

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 21, 2022
To: Harbor Commission
From: Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

JULY 4TH RECAP

One of the best Independence Day celebrations in recent memory took place this past July 4th at the Waterfront. Thousands of people enjoyed an incredible family-friendly beach day that included stage performances from local musicians and dancers, plus food provided by several curbside vendors. The 20-minute fireworks display, care of Garden State Fireworks, was outstanding, as was the music simulcast via KJEE 92.9 FM that accompanied the display.

This year, the Department ramped up its social media outreach to include information on best ways to access the event, plus parking information, road closures, and more. The site received over 2,000 “hits” in the days preceding the July 4th celebration.

Additionally, Harbor Patrol participated in “Operation Dry Water,” which puts a heightened awareness on boating under the influence. Boating enforcement agencies throughout the country take a proactive focus on education and enforcement of boating under the influence during popular summer holiday events.

A special thanks to the City of Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation, Public Works, Fire, and Police Department staff! Quite noticeably, there were very few law-enforcement contacts during the entire day and evening.

And last, but certainly not least, a huge thank you to Chris Bell and all the volunteers who stepped up on July 5th to clean up debris from our beaches.

SANTA BARBARA TO KING HARBOR RACE

The 2022 Santa Barbara to King Harbor (Redondo Beach) Race is a distance race spanning 81 nautical miles and has been a tradition for Santa Barbara and King Harbor for 49 years.

This year’s event will take place on July 29 with a start scheduled at noon. The Santa Barbara Yacht club expects higher than normal entries this year, as we return to pre-COVID times. A good year’s participation during a Transpac year is typically 80 entries, but the Yacht Club expects 90-100 entrants this year.

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