

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 21, 2016
To: Harbor Commission
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: **Harbor Operations Report**

RECORD VENDOR ATTENDANCE AT HARBOR NAUTICAL SWAP MEET

A record 58 vendors participated in the 7th annual Harbor Nautical Swap Meet on May 14th. Hundreds of community members jammed the Marina 3 parking lot, enjoying great deals on everything from \$100 paddle boards to boat rigging, fishing gear, dive gear, kayaks, skiffs, motors, pumps and more. All while enjoying free coffee, donuts, bagels and fruit, care of the Harbor Merchants Association, designated beneficiary of this popular event.

In concert with the Swap Meet, local boaters took advantage of a Hazmat disposal facility to get rid of hazardous materials taking up space in dock boxes or boats. The Hazmat Turn-in was funded in part through a CalRecycle used-oil grant.

With its growing popularity, next year's event should be equally successful. Stay tuned for the date, so you can circle your calendar early.

JULY 4TH RECAP

Building on last year's successful Independence Day celebration, this year's event hit all the marks for a memorable July 4th. Sunny weather set the stage, with beach crowds arriving by 10:00 a.m. On West Beach, thousands enjoyed stage performances from family-friendly musicians and dancers, plus food from curbside vendors who reported more business than any previous Fourth of July. Stearns Wharf, in turn, attracted over 7,000 pedestrians to a family-friendly celebration with face-painting, food, shopping and live music. A magnificent fireworks display, including effects not locally seen before, was simulcast at 9:00 p.m. sharp on KJEE 92.9 FM and streamed live on KEYT.com.

Waterfront staff worked with several City departments and its nonprofit partner to coordinate this safe, popular event, which included a strong social media and web presence to efficiently communicate with the public.

Finally, thanks in part to the presence of many City police officers, there were no major law-enforcement incidents during the entire event. This added an extra layer of comfort and security for this traditional family celebration.

ROCK-CRAB SEASON FINALLY OPENS AT THE ISLANDS

After false starts, conflicting test results and partial closures, the island rock-crab fishery re-opened in full on June 3rd, marking the first time the fishery has been fully operational on the coast and at the islands since November, 2015.

The director of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment recommended lifting a remaining closure between Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa islands after consulting the California Department of Public Health and notifying the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and California Fish and Game Commission. Local fishermen land a significant percentage of their catch from this area, contributing to the fishery's overall ex-vessel value, which can reach \$5 million annually.

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