

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 21, 2009
To: Harbor Commissioners
From: John N. Bridley, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

2009 Operation Clean Sweep Cancelled

For reasons related to the Jesusita Fire, Operation Clean Sweep, scheduled for Saturday, May 9th, was cancelled. While 45 volunteer divers and dock workers had signed up for the event, most had to drop out at the last minute. Several had either been evacuated, were in an evacuation warning zone or were hosting evacuees. The event will likely be rescheduled to its normal time next May. Waterfront staff wishes to thank all those who prepared for this year's effort, reflecting their commitment to maintaining good water quality in the harbor.

Cruise Ship Visits

The Department expected one cruise ship visit in May, but owing to recent restrictions on cruise ships entering Mexican ports (swine flu), three visited our City--one each on May 2nd, May 3rd and May 10th. Two of the visits (May 2nd and May 3rd) were re-routed from Mexican destinations, while Santa Barbara was a planned stop for May 10th.

Last-minute arrangements for the May 2nd and May 3rd visits (and the visits themselves) went smoothly, owing to previous preparation and success accommodating cruise ships. During the three stops, some 6,000 visitors enjoyed walking tours, plus bus, pedicab and trolley tours of the City. Staff currently anticipates no further cruise-ship visits this year.

Oil Spill Grant

The Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), has awarded the City a \$25,000 grant to purchase oil-spill containment boom and a storage trailer for emergency deployment during a major offshore oil spill. The boom would be used to secure the inner harbor against oil intrusion. Staff worked with OSPR staff, plus City and County Emergency Services staff to secure the grant. The Department anticipates delivery of the equipment and completion of mandatory training (Harbor Patrol) within the next 60 days.

Update—East Beach Moorings

In April, 2006, City Council adopted Resolution No. 06-027, subsequently replaced by Resolution No. 07-040, establishing procedures for issuing mooring permits in the East Beach Mooring Area. Accordingly, the Harbor Commission conducted a Grandfather Lottery in June 2006 to accommodate vessels with a long-standing presence in the East Beach Anchorage, followed by General Lotteries in September, 2006 and October, 2007, with a goal of assigning all 46 available spaces.

Staff recently completed efforts to assign available mooring permits from the October, 2007 lottery. At this time, 36 of the 46 mooring spaces are assigned. Per the City Council Resolution, the Department must conduct another General Lottery anytime the total number of Mooring Permits assigned in the Mooring Area declines to 30 or fewer. Staff will monitor attrition in the East Beach Mooring Area and prepare to conduct an additional General Lottery when and if necessary.

Prepared By: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager