

## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

### MEMORANDUM

**Date:** May 18, 2017  
**To:** Harbor Commission  
**From:** Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director  
**Subject:** **Special Event Camping Permit – Wine and Roses Regatta**

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**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 8:00 a.m. Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup> during the 2017 Wine and Roses Regatta; and
- B. Approve Wine and Roses Event Chairman Dray Murray's request for participant camping for the upcoming event, as allowed per Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 15.16.090.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Wine and Roses Regatta (Regatta) is a California State Catamaran Championship, which has been held at Leadbetter Beach each August since 1994. It is hosted by the Southern California Hobie Cat fleets and the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. The event has been well attended over the years. 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 tend to be expensive and could potentially be vulnerable to theft and vandalism. Mr. Dray Murray, the event chairman, would like to again request a special camping permit so that participants may legally safeguard their equipment.

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 authority to post and designate an area for camping within the Waterfront jurisdiction. The Wine and Roses Regatta request is for the period from 8:00 a.m. Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> until 5:00 p.m. Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.

The event is expected to use 100 spaces of the Harbor West lot (Attachment 2). The fee for renting the parking lot will be \$1,200 per day (\$12 per space x 100 spaces).

The Regatta is an ocean dependent use, and Waterfront staff supports the use of Waterfront facilities and the special event camping permits for this event. However, over the years, the popularity of the Waterfront has increased tremendously and Waterfront parking lots routinely fill to capacity on busy summer weekends from May through

September. Although the Wine and Roses Regatta only uses roughly half of the Harbor West Lot, the event completely eliminates public vehicle access to the lot, severely restricts pedestrian and bicycle use through the lot, and denies the public the use of parking spaces in the busiest month of the summer season.

As a result, the Waterfront staff finds that the timing of the event can no longer be sustained. Wine and Roses Regatta organizers have been informed that future Wine and Roses Regattas will not be allowed to take place between Memorial Day and Labor Day. However, the Waterfront Department is willing to consider camping requests from the Wine and Roses Regatta team for weekends outside of this timeframe.

Attachments: 1. Municipal Code Section 15.16.090  
2. Site Map of Harbor West Parking Lot and Proposed Use Area

Prepared by: Brian Bosse, Waterfront Business Manager

## **Santa Barbara Municipal Code**

### Section 15.16 – Public Beaches and Parks

#### **15.16.090 Posted Areas - Lawful to Camp**

Notwithstanding Sections 15.16.060 - 15.16.100, whenever any or all of any public park or place has been so designated by the Park Commission or the Harbor Commission, within their respective jurisdictions, as a place to do that which is otherwise made unlawful by this Chapter, and signs are posted giving notice of such fact, it shall be lawful to camp or sleep in the place so designated and posted, or, as the case may be, to use any recreational vehicle or temporary recreational vehicle for human habitation or camping purposes in the place so designated and posted. (Ord. 4269, 1984; Ord. 4045, §1, 1980; Ord. 3165 §1(part), 1966; Ord. 3003 §1(part), 1964.)

