

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 15, 2018
To: Harbor Commission
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: **Harbor Operations Report**

HARBOR AND SEAFOOD FESTIVAL RECAP

Amid pristine fall weather conditions, over 15,000 people attended the 17th annual Harbor and Seafood Festival on October 13th. Boats delivering fresh crab, lobster, sea urchin uni, and shrimp lined the City Pier, feeding constant lines of happy, hungry customers from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.—a testimony to the importance of Santa Barbara’s commercial fishing fleet, whose economic benefits approach \$30 million per year. Meanwhile, bands played on two stages throughout the day and 40+ vendors enjoyed brisk, steady sales.

The event included free boat rides aboard the *Azure Seas* and *Double Dolphin* (thanks captains Fred Hershman and Skip Abed, respectively), carrying a total of nearly 700 passengers. Meanwhile, dockside tours of a harbor patrol boat, coast guard cutter, NOAA’s research vessel *Shearwater*, and the tall ship *Spirit of Dana Point*, entertained hundreds more.

More than ever, some 60 volunteers helped make the event run seamlessly, especially amid the hectic buzz of boiling or barbecuing, then plating, 800 pounds of lobster and 600 pounds of albacore. The volunteers included fishermen who labored over the barbeque and boiling lobster pots to young men and women from SBCC’s culinary program, San Marcos High School’s culinary program, Education First International School, and UCSB’s Circle K service organization.

City staff offers its thanks and praise to all those who have made—and continue to make—this event an annual highlight that displays all the greatness our harbor offers.

32nd ANNUAL PARADE OF LIGHTS DECEMBER 9th

It’s not too early to sign up for the 32nd annual Parade of Lights on Sunday, December 9th, where boats will decorate to the theme of “Hollywood Holidays.” Activities begin at 3:00 p.m., with Santa’s Village on the City Pier. Santa Claus and his elves will treat kids to goody bags, a 10-ton snowfield, plus a visit with the bearded one. The parade begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by a 10-minute fireworks show, care of Garden State Fireworks, then a rockin’ awards party at the Maritime Museum. Slip permittees will receive registration forms in their December billing statements. Forms are also available at the Waterfront Office, Harbor Market, and Fuel Dock. So, sign up now, and join the festivities. Best views of the Parade are from Stearns Wharf and the breakwater.

Prepared by: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager