

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 20, 2024
To: Harbor Commission
From: Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director
Subject: **Business Services Report**

WATERFRONT TENANT IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE

The purpose of this report is to provide a summarized update on the renovations and latest developments of Waterfront tenants within the Harbor Commercial Area and Stearns Wharf; some of these projects have been previously reviewed and discussed by the Harbor Commission. The businesses being discussed include Sushi Go Go, Santa Barbara Maritime Museum- Dart Coffee, the Harbor Restaurant, and Moby Dick Restaurant.

Sushi Go Go Restaurant Open for Business

The Sushi Go Go Restaurant, located at 119-B Harbor Way, reopened for business on May 19th after being closed since early December due to interior and exterior renovations, which included electrical, plumbing, installation of new doors and windows, as well as retrofitting their exterior sidewalk and ramps to meet ADA accessibility requirements. The 198 square foot restaurant has been owned and operated by Mr. Chris Kim since 2012, and since then the business has grown to become a successful restaurant, attracting locals and tourists alike.

Santa Barbara Maritime Museum- Dart Coffee

Dart Coffee Shop officially opened its doors in the Santa Barbara Harbor as part of the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum in mid-April. This location offers a unique and inviting atmosphere, perfect for enjoying a freshly brewed cup of coffee while taking in the scenic views of the Santa Barbara Harbor. Their grand opening was celebrated with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 15th, with community business leaders and Waterfront City Staff in attendance. Since opening, the Dart Coffee Shop at the Maritime Museum has quickly become a popular destination for the Harbor community and its many visitors.

Harbor Restaurant Temporary Closure and Longboards Grill Open for Business

The Harbor Restaurant, located on the first floor of the 217 Stearns Wharf building, experienced significant water damage during the December 2023 rainstorms, requiring substantial emergency repairs. Rainwater entered the ground floor kitchen, damaging ceilings, walls, and essential equipment. While addressing this water damage, some structural damage to the building was identified, including damaged framing and floor joists. As a result, the Harbor Restaurant has been closed since December, and unable to operate as they navigate the issuance of Coastal Development Permits. At this time, it is

unknown when the restaurant will be able to reopen. Although, the second-floor space, known as Longboards Grill was able to reopen in February following the installation of a brand new water boiler and some minor repairs. In addition, their iconic 80-foot flagpole was refurbished, and the American flag is once again flying high.

Moby Dick Restaurant Oyster Bar

The iconic Moby Dick Restaurant, located at 220 Stearns Wharf, opened its brand-new Oyster Bar on May 23rd. After months of planning and preparation, Moby Dick Restaurant has successfully completed construction of their much-anticipated Oyster Bar. The Oyster Bar is a valuable addition to the restaurant and is located on the north side of the building, providing Stearns Wharf patrons with a new and exciting dining experience.

After months of planning and navigating through the permitting process, construction of the Oyster Bar officially commenced during the first week of January and took nearly four months to complete. We anticipate this new addition will draw many visitors who frequent Stearns Wharf each day.

Conclusion

The Waterfront Department is pleased to see tenant facilities reopen their doors for business as we approach the Summer Season. Progress is being made on the various construction projects that remain ongoing, and the Waterfront Department will continue to provide administrative support where needed. The ongoing renovations and repairs to tenant facilities are critical to maintaining a vibrant and functional environment.

Prepared By: Cesar Barrios, Waterfront Business Manager