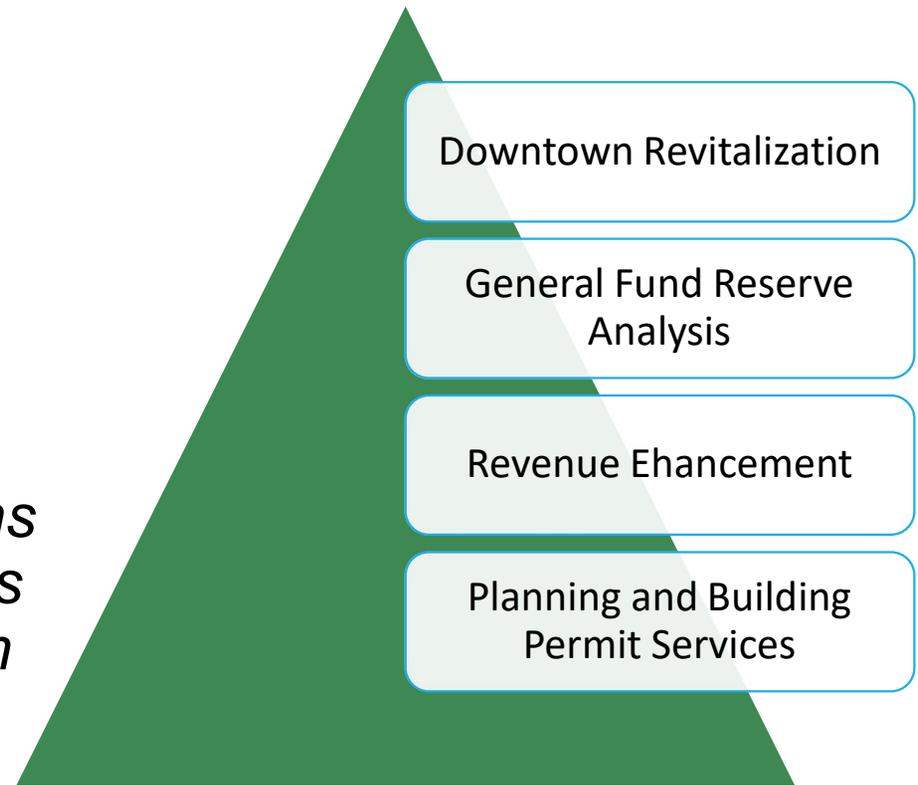
Goal Topics	Eckles	Edwards	Landrum	Luffee	Wixom	Total
Economic Vitality/Fiscal Health <i>Ref. 2011</i>	5	5	5	5	5	25
Infrastructure	5	5	5	5	5	25
Quality of Life						
Housing					2	2
Homelessness						
Community Engagement						
El Morro Elementary	5	5	5	5	3	23
Environmental Stewardship						
Revenue Enhancement						



Economic Vitality and Fiscal Health

- **Goal Statement:**

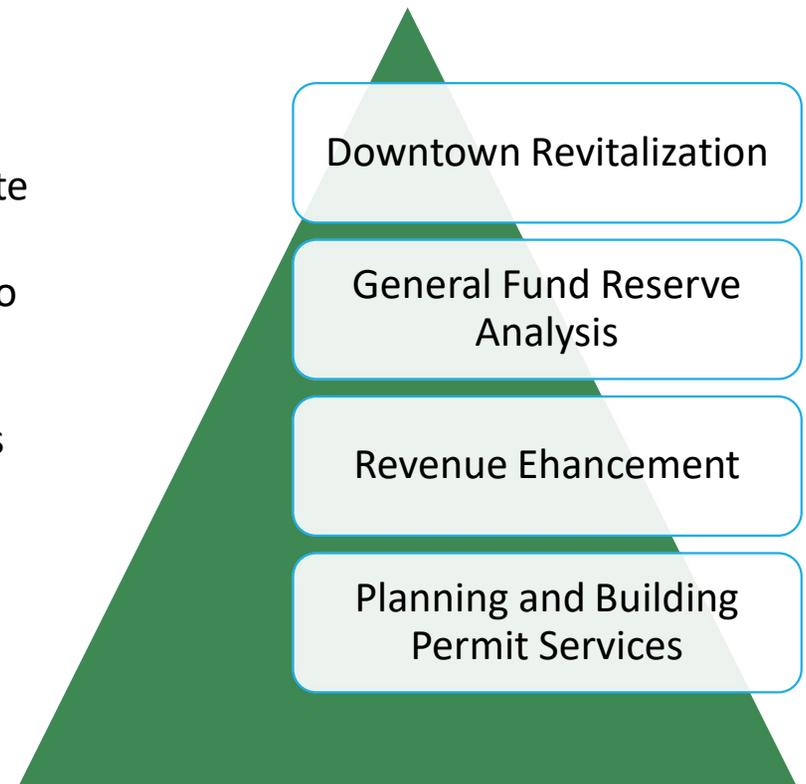
A vibrant and active business community supported by coordinated strategies for economic vitality and fiscal health that create the conditions for individual business success and the long-term fiscal health of the City.





