FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET AND FEE CHANGES
Scott Redman, Waterfront Director

Waterfront revenues for Fiscal Year 2017 (July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017) are projected to slightly exceed budgeted projections. The Department continues to maintain 100% occupancy in slip and lease rentals. Stearns Wharf and the Harbor continue to grow in popularity as visitor destinations.

During Fiscal Year 2018 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018), the Department expects to fund approximately $3.9M in capital improvement projects, including the final phase of the Marina 1 Replacement Project, repairs to the Harbor West Parking Lot, Stearns Wharf pile and timber repair, replacement of dock fingers in Marina 4, construction of a new Stearns Wharf guardrail, and a Marina 2 restroom remodel.

As in prior years, fee increases are necessary to complete these projects, maintain the Harbor, Stearns Wharf, and other Waterfront facilities while keeping the Department's emergency and construction reserves at required levels.

Fee increases proposed for July 1, 2018 include:

- Slip fee increase of 2%; and
- Slip permit transfer fee increase of $25 per foot for slips above 30 feet in length. Transfer fee increase does not include 20, 25, 28 and 30-foot slips, as well as designated Commercial Fishing Slips.

Waterfront staff reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2018 budget, including proposed fee increases, with the Harbor Commission in February and March 2017. The City's Finance Committee reviewed the proposed fee adjustments on May 16th, and City Council reviewed the Waterfront Department's proposed budget at a May 24th work session. City Council is scheduled to adopt the City's overall budget on June 27th. The entire proposed City budget can be found on the Finance Department's homepage: www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Finance

STEARMENS WHARF ANNUAL PILE DRIVING:
MAINTAINING A LOCAL LANDMARK
Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

There's no better place to observe a stormy sea than the deck of Stearns Wharf. Plus, it's reassuring to know the Wharf is structurally sound and a safe place to watch Mother Nature in all her moods.

Constantly exposed to wind, waves, and a corrosive marine environment, Stearns Wharf is our most vulnerable asset, requiring significant annual investment to maintain. It's also one of the City's most popular landmarks, with more than one million visitors per year. So, ensuring its structural integrity and the reliability of its utilities are high-priority commitments. In fact, the Waterfront Department budgets over $400,000 annually to replace heavy timbers that support the Wharf and help resist battering by large waves. Moreover, its 2,000+ pilings require regular inspection (and replacement as needed), as do acres of deck boards that wear out quickly, enduring the traffic of some 200,000 vehicles a year.

Annual inspections identify damage to pilings, supporting timbers, deck boards, and utilities. Most inspections are undertaken in fall, when ocean conditions allow the Waterfront's dive crew to check components under the water and under the deck.

Then, staff prepares construction specifications and puts them out to bid. Winter storms frequently result in extra damage, so corresponding repairs are added to the contract.

One of the worst southeasters in years hit the Waterfront in February, with relatively light damage to the Wharf—a testament to its strength and our commitment to keeping it strong.

City of S.B. Photo: Wharf takes a beating during February 2017 storm
OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP RECAP

Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

On May 6th, Operation Clean Sweep, the Department’s seafloor cleanup program, attracted 50 volunteer divers and dock workers, who removed 1.5 tons of junk from the Marina 3 seafloor, bringing its 11-year total to 19.2 tons. Items removed included bicycles, a galley sink, fishing poles, a steering wheel, crab receivers, dock carts, dock steps, tires, outboard motors, a fiberglass skiff, an inflatable boat, and a microwave oven.

Staff wishes to thank a stalwart volunteer corps, including local dive companies, NOAA, ChannelKeeper, Surfrider Foundation, Maritime Museum, Harbor Commissioners Sloan and Cramer, and individual participants from throughout the community.

Next year we’ll move to Marina 2, continuing this seafloor litter-removal project.

DOMOIC ACID CONTINUES TO RAVAGE LOCAL MARINE MAMMALS

Ruth Dover, Channel Islands Marine & Wildlife Institute (CIMWI)

A naturally occurring but harmful algae bloom (often called “red tide”) that produces domoic acid continues to affect the Santa Barbara coast, as it has since early spring. Domoic acid is a neurotoxin (poisonous to nerve tissue) that accumulates in small fish like anchovies or sardines, which are not affected by the toxin. Marine mammals are negatively affected when they eat the contaminated fish.

The result: Domoic acid poisoning, symptoms of which include lethargy, disorientation, head bobbing and weaving, foaming at the mouth, vomiting, seizures, unresponsiveness, inability to move out of the water, and, in severe cases, death. If you encounter a marine mammal that may have domoic acid poisoning or is sick, injured, malnourished, entangled, deceased, or oiled, please follow these steps:

1. Do Not Touch!
   Do not touch, feed, harass, cover, pour water on, or allow dogs near the animal. Do not coax, drag, push, pull, or roll the animal into the water or out of the surf zone. Though such “rescues” are often well-intended, they are illegal under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and are very dangerous for untrained rescuers, especially dealing with diseased (brain-affected) wild animals.

