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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

[will.reisman@progress-pa.com](mailto:will.reisman@progress-pa.com)

415-420-0905

**RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY SUCCESSFULLY PETITIONS  
FOR ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TO ANCHOR-OUT RELOCATION  
DEADLINE**

*New date will apply to individuals who arrived on the anchorage after August 2019; extension will allow for more time to gather housing and support services*

**Sausalito, CA**—The [Richardson Bay Regional Agency](#) (RBRA) has been granted a one-year extension to a deadline requiring that certain individuals living on the water relocate their vessels by October 2023. The extension, which was approved by the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), will allow the RBRA to coordinate with its partner agencies to ensure that the relocated individuals have the opportunity to avail themselves to housing services and other resources to support their move if they choose this option.

Originally, all individuals who began living in boats on Richardson Bay after August 2019 were slated for relocation by October 2023 as part of an agreement with the BCDC, which has jurisdiction over regional coastal matters. The RBRA asked for an extension to October 15, 2024, to allow for further development of the agency's Temporary Supportive Housing Program, which provides subsidized support for individuals moving off Richardson Bay and into safe, secure housing on land. The extension applies to 14 individuals and their vessels

“We want to make sure that these individuals have the housing and support services to best ensure that their decision to transition back to land is a successful one,” said RBRA Board Chair Jim Lynch. “The extension to the deadline is a compassionate and commonsense solution to address those needs. I want to thank the BCDC for their partnership and collaboration on this request.”

Established this year with the backing of a \$3 million grant secured by State Senator Mike McGuire, the Temporary Housing Support Program offers a local subsidized housing program for individuals living on the water during an RBRA point-in-time survey.

As part of the program, the Marin Housing Authority (MHA) will provide subsidized housing with a scattered site component for individuals living on the water. MHA will also administer

housing assistance payments to local landlords to create new affordable housing opportunities for up to 17 households per year under this three-year contract. Additionally, MHA will provide housing navigation services to support families and individuals in locating housing utilizing the local housing voucher. In a separate partnership with RBRA, Marin Health and Human services is also funded by the grant and manages a contract with Episcopal Community Services and provides a caseworker responsible for administering the program and providing wraparound services for individuals participating in the initiative.

To help complement the Temporary Housing Support Program, the RBRA restarted its Vessel Buyback Program this year. That program offers eligible participants money based on the length of their boat, or floating home(\$150 per foot) if they turn their vessel into RBRA for proper disposal.

There are now roughly 50 remaining vessels and floating homes anchored in Richardson Bay, a significant reduction from earlier levels, which can be attributed in large part to the buyback program. Still, the overwhelming majority of remaining vessels are located in the newly established Eelgrass Protection Zone (EPZ), which was established to protect the eelgrass ecosystem. All vessels must relocate from the EPZ and will only be allowed to anchor of up to 72 hours in the designated anchorage effective October 15, 2024

The vessels are currently residing in Richardson Bay in violation of RBRA rules, and are critically damaging the eelgrass ecosystem, which supports fisheries, provides protection from climate change, reduces erosion and stabilizes the shoreline, among other benefits.

“The eelgrass supports everything that we love about Richardson Bay, and we need to ensure we protect and support this natural resource for future generations,” said RBRA Executive Director Brad Gross. “We also want to make sure that when we relocate individuals off Richardson Bay that we do so with compassion and consistency. This extension approved by the BCDC allows us to accomplish both those goals.”

As part of the Agreement with the BCDC, a small number of vessels that participated in the Safe and Seaworthy program will be allowed to remain in the anchorage. On October 26, 2026, the anchorage will convert to a 72-hour anchorage for all vessels, regardless of when they moved.

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***The Richardson Bay Regional Agency (RBRA) is a local government agency serving Belvedere, Mill Valley, Tiburon, and unincorporated Southern Marin County. RBRA is dedicated to maintaining and improving the navigational waterways, open waters, and shoreline of Richardson Bay.***