



Storms Cause Significant Damage at Waterfront

The waterfront incurred significant costs as a result of the January 2023 storms and swell. Luckily, the Waterfront Department had sufficient reserves to cover these costs and acted quickly to make repairs and cleanup. As an Emergency Declaration was declared at the Federal, State, and Local level, it is the intent of the Waterfront Department to go after all available reimbursement funding options.

The Waterfront Department is working with other City departments and the City's Emergency Services Manager to compile the required documentation for federal reimbursement. FEMA representatives toured the waterfront on January 25, 2023, to get a scope and scale of storm-related damages.

Below are some of the top storm-related costs.

ROCK REVETMENT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

On Thursday, January 5, 2023, the waterfront experienced strong storm surges that quickly eroded away the protective sand berms on Leadbetter Beach and flooded the Yacht Club, Harbor Way, and Leadbetter Beach parking lots. After the extreme high tide on Friday, January 6, 2023, much of the sand on our beaches was washed away at 5 to 8 feet below natural grade. The waterfront lost over 3,500 square feet of parking lot asphalt and 280 linear feet of perimeter security fencing on the southwest corner of the commercial area.

DESCRIPTION	ESTIMATE
Rock revetment construction	\$ 1,025,000
Ancillary Harbor Dredging (storm related)	\$ 650,000
Rock revetment compensatory mitigation measures	\$ 450,000
Asphalt repairs in commercial area	\$ 150,000
Wharf piles damage and repairs to 22 piles	\$ 120,000
Environmental consultant - rock revetment	\$ 65,000
Marina #1 utility lines repairs	\$ 65,000
Debris clean up - beaches	\$ 60,000
Fence repair - commercial fence	\$ 60,000
Floating debris clean up - Harbor	\$ 50,000
Emergency daily erosion control & cleanup	\$ 47,563
Marina #3 and #4 dock repairs	\$ 30,000
Debris clean up - parking lots	\$ 25,000
First responders overtime labor	\$ 24,000
Equipment rental (backhoe, crane, fencing,)	\$ 20,000
Federal Channel buoy lost, damaged, relocation & temporary	\$ 15,000
TOTAL	\$ 2,856,563

Cushman Contracting was mobilized on Friday, January 6, 2023, with a bulldozer to construct new storm sand berms up against the commercial area to prevent additional property loss. With the following high tide, we were losing ground as the daily building of emergency sand berms was not holding. On Monday, January 9, 2023, the Waterfront Department approved Cushman Contracting to build an emergency rock revetment based on a Moffatt & Nichol engineered design from a January 2000 study. The proposed revetment would be roughly 400 linear feet long by 15 feet tall by 8 feet wide.

Waterfront Department staff worked with the Public Works Department to submit emergency permit applications with the California Coastal Commission and the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE). ACOE approved the permit on January 19, 2023, and the California Coastal Commission approved a one-year emergency revetment permit on January 11, 2023. The Waterfront Department plans to submit a new application this Spring to obtain a permanent revetment structure permit.



Six hundred (600) tons of granite boulders were shipped to Santa Barbara from a quarry in Cambria. Cushman Contracting worked aggressively against the limited low tide hours with six pieces of heavy equipment that were operating simultaneously in a very condensed working space. The revetment project was completed within 16 working days at the cost of \$983,453, which was below the original engineering estimate.

MARINA 1 UTILITY LINE RELOCATION

Due to the January 5th storm surge, the existing rock revetment east of the Yacht Club shifted and slumped south, causing damage to Marina 1's underground utility infrastructure. The Waterfront Department contracted with Tierra Contracting for \$ 56,680 to relocate two 4-inch water lines, one 2-inch natural gas line and one 4-inch communication conduit. Work was started on January 30, and finished on February 3. An \$8,000 contract is currently being put in place to pull new fiber optics cable, and Cox Cable will provide a schedule to relocate their internet cable at their cost.



Dredging Update

The Army Corps of Engineers awarded a 3-year contract to Pacific Dredge, taking effect this month, for the dredging of the Federal Channel in Santa Barbara Harbor. The newly awarded contract will consist of six dredging cycles; one each spring and one each fall.

Maintenance dredging of the Santa Barbara Federal Channel began February 26, and the first phase is now complete. The Army Corps of Engineers is planning another phase of dredging in early to mid-April.

Dredging volumes have varied widely over time. The Corps contract allows for 120,000 c.y. of sand and sediment removal for each cycle. Pacific Dredge removed over 30,000 c.y. in late January of 2023 with emergency funding secured by the Army Corps. Approximately 240,000 c.y. of material is scheduled to be removed between February and May 2023, after which our regular 120,000 c.y. will resume in the fall of 2023. Overall, longshore sediment transport and deposition in Santa Barbara Harbor are relatively consistent. However, anomalous years or strong weather events accelerate the accumulation of sediment in the Federal Channel, which was experienced in early January 2023. The Army Corps has consistently secured additional funding when necessary.

Although the Army Corps awards a 3-year contract, Congress only appropriates funds for dredging annually. Funding for Santa Barbara Harbor is included in the Energy & Water Appropriations Bill. \$3.0 million was included in the FY 2023 Bill for Operations and Maintenance dredging of Santa Barbara Harbor. There are adequate funds for the upcoming fall and spring 2024 dredging. Upon completion of dredging this spring, Pacific Dredge will not be required to completely demobilize and remove all equipment and pipes from the harbor and beaches, as this is the start of a newly awarded 3-year contract.



