

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 16, 2009
To: Harbor Commission
From: John N. Bridley, Waterfront Director
Subject: **Special Event Camping Permit—Catamaran Regatta**

RECOMMENDATION: That Harbor Commission:

- A. Review and consider a request for a special permit to allow event participant camping in the Harbor West parking lot from 5 p.m. Friday, August 14th until 5 p.m. Sunday, August 16th during the 2009 Wine and Roses Charity Regatta; and
- B. Approve event Chairman Steve Leo's request for participant camping for the upcoming sailing events, as allowed per the Santa Barbara Municipal Code 15.16.090.

DISCUSSION:

The Wine and Roses Charity Regatta is a California State Catamaran Championship, which has been held at Leadbetter Beach each August since 1996. It is hosted by the Southern California Hobie Cat Fleets and the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. The event has been very well attended over the years. The organizers and the participants have cooperated with local businesses and with the Waterfront Parking Staff. At the end of each year's event, the beach and parking lot facilities have been left in good condition.

The boats and equipment on the beach are expensive and could potentially be vulnerable to theft and vandalism. In past years, some participants have stayed overnight in their vehicles to safeguard their boats. This year, Mr. Steve Leo, one of the event organizers, would like to again request a special camping permit so that they may safeguard their equipment legally. The Harbor Commission has approved special event permits for this Regatta since 1998.

Although the Santa Barbara Municipal Code prohibits camping in public places, in Section 15.16.090 (Attachment 1), the Harbor Commission has been given the discretion to post and designate an area for camping within the Waterfront jurisdiction. This request is for a 48-hour period, from 5 p.m. Friday, August 14th, until 5 p.m. Sunday, August 16th.

This year, the event is expected to use 100 spaces, or approximately half of the Harbor West lot (Attachment 2). The fee for renting the parking lot will be \$700 per day (\$7 per

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space X 100 spaces). Event participants who wish to use a Harbor West parking space prior to 5 p.m. Friday, August 14th, will be responsible for the new parking fee of \$3.00 for 3 hours and will be required to deposit their fees at either of the two Honor Fee Collection Box sites in the Harbor West parking lot.

The catamaran races are an ocean dependent use, and Waterfront staff supports the use of Waterfront facilities and the special event camping permits for these events. The events have been well managed by Steve Leo and the event benefits the Santa Barbara chapter of the Make a Wish Foundation.

Attachments: 1. Municipal Code Section 15.16.090
2. Site map
3. Request from Steve Leo, Event Chairman

Prepared by: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Business Manager