2. Observe the Animal
   Observe the animal from a minimum of 50 feet. Keep people and pets away from it.

3. Determine its Location
   Determine the exact location of the animal and note landmarks so CIMWI’s rescue team can easily find it.

NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC HEADED TO SBCC FOR RARE PERFORMANCE

Billed as the largest classical music event in Santa Barbara history, the New York Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at La Playa Stadium on Monday, July 31st at 7:30 p.m. It will perform Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9, “Ode to Joy.” An offshore fireworks display will follow at 9:15 p.m. The event is presented in partnership with the Music Academy of the West, the City of Santa Barbara, SBCC, and the SBCC Foundation. It will mark Alan Gilbert’s final appearance as the Orchestra’s music director.

For tickets, go to musicacademy.org, call the Music Academy of the West Ticket Office at 805-969-8768, or visit the Correy Ticket Office, 1070 Fairway Road in Santa Barbara. Tickets start at $10 each, so don’t delay!
PADDLING SAFETY TIPS

PERSONAL FLOATATION DEVICE (PFD) REQUIRED. IT’S THE LAW!

Inflatable Type PFD: Must be worn at all times, is not for children under 16, weak swimmers and non-swimmers, and where immersion is expected. May need to pull a cord or blow into a tube to inflate.

Vest Type PFD: Must be readily accessible to the user, must be worn at all times by children under 13 and should be worn by weak swimmers and non-swimmers. No inflation required.

- CARRY A WHISTLE OR OTHER SOUND SIGNALING DEVICE. IT’S THE LAW!
- DON’T PADDLE FARTHER FROM SHORE THAN YOU CAN SWIM.
- CHECK WEATHER FORECASTS.
- AVOID OFFSHORE WINDS AND ROUGH SEAS.
- PADDLE WITH A FRIEND.
- TELL A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER WHEN YOU PLAN TO RETURN.
- WEAR A WETSUIT OR OTHER SUITABLE CLOTHING.
- WEAR A LEASH AND HOLD ONTO YOUR BOARD IF YOU GET IN TROUBLE.

Questions: Contact Harbor Patrol at (805) 564-5530 or Marine VHF Radio Channels 16 or 12.
FREE OIL-ABSORBENT BILGE PADS
Help prevent bilge-oil leaks, discharges, and spills in the harbor. Stop by the Harbormaster's Office and pick up your free oil-absorbent bilge pads, funded by a grant from CalRecycle.

GOT USED OIL?
Find a certified Used Oil Recycling Center near you. A list of harbor dump station locations is also available at the Harbormaster's Office.

For a complete list of certified used oil collection centers, visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/usedoils/centers/

DockLines is funded in part by a grant from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

Fourth of July CELEBRATION
Visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SBFourth for all the information!

LEADBETTER LOT SELF-PAY PARKING SYSTEM EXPANSION COMPLETE
Cesar Barrios
Waterfront Parking Supervisor

Installation of six self-pay parking stations in the Leadbetter Parking Lot is complete. The project included removing a parking kiosk and improving surrounding landscaping. The multi-phased implementation of self-pay parking stations began in the Harbor West Lot in July 2011, then expanded to Cabrillo, Palm Park, and Garden Street lots. They've proven efficient and customer-friendly, accepting cash, coins, or credit cards (Visa, Discover, and MasterCard). Questions? Call the Parking Office at 564-5534.

CASTILLO STREET UNDERCROSSING CLOSED BEGINNING JUNE 19TH

The State of California’s Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will close the Castillo Street Undercrossing beginning June 19th to make significant repairs, including replacement of the entire road surface in a manner intended to keep it free of water intrusion. None of us like disruptions, especially during the summer; however, previous repair and replacement work has been short-lived. The new design includes a slightly raised road surface to allow water intrusion and water “capture” to occur below the road surface, not above it.

Caltrans officials expect the project to conclude in late August. The southbound off-ramp, southbound on-ramp, and northbound on-ramp at Castillo Street will be closed for the duration of the project. The northbound on-ramp at Bath Street will remain open. Check Caltrans’ website for road closures and project status. (www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/)

2017 EVENTS SCHEDULE
May 6  Operation Clean Sweep
May 13 Nautical Swap Meet
July 4 Fourth of July Celebration
October 14 Harbor & Seafood Festival
December 10 Parade of Lights
Visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Waterfront for more details

2017 REGULAR HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE
January 19 July 20
February 16 August 17
March 16 September 21
April 20 October 19
May 18 November 16
June 15 December 21

Harbor Commission regularly meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers