

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 19, 2022
To: Harbor Commission
From: Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director
Subject: **Facilities Management Report**

FEDERAL CHANNEL DREDGING

In 2020, the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) solicited bids for a three-year dredging contract. Pacific Dredge was the lowest bidder with a bid of just over \$6 million, similar to their 2016 bid. One other bid was received for \$12 million, greatly exceeding the Corps' estimate of \$9 million. Federal funding is requested by our State legislators, appropriated annually by Congress through the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, and secured by the Corps.

Pacific Dredge uses an all-electric dredge called the Sandpiper. This electric dredge is more efficient, cleaner, and less noisy than a conventional diesel dredge. A typical dredge cycle aims to relocate 120,000 cubic yards of sediment that has been pushed into the harbor due to natural longshore transport, which refers to the cumulative movement of beach and nearshore sand parallel to the shore by the combined action of tides, wind, waves, and currents.

Pacific Dredge recently completed their final cycle of the six cycle dredging contract. Dredging started on April 12, 2022, ran 24-hours per day, until finished on April 22, 2022. During this final cycle, around 162,000 cubic yards of sediment was discharged on East Beach to the southwest of the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort. The relocation of sediment nourishes the downcoast beaches and helps to widen East Beach for recreational use, and creates an erosion buffer for future storms.

Since the dredging contract is expiring, Pacific Dredge was required to remove all of their equipment off East Beach, and West beach, including the buried discharge piping. The Corps will prepare a new set of specifications, advertise for bids, and create a new 3-year contract in the fall of 2022.

FACILITIES DIVISION STAFFING UPDATE

Waterfront Facilities Division continues to recruit for Waterfront Maintenance Workers and Facilities Aide Workers due to recent staff retirements, resignations, and promotions. In April 2022, the following employees accepted employment with the Waterfront Department :

Natalie Baumgartner accepted a full time position as a Maintenance Worker I. She is a recent Marine Diving Tech graduate from Santa Barbara City College, and she has been

an hourly Waterfront Facilities Aide IV since June 2021. We are very pleased with her work performance, energetic work ethics, and team spirit personality. Natalie likes to be outdoors to participate in activities such as back packing, being on the beach, surfing, diving, and swimming.

David Hunnicutt accepted a full time position as a Maintenance Worker I. He is from Oxnard, California where he has over 13 years of experience in construction. David enjoys boating, and fishing. We believe that David will be a good fit for the Waterfront Department and welcome him to the Facilities Division.

Wyatt Gehris recently accepted an hourly position as a Facilities Aide worker on Stearns Wharf, where he will be working two days per week. Wyatt has computer networking training, and over five years' experience in the service industry. We are very appreciative that he has taken an interest to work at the Waterfront, since this position has been challenging to fill in our tight labor market. Without his help to work the front lines, we could not live up to our visitor's expectations.

Prepared By: Brian Adair, Waterfront Facilities Manager