



Updates Included:

**Mooring Master Plan Status ♦ Mooring Study Task Group
Army Corps and NOAA Contacted ♦ Shore Mooring Subcommittee ♦ NMA Hotline
Pump Out Station Update ♦ Live Aboard Permit Revoked ♦ Volunteers Needed**

To Newport Harbor Mooring Permit Holders

- ◆ This update is being sent to all Newport Mooring holders, NMA members and those yet to join.
- ◆ There is a membership form enclosed, if you have not joined yet, please return the form in the provided envelope.
- ◆ The purpose of the NMA is to represent as many mooring holders as possible.
- ◆ Your participation is vital.
- ◆ If you have already joined in 2005, we thank you! Please encourage your neighbors to use the form
- ◆ As this briefing will show you, much as happened, and is happening! Get up to speed, get involved and help make a difference!

Visit Newport Mooring Association Website!

New efforts are being made to update the NMA website. Visit newportmooringassociation.org to check up on any updates.

Click on NMA Documents to view a draft of proposed changes to the Shore Moorings Policy.



Call the NMA Hotline
(949) 222-3213

- ✓ Hear regular updates
- ✓ Leave message to help NMA

Mooring Master Plan Subcommittee Meetings Consultant Postponed, Local Volunteers Lead the Way

Regular Mooring Master Plan Subcommittee (MMPS) meetings have been ongoing now for several months. Chaired by Harbor Commissioner Marshall "Duffy" Duffield, the Subcommittee consists of Newport's Harbor Resources Supervisor, his assistant, members of the Harbor Patrol, NMA Board members, representatives of local yacht clubs, commercial interests, and various concerned citizens.

Focus: Conceived to deal with mooring fields where they may impact desired dredging the MMPS soon became a steering committee to select a highly paid consultant to advise the city on the moorings in general.

Position: Many members of the MMPS soon came to the consensus that the idea of the city hiring an outside consultant to address their concerns was unnecessary and a needless expense. Further, the RFP had become too broad.

Mooring Study Task Group: On 4/20/05 various members of the MMPS formed this Task Group to bring together local knowledge, talent and decades of experience available on a volunteer basis to address the conditions in the mooring fields as they pertained to the city's dredging efforts as an immediate alternative to the hiring of a consultant. Although skeptical that a group of citizen volunteers could perform the research,

collect data, create appropriate and thoughtful recommendations to their concerns regarding the moorings, city staff agreed to postpone the hiring of a consultant allowing the MMPS volunteers time to create and initiate their study.

Mooring Fields Study: A pilot program was devised by the group of concerned volunteers, which addressed all the physical aspects of the moorings in Newport. Starting with mooring field A, in addition to other aspects the pilot program took into consideration: Size and shape of mooring field, impact of field on other harbor users, safety of navigation around/through field, tendency of moored boats to "bump", history of moorings dragging,

impact on Harbor Patrol, impact on adjacent docks, level of usage, accessibility of moorings to users, recommendations as pertaining to Army Corps, NOAA, etc.

Presentation and Results:

Giving a presentation at a meeting of the MMPS, the group impressed all in attendance, including city staff, with the quality and volume of their work. By utilizing a participative, consensus building, all stakeholder involvement philosophy, the group was able to produce philosophical and specific results and recommendations. Specifically the group was able to: Educate those

New Sub-Sub Committee

Shore Moorings/Administration

All permit holders should take note that Harbor Commissioner, Don Lawrenz, after asking MMPS Chairman Duffy Duffield for many months, was allowed to create and Chair this new sub-subcommittee. He is proposing many new regulations and changes to current policies. Mr. Lawrenz has drafted an extensive shore mooring policy proposal from application to transferability. His draft # 4.1, Titled "Chapter 17.50, Shore Mooring Regulations", is in Municipal Code format, and is 11 pages long, with numerous new proposed regulations.

NMA's request to Mr. Lawrenz to focus his on-shore mooring efforts on derelict boats, a topic of concern to many shore-side residents, and delay addressing other controversial administrative topics while the intensive offshore mooring field work progressed, was not accepted. Although not a mooring permit holder himself, Mr. Lawrenz is clearly determined to press ahead and seek implementation of extensive new regulations. Despite claims to the contrary, such changes to shore mooring policy will obviously impact offshore moorings as well.

Additional dedicated, capable volunteers are needed to do thorough research state wide regarding mooring transferability, derelict boat control and numerous other administrative issues. Legal, consulting, marine and other professional background knowledge is urgently needed to be sure that these issues are properly

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Send us your email address!

Rather than expend Association resources on printing and postage, help us communicate with you via email. Please fill out the enclosed information card and return it today. Our goal is to have easy communication with you, the mooring permit holder, and maximum stakeholder participation.

Pump-Out Station Update

Back in January the 15th Street public pump-out facility was condemned by the city, and the pump was relocated to the already over-used 15th Street public dock. Many folks, including the NMA, would like to see the pump-out facility rebuilt. Initially it appeared funds for a rebuild were not in the city's budget. Later it was discovered that the state has 100% grants available for just this kind of project. The final hurdle in this effort is the filling out of a grant application by the city. Aware of city staff's considerable work load, the NMA offered to assist in this application process. The completed grant application was returned to the city at the end of April for their review and submission to the state. At the July 13th Harbor Commission meeting staff reported that they were working towards submitting the grant application.

