

## Bridley, John

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**From:** Bridley, John  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2010 8:45 AM  
**To:** Mayor & City Council  
**Cc:** 'RJ Lyerly'; Armstrong, Jim; Johnson, Nina; Anikouchine, William; Betsy R. Cramer; Eric Friedman; Jim Sloan; Kelly, Frank; Spicer, Bill; Conley, Judd; Dwyer, Don; Kronman, Mick; McCullough, Stephen; Palmer, Diana; Riedman, Scott; sangster, kathy; Treiberg, Karl  
**Subject:** Federal Funding-Annual Harbor Maintenance Dredging Operations

FEB 18 2010  
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Mayor and Councilmembers,

Recently, you were informed of the City's Federal appropriations request for two important projects, the Mission Creek flood control project and the annual Harbor maintenance dredging of the main navigational channel. We will be asking for support and assistance in these funding requests from Senators Feinstein, Boxer and Congresswomen Capps.

As you are aware the President has recently released the Fiscal Year 2011 Federal Budget. The good news is that the President's budget proposal does include a \$2,040,000 recommendation for maintenance dredging of the City's Harbor. Normally, I would be more than pleased to announce this good news both for the appropriation of funds and the amount of Corps funding secured for the project. Now, for the more unsettling news. The Corps staff involved with the Santa Barbara dredge operations contract is expecting that the annual costs to complete the FY 2011 dredging will be closer to \$3.7 million dollars. Let me try to explain the rationale.

As part of the federal government stimulus and recovery act, there has been significant stimulus dollars awarded to dredge contractors around the county. Specific to California, there are several large dredging projects currently underway and planned. Dredging costs (cubic yards removed) have escalated due to all dredge contractors having more work than expected or within their capacity. Bids for local projects have been much higher than previous years. The same is expected for our upcoming FY2011 dredge cycle beginning next Fall.

The current Corps contract with AIS Contractors is ending with this spring dredge cycle. The Corps will be soliciting bids for a new 3 year dredge contract and expect significantly higher per unit costs resulting in the need to secure additional funds. No additional work is expected to be performed and no more additional sand will be removed than in previous years. Since I have been the Director in 1996, the City normal requests and secures on average \$1.5 -\$2.0 million annually. The request for \$ 3.7 million concerns me, both in our ability to secure the funds and the questions it will raise in the ongoing costs to dredge medium size shallow draft recreational/commercial harbors.

That being said, we will need everyone's support to secure these additional funds. It is likely I will travel to Washington D.C. in March to explain the change in our funding request and work with our Washington Lobbyist Firm, Carpi, Clay and Smith, to lay the ground work for the City's request and need for additional funding.

Please let me know if you have questions or concerns.

**John N. Bridley**  
Waterfront Director/Harbormaster

City of Santa Barbara | Waterfront Department  
132-A Harbor Way

ATTACHMENT<sup>1</sup>