Economic Vitality and Fiscal Health

- Using existing plans, identify and implement programs for beautification, wayfinding signage, and incentivizing private property improvements, including façade rehabilitation.
- Perform a risk-based analysis of the City's Reserve Policy to identify appropriate reserve levels for long-term financial planning.
- Develop a comprehensive strategy for increasing revenues over time to support the provision of core services.
- Perform outreach and engagement with customers of the City's planning and building permit services to identify changes to improve satisfaction and increase economic activity in the City associated with building permits.





Infrastructure Resiliency

- **Goal Statement:**

An infrastructure program that includes regular maintenance to prolong the life of existing infrastructure (streets, buildings, structures, equipment) while implementing a Capital Improvement Plan that prioritizes new projects in alignment with available resources (funding and staff).

5-Year CIP

Infrastructure
Maintenance

Harbor
Infrastructure



Infrastructure Resiliency

- Create a 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that prioritizes infrastructure projects in consideration of available resources (funding and staff).
- Increase the City's efficiency and awareness of infrastructure maintenance requirements by improving the City's asset management and work order system, including the functionality of the public-facing Service Request form.
- Utilize the recently completed study of the harbor revetments to prioritize projects and identify maintenance responsibilities. Develop a funding strategy informed by research on grant opportunities.

5-Year CIP

Infrastructure
Maintenance

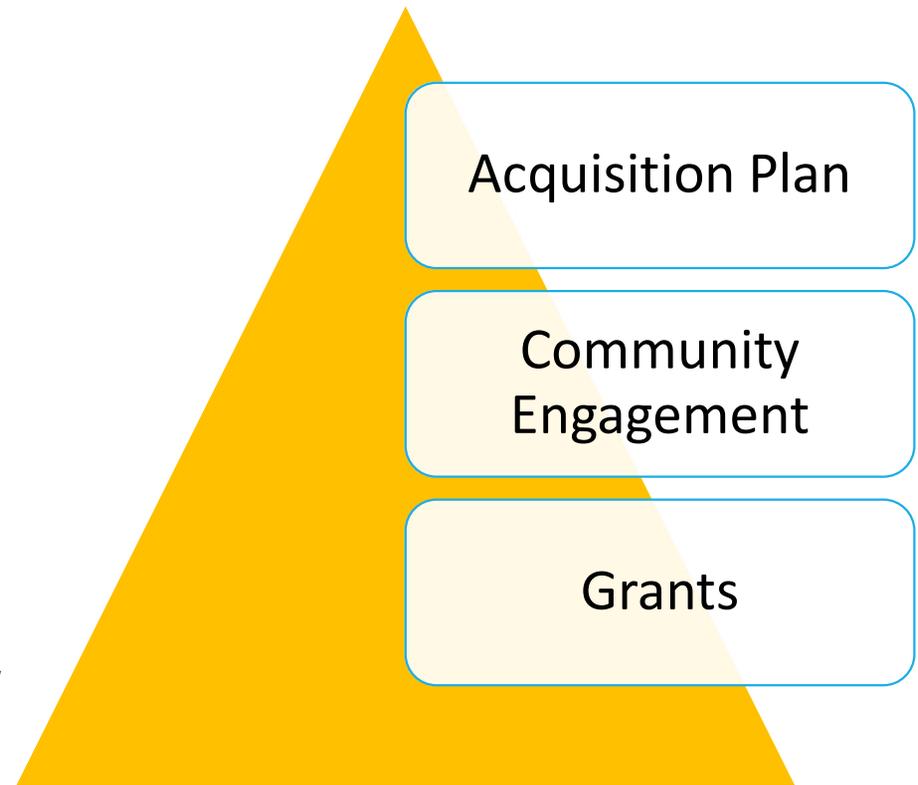
Harbor
Infrastructure



El Morro Elementary School

- **Goal Statement:**

Work with the San Luis Coastal Unified School District to acquire the Morro Elementary School site or assist in development for the purpose of preserving community access, historic preservation, and/or housing development consistent with the City's General Plan.





El Morro Elementary School

- Identify partners, such as market-rate and affordable housing developers, to work on a plan to fund the acquisition of the El Morro Elementary School site.
- Continue to engage with the community regarding uses of the school site that take into consideration the current land use designation for the property and cost of acquisition.
- Identify potential grant opportunities for historic preservation, public access, and other beneficial uses of the property that could be supported by one or more grants.





AGENDA NO: B-2

MEETING DATE: April 3, 2025

Staff Report

TO: Harbor Advisory Board

DATE: March 26, 2025

FROM: Chris Munson, Harbor Director

SUBJECT: Consideration of Blanket Waiver of Slip Qualifications for Commercial Salmon Fishermen