Good Neighbor Policy

We'd like to remind all mooring permit holders about the reality of our situation. Unlike those who live ashore with walls or fences around them, we on the moorings are surrounded with observers. If enough voters get irritated with our existence we will be forced to fight harder and harder to maintain the right to moor our vessels as we have become accustomed. The majority of the boats on moorings add to the beauty and charm of our harbor but there are those that do not. A few things can be done to avert throwing fuel on the fire. First, use your boat as it is intended to be used. Neglecting it on the mooring causes it to become an eyesore and possibly be considered a derelict. If the appearance of your boat tells everyone that you are only one step away from living in a shopping cart, it hurts everyone. Your boat should not look like a floating junk yard or solely exist to 'hold your mooring,' or be a seal habitat. If you do not attend to your boat on a regular basis you should really consider passing the boat and the mooring on to someone who would actually put it to use. You may possibly help someone who has that same desire for boating that got you involved in the beginning. You can erase that annoying feeling of guilt and perhaps help another. If you have so many possessions that you can't keep track of or take care of them, it is possible that you have too many. Remember, there are those who have spent huge sums for their home with a view that may include your boat. There are many people that spend time on, or around our harbor, that look at your boat and might think that it is a shameful waste. Frequently these people call the City and Harbor Patrol to complain about the moored boats. Some of these people have influence over governmental policies. Show that you take pride in your vessel and your harbor. That is a good neighbor policy. Be a good neighbor.

Mooring Master Plan Subcommittee Meetings

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unfamiliar with why the moorings in Newport are situated the way they are. Consult with the Army Corps of Engineers with respect to their concerns with the position of moorings in Newport. Consult with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), publisher official U.S. Navigational Charts, help to facilitate the issuance of an Official Notice to Mariners advising mariners of moorings positional anomalies, etc.

Current Efforts: After consultations and meetings with relevant officials it has been determined that a wholesale change in the location of all moorings in Newport is unnecessary. In fact, very few moored vessels currently would impede the progress of dredging in Newport in the event any dredging funds should become available to dredge the federal channels in Newport. It has also been learned that changing the anchorage area lines on the NOAA charts will probably be all that is necessary to address most concerns.

Future Mooring Field Study: City staff requested that the Task Group study the F fleet and the NHYC fleet next as they would be involved with the next phase of dredging. The group has done preliminary studies to F field and is coordinating with NHYC on their field.

Get Involved! Volunteers Needed!

Obviously now would be a great time for concerned mooring permit holders to get involved as the various committees, city staff members, Harbor Patrol, Harbor Resources Department, and many other concerned groups focus on moorings in Newport.

The interests of all permit holders have been represented by relatively few dedicated individuals to date. We've all benefited from the efforts of our peers. Some are suffering from "burnout" and could use some help to spread the load. Although some of the volunteers are retired persons, many have jobs, run businesses, raise families, must travel, etc. We need to research and develop professional level information on mooring administration statewide. Please consider the consequences if we allow our future to be determined without effective input by mooring permit holders.

Capable and serious volunteers are very much needed to help share the work that lies ahead. If you're interested in shaping your boating future please contact: byron@newportmooringassociation.org

Live Aboard Permit Revoked

Harbor Resources department with the approval of the Harbor Commission has revoked the live aboard permit for a vessel in the J-mooring field. This action was brought on by the Harbor Patrol because of an excessive amount of calls that officers had to respond to concerning the permit holders. Harbor Resources tried to avoid this action by working with the couple but unfortunately they were unable to eliminate the behavior that was the basis of the calls.

Action may well be taken regarding another live-aboard. Initial attention was brought on by complaints from neighbors regarding regular evening noise from a portable generator. The live-aboards waist disposal method was also caused concern. While living aboard is not for everyone, most of us who do live on our boats consider it the best. It is regrettable for someone who chose to live on their vessel and wanted to continue living the lifestyle would be forced to give it up. We as live aboards have far fewer rights than those who choose to live in more traditional housing. We live in a fish bowl of a sort and are viewed by many as oddities. It is in our own best interest to maintain a low profile and try not to irritate our neighbors. It is much easier for mooring owners, and the NMA, to further our cause if our ranks conduct themselves as good, considerate neighbors. We hope that those who have lost their ability to live on their boat find adequate housing and wish them good luck.

Shore Mooring Subcommittee

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and fairly handled and then well presented. If you personally can assist, or offer suggestions as to viable resources, please contact the NMA.

E-mail: byron@newportmooringassociation.com

NMA Boating Discounts!

As a member of NMA, these local merchants invite you to present your membership card to receive the following valuable discounts at their places of business.



Boat Builders & Sailors – 5% discount on all chain and line for your mooring. 879 W. 16th St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 • (949) 548-9618



Hill's Boat Service – Upgraded volume discounts for fuel. 814 E. Bay Ave., Balboa Island, CA 92661 • (949) 675-0740



Island Marine Fuel 76 – Upgraded volume discounts for fuel. 410 S. Bay Front, Balboa Island, CA 92662 • (949) 673-1103



MMI Marine Equipment – 10% discount on all in stock purchases. 2700 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., Newport Beach, 92663 • (949) 631-0518



Newport Harbor Shipyard – 10% discount to all members. 151 Shipyard Way, Newport Beach, 92663 • (949) 723-6800



South Coast Shipyard – 50% discount on all haul-outs. 223 21st St., Newport Beach, 92663 • (949) 675-2837



South Mooring Company – 10% discount on all South Mooring services. (949) 645-0334