



Our mission: To assure the public is served with clean, safe, well managed, financially sound and environmentally pleasant marinas.

In an effort to keep the community informed about the goings on at the San Mateo County Harbor District, I'll be sending out an informal e-mail on a somewhat regular basis (no deadlines or promises!). I'll try to keep it relevant, may use it to convey important or timely information, but also want to make it something you want to read. Feel free to forward this, to send me e-mail addresses to add to the list, or to ask to be saved from one more e-mail in the in box!

I realize that it has been quite a while since I've sent out one of these little missives; I'll try to do better in the future. It's not like we've not been busy!

I'll start off with a project update:

Our Radon rescue vessel is back in operation after a complete rebuild that lasted almost a year, but the boat is better than new, with infra red capabilities, as well as a new fire pump. Thanks to Don Radon (the original builder of the boat) and his crew ([Radon Boats](#))for all their great work, and to John Draper for heading up our end of the project:



Thank you John:



Commissioners Chang Kiraly and Bernardo checking out the fire pump:



Romeo Pier: we have (finally) resolved all permit issues, and will be issuing the Notice to Proceed next week, and that will be the point when the contractor starts mobilizing equipment, subcontractors etc. We'll keep you posted on when the project will actually start construction.

Sidewalk improvement project at PPH: waiting on permits/plan check from the County and then we'll be out to bid. That project will be causing some disruption in the parking lot, so we'll be looking at impacts on summer tourism, crab/fishing, holiday weekends and trying to find the sweet spot with the least disruption.

Parking lots at PPH: the repair work has already been done, and seal and stripe will be taking place soon. We'll be careful to phase the work so everybody knows in advance, and access is always maintained.



Also, the repairs to the parking lot at the West Trail should hopefully be completed by the end of the month; we met with the contractor on site this week, and should be ready to grade the lot and add some base very soon.

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Oyster Point: the big project there , we're told, starts with demolition of the empty Drake Marine building within a couple of weeks., and the pace should pick up after that.

Dredging: moving forward (slowly) on the Surfers Beach project. Shout out here to the Marine Sanctuary staff (both Monterey Bay and Farallones), Army Corps, EPA – all recognize the value of this project, are stuck with certain existing regulations, but are working with your District staff to find workarounds, and we are making progress; meanwhile the emergency dredging project at the boat launch ramp at PPH got a big boost (thanks to the efforts of Supervisor Horsley) when we won approval for temporary staging of the sand at the airport. We're also working cooperatively with WETA at OPM on their dredge project for the ferry, and ensuring that we are not unnecessarily duplicating efforts in permitting etc. as we look to ensure proper depths for the marina.

A more comprehensive look at the projects we are undertaking is always in the Board package for the meetings – here's a link to the report for March:

[Project Update, March](#)

The District received the [CSDA](#) Transparency Certificate of Excellence last month at our meeting in South San Francisco; additionally, four Commissioners received recognition in District Governance (thanks Colleen Haley from CSDA for coming to the meeting to present the certificates, and to give the District a little more info about CSDA):



Save the Dates:

April 10 – District Committee meetings: Finance, Climate Resiliency and Wildlife Protection, one after the other starting at 4:00, and agendas posted later today

April 17 – OPM Liaison Committee meeting – agenda to be posted tomorrow Friday, April 13

April 18 – Harbor Commission meeting at our office in El Granada, agenda to be posted next Friday

April 18 – Board President Virginia Chang Kiraly and Supervisor Don Horsley will be holding 'office hours' at Pillar Point Harbor from 10:00 a.m. to noon – see attached flyer

April 22 – HMB Triathlon – check the [website](#) for more information

June 24 – OPM Fishing Derby – check Coastside Fishing Club's [website](#) for details closer to the date

July 28 – Farm, Fish and Flowers – check the HMB Chamber's [website](#) for details/tickets closer to the date

September 16 – Fish and Fleet – check the Seafood Marketing Association's [website](#) for details closer to the date

We regularly use state granted funds to dispose of old, forgotten or abandoned boats before they have a chance to become hazards to the environment or to navigation. A few thousand dollars for each vessel – generally pretty straightforward and quick. Thanks to the Division of Boating and Waterways for this great program, used by harbors and marinas throughout the state. But here's a demo on a different order:

[USS Enterprise decommissioned](#)



“What can we ever hope to do with the western coast, a coast of three thousand miles, rock-bound, cheerless, uninviting, and not a harbor on it? What use have we for this country?... Mr. President, I will never vote one cent from the public treasury to place the Pacific coast one inch nearer to Boston than it is now.” Daniel Webster (1782-1852)...and may be folklore

Steve McGrath
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