

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 17, 2015
To: Harbor Commissioners
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Patrol Boat 1 Replacement

RECOMMENDATION:

That Harbor Commission approve replacement of Harbor Patrol Boat 1.

BACKGROUND:

Harbor Patrol uses four vessels to conduct patrol, enforcement, search, and rescue operations within Santa Barbara Harbor and up to one mile offshore. The Waterfront's 6-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes funds to repower Harbor Patrol vessels. The FY 2016 – 2017 budget includes a \$75,000 annual allocation to the newly established Vessel Replacement Fund. Staff is considering replacing Harbor Patrol Boat 1 (PB1) instead of repowering PB1 as identified in the CIP.

DISCUSSION:

Harbor Patrol Boat 1 (PB1) has been in service for over 30 years. PB1 was built by Radon Boats and has provided reliable service for decades and is considered the workhorse of the fleet. Like most harbor patrol vessels, the hull is very durable but the engines have a comparatively short life span. Harbor Patrol boats get considerably more use than conventional boats, due to constant stopping & starting, towing vessels, and frequently shifting in and out of gear. This means that the Patrol boats need to be overhauled approximately every five to seven years. Repowering engines has normally been paid for out of the Waterfront's operating budget.

Harbor Patrol boats and their engines are considered capital assets so staff decided to include repowering Harbor Patrol vessels as capital projects in our most recent CIP presented to the Harbor Commission on October 23, 2014. \$110,000 was included in the FY2016 CIP to repower PB1. This is considerably higher than a typical repower because PB1 has a gas engine that may no longer be allowed requiring replacement with a low emissions diesel engine. This would require considerable work on the hull to replace the fuel tank, engine mounts, and other improvements increasing the cost of the project significantly.

As part of the FY 2016-2017 Waterfront budget development, staff recommended and received approval from Council to establish a Vessel Replacement Fund with an annual

allocation of \$75,000. Staff has always considered PB3 the vessel most in need of replacement with an estimated replacement cost of \$700,000 to obtain a rough water vessel with the same fire fighting capabilities. Staff recently discovered that the smaller PB1 (that does not have fire fighting capabilities) could possibly be replaced for under \$200,000, significantly less than previously assumed.

There is currently \$110,000 available in the Waterfront's Capital Fund and \$75,000 in the Vessel Replacement Fund for FY 2016. The combined total of \$185,000 would be adequate to purchase a new PB1.

Staff has prepared specifications for a replacement diesel engine and can develop specifications for a hull. Once specifications for the entire boat are complete, staff expects a new PB1 can go out to bid in mid-October with bids due by the end of the year. It would likely take 3 – 4 months to construct, outfit, and commission a new boat with delivery sometime in the spring of 2016. In the meantime, PB1 can remain in-service; keeping Harbor Patrol at full capacity during what may be a stormy year considering recent El Nino predictions.

If the Harbor Commission concurs, staff will go before Council to approve the project and appropriate funds from the Vessel Replacement Fund to the Waterfront's Capital Fund.

Prepared By: Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager