

Dear SF Marina Harbor Association members:

SF Rec and Park will be holding an open meeting on Aug 26 at 6 pm at the St. Francis YC to solicit public comment on two important items prior to the Rec and Park Department's presentation to the SF Rec and Park Commission at its Sept 4 meeting.

The first item relates to the proposed 37% West Harbor fee increase that would be implemented at the completion of the West Harbor renovation project.

The second item is a policy proposal for small boat slips as a result of the number of 20 to 25 foot berths being reduced. The "Draft Post-Project Berth Movement Policy" is summarized as follows:

"Tenants will be assigned berths as close as possible to their pre-construction location;

In the event of a location conflict, the tenant with the earliest contract date will receive priority of location selection of an appropriately sized berth;

Existing marina tenants will have the choice to move into larger berths at the completion of the Marina Renovation Project as space allows, and with the harbormaster's approval;

Berth-holders of 20 to 25 foot slips who are relocated by the harbor staff into berths larger than their vessel (i.e. a 20-25 ft boat gets moved into a 30 foot slip) will have the option of paying for the length of their vessel instead of the length of the berth as long as they meet the following criteria:

The vessel is the original vessel assigned to the berth at the inception of the berth agreement; the vessel is the appropriate size for the original berth or smaller; the vessel is in seaworthy condition and in good repair; and the berth holder maintains all accounts current and in good standing."

This is essentially a request for public comment prior to the SF Rec and Park Commission meeting on Sept 4th to vote on these matters. You should attend!

We are concerned about the language regarding the prospective 37% rent increase, which we understand was necessary to obtain the loan. Nevertheless, we believe this rent increase may not be necessary, or could be less than 37%; therefore, we will ask Rec and Park to modify it to state that rents may be increased up to, but not exceeding, 37%, and that the exact amount should be documented and justified based on necessary debt coverage. If the harbor renovation costs less, it should be possible that the rent increase be lower or avoided altogether.

We also intend to hold a General Meeting of the SF Marina Harbor Association on Wed Sept 3rd at the Golden Gate Yacht Club to discuss the calendar for the final design phase of the harbor, progress on dredging, the east harbor toxics clean-up, scheduling a date in November for elections, and to request nominations.

Also, please see the article from this week's Chronicle regarding the West Harbor renovation at this link: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/08/12/BAOR126BHG.DTL>

Sincerely,

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