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend the Harbor Advisory Board take public input and consider recommending a blanket waiver of slip qualifications for salmon fishermen due to the 2024 season closure.

FISCAL IMPACT

If a blanket waiver is enacted, due to the limited numbers of commercial salmon fishermen in City slips and piers, it would not be anticipated to result in a significant negative fiscal impact to the Harbor Fund.

BACKGROUND

Salmon season is typically open May through September every year. However, during the past two years, the salmon season has been closed.

In April 2024, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) acted unanimously to recommend closure of California's commercial and recreational ocean salmon fisheries through the end of the year, mirroring recommendations made to close the fisheries in 2023.

According to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, in 2024, salmon stocks continued to be impacted in California from ongoing issues associated with drought and climate disruption. The salmon that were present and returning to California's coast and rivers were impacted by a multi-year drought, severe wildfires, and associated impacts to spawning and rearing habitat, harmful algal blooms and ocean forage shifts. The low ocean abundance forecasts, coupled with low 2023 returns, led the PFMC to recommend full closure of California's commercial and recreational ocean salmon fisheries.

To qualify for a discounted rate on slip fees, commercial fishermen must provide receipts or tickets as proof of active fishing during the season. Vessels 26 feet in length or less require \$5,000, while vessels greater than 26 feet in length require \$10,000. However, due to the closures, meeting this requirement has not been possible.

Prepared By: CM

Dept Review: LT

City Manager Review: _____

City Attorney Review: _____

DISCUSSION

Although Morro Bay commercial fishermen are provided the opportunity to maintain their discount on slips fees by applying for waivers individually; they have been for reasons that are specific to that fisherman such as boat repairs/inoperability, health, or other reasons along these lines. A fisherman is also limited to 2 waivers in a 10-year period.

The recent salmon closures have been completely out of local fisherman's control. By discontinuing the reduced slip rates, it will put an even greater financial strain on the commercial fishermen who were unable to fish due to the closure. Although a blanket waiver will reduce potential revenue to the Harbor Fund, it is defensible in that it supports the viability of the Morro Bay commercial fishing fleet which has regionwide economic benefits.

CONCLUSION

The Harbor Advisory Board should discuss the proposed blanket waiver of slip fee discount qualifications for salmon fishermen due to the 2024 season closure and provide recommendations to staff.