

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 21, 2021
To: Harbor Commission
From: Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director
Subject: **Director's Report**

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Since the last Harbor Commission meeting on November 19, 2020 conditions have gotten much worse with COVID. Case counts within Santa Barbara and Southern California are at record highs with regional Intensive Care Unit's (ICU) at or over capacity.

The most direct impacts to the Waterfront are a result of the Stay at Home Order, which went into effect on December 6, 2020. Originally set at three weeks, this order has since been continued. The Stay at Home Order requires most Waterfront tenants to significantly change their operations. Restaurants have been limited to take-out service only. Museums are closed and retail operations/charter services are limited to 20% capacity.

The current Stay at Home order is tied to ICU capacity and will be lifted once a region's projected ICU capacity meets or exceeds 15%. This could take some time as it is expected that case counts will continue to rise as a result of holiday gatherings.

On a slightly more positive note, vaccines are beginning to be rolled out in Santa Barbara County with the first doses going to front line health care workers, emergency medical technicians (EMT), and law enforcement. Waterfront Harbor Patrol Officers have received their first round of vaccinations.

STAFFING UPDATE

Newly Filled Positions

Facilities Manager

The Waterfront Department recently hired Brian Adair to fill the role of Waterfront Facilities Manager. Brian came aboard on December 14, 2020 and brings a wealth of Facilities Management experience and a true passion for everything marine related. Brian will oversee the Facilities Division which maintains and renews all of our Waterfront infrastructure including Stearns Wharf, Harbor Business area, marinas, and buildings. The Waterfront happily welcomes Brian to the team. This position has been vacant since July 2020.

Harbor Patrol Supervisor

The Waterfront Department is pleased to announce that Monica Broumand has accepted

the offer as the next Harbor Patrol Supervisor. Monica has served over 28 years as a Harbor Patrol Officer. Monica brings a broad range of experience and training throughout her career, not to mention her professional attitude, and excellent public service. This position was vacant since November 2019.

Parking Office Specialist

The Waterfront Department recently hired Susie Dunselman to fill the role of Office Specialist II, on a permanent capacity, within the Parking Division. This is a new permanent position, which has, in a short time, proven to play a critical role in supporting Parking Operations. The Waterfront Department is very pleased with Susie and the wealth of clerical and customer service experience she brings to this new position.

Vacant Positions

The Waterfront Department has held a number of positions vacant as a cost cutting measure during these uncertain budgetary times. Over the last year, six (6) positions have been held vacant. This represents 12% of the Waterfront's 48 full-time staff. Although this has resulted in significant budgetary savings it has been a challenge operationally.

The positions held vacant include: Facilities Manager, Engineering Technician, Maintenance Worker, Administrative Specialist, Harbor Patrol Supervisor, and Harbor Patrol Officer.

The Waterfront Department is actively recruiting to backfill the vacant Harbor Patrol Officer positions and Administrative Specialist position. Due to continued budget uncertainty the remaining positions will likely be held vacant and continually evaluated.

TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

See Item 9 - Review of 2021 Tentative Harbor Commission Items

Prepared by: Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director