

## CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

### MEMORANDUM

**Date:** May 20, 2021  
**To:** Harbor Commission  
**From:** Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director  
**Subject:** **Director's Report**

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#### CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Since the last Harbor Commission meeting on April 15, 2021 there has been continued loosening of COVID related restrictions. The County has moved into the Orange (Moderate) tier, which has allowed for another step towards more normal operations down at the Waterfront.

The Statewide *Blueprint for a Safer Economy* program sets County's tiers based on metrics derived from case rate, testing positivity rate, and health equity. Under this guidance current Orange tier restrictions are in place affecting a number of Waterfront tenants including:

- Restaurants can have 50% indoor capacity, as well as outdoor dining
- Museums/Aquariums can open with 50% capacity (75% with proof of vaccination)
- Wineries can have 25% indoor capacity, as well as outdoor service
- Retail/charters can open at 100% capacity

It is anticipated that Santa Barbara County could move into the Yellow (Minimal) tier in the near future if case numbers continue to improve. This would further loosen restrictions on some Waterfront tenants and allow for:

- 50% indoor dining at restaurants (75% with proof of vaccination)
- 100% indoor capacity at museums/aquariums
- 100% capacity at retail/charters (with modifications)

At time of writing, Los Angeles and San Francisco have moved into the least restrictive Yellow tier.

With regards to in-person public meetings, the Waterfront is working with the City and City Council to phase back to in-person meetings. It is likely that Council will be the first to move back to in-person meetings with boards and commissions following. When moving back to in person public meetings there will likely be a need to hold "hybrid" meetings allowing for both in-person and virtual public comment and participation.

Additionally, the Waterfront office is getting close to re-opening for in-person service at the front counter. Staff has implemented a number of safety and social distancing protocols to minimize any risk for both staff and the public. It is anticipated that the front counter will open for in person service on or around June 15, 2021.

## **TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Waterfront Municipal Code Updates
- Air Pollution Control District Presentation
- Insurance Requirements for Vessels in Santa Barbara Harbor

Prepared by: Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director