How to Stay Informed

The Waterfront Department recognizes it's critical to keep our community informed. To get information out as quickly as possible, the Department uses the Blackboard Connect software platform to send mass notifications to our customers, permittees, and tenants via email and pre-recorded voice messages.

Most of the notifications are non-urgent in nature, informing you of upcoming dates for events like the Parade of Lights, Harbor and Seafood Festival, and Nautical Swap Meet. The more critical alerts are related to outages in potable water or electrical service. Last month, email notices were sent to forewarn slip permit holders of a storm that hit on January 5. In mid-January, more emails were sent daily to apprise the community of the condition of the Federal Channel.

In the Waterfront Department's internal debrief of the January storm related events, staff decided it would be beneficial to expand the use of Blackboard Connect and broaden our list of local stakeholders. To better inform our harbor community and make sure you are receiving the latest information from the Waterfront Department, please make sure we have your current information on file by calling 805-564-5531.

You can also be added to the Blackboard Connect database by completing this [online form](#). The database is not shared with anyone.

Having an informed community increases safety and empowers its members to take advantage of all the waterfront has to offer.



New Faces/Changing Places

The Waterfront Department is pleased to announce long-time employee, Cesar Barrios as the new Waterfront Business Manager. Cesar took over for Brian Bosse, who left the position in June to become a manager in the Public Works Department. As Business Manager, Cesar's responsibilities include managing the parking, property management, and accounting/budget programs.

Cesar was born and raised in Chile's Patagonia and Antarctic Region, which may explain why his window is always open, even in the winter. He moved to Santa Barbara's Mesa neighborhood at age 12 when his father took a job on the oil rigs in the Santa Barbara Channel.

When he's not working, Cesar enjoys surfing, hiking, and spending time with his wife, Nicole and 18-month-old daughter, Ella.

NICOLE TELLEZ – NEW PARKING SUPERVISOR

The Waterfront Department is also pleased to announce Nicole Tellez has accepted the position of Waterfront Parking Supervisor. Nicole comes to us from UC Santa Barbara where she served as an Associate Business Manager, and Parking Analyst/Operations Assistant for the last 6 years. Prior to that, she worked in Parking Enforcement also at UCSB, where she was responsible for providing excellent customer service while ensuring the safety of University parking lots and streets. She brings notable experience in parking management, including procedures pertaining to large-scale special events, policy making, operations, technology, as well as personnel management.

Nicole started her new role on Monday, February 27th. Please join us in welcoming Nicole to our department!



Santa Barbara Clean Energy

Electricity in Santa Barbara just got cleaner and greener. Santa Barbara Clean Energy, the City's new locally controlled electricity provider, launched October 1st for residential customers with all other customers, including harbor users, added to the program in March.

Santa Barbara Clean Energy's mission is to offer customers green energy options and continued reliable electric service, while achieving our community's ambitious climate goals. This is particularly important because local electricity use accounts for over 20% of Santa Barbara's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Santa Barbara Clean Energy will purchase sustainable electricity, and Southern California Edison will continue to deliver the power, maintain the poles and wires, and provide one single bill for customers. To start, most people are enrolled in 100% Green to get 100% carbon-free energy. Customers who receive financial assistance through the CARE, FERA and Medical Baseline programs will maintain their discounts and have been automatically enrolled in Green Start, which offers 50% or more sustainable energy, at the exact same rates charged by Edison. Customers with solar on their home or business have been enrolled in Santa Barbara Clean Energy's Resilient Program. Resilient customers are also enrolled in 100% Green for any electricity needs beyond what the solar produces, but these customers can also opt down to Green Start.

"The great news for customers is that we've made the transition to Santa Barbara Clean Energy easy for them. If someone adds solar panels to their home, they are enrolled into Resilient and they will be paid more for the excess energy they generate. Customers can change their options at any time, and our team will assist with making changes," said the City of Santa Barbara's Energy and Climate Manager Alelia Parenteau.

Santa Barbara Clean Energy also offers incentives and programs to its customers that leverage Santa Barbara Clean Energy's carbon-free electricity in ways that will greatly help achieve the city's carbon neutrality goals. Benefits include rebates on electric vehicles, reduced-cost electric bike memberships, trying out induction cookware, home energy audits, and discounts on locally made battery back-up systems.

For more information about the Santa Barbara Clean Energy program, the various clean energy choices, programs and incentives, frequently asked questions and more, please visit www.SBCleanEnergy.com or call (805) 897-1979.



Spring Cruise Ship Season

The spring cruise ship season will begin on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 with a call by the Discovery Princess. There are 10 calls on the schedule this spring with the last occurring on May 17. The spring schedule can be found online [here](#).

Tender operations for calls falling on Wednesdays are required to cease by 4:30 pm so as not to conflict with the Santa Barbara Yacht Club's Wet Wednesday races. Tender operations on all other days are required to end by 6:00 pm.

In order to assess the impacts of cruise ships to Santa Barbara, the Harbor Commission formed the Cruise Ship Subcommittee. The Committee has held a number of public meetings to gather input on environmental impacts, regulations, best practices, and economic benefits. These meetings have included presentations from numerous experts including Air Pollution Control District, US Coast Guard, and Cruise Lines International Association. Future meeting dates have not yet been scheduled but those interested in participating can visit the [Harbor Commission website](#).



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