

RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

STAFF REPORT

For the meeting of June 8, 2023

To: Board of Directors
From: Brad Gross, Executive Director
Subject: Executive Director's Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file.

Reporting period April 8, 2023 – May 31, 2023

SUMMARY:

Fiscal:

- 1 Completion of reports and resolutions for final budget for anticipated adoption on June 8, 2023, RBRA Board meeting.
- 2 Worked with County Budget Office to ensure adequate documentation is in place for efficient implementation of FY24 budget.

Administration:

- 1 Signed contract for new web site. Transfer of information is in process. More updates to follow.
- 2 Communications with Regional Water Board staff to discuss water testing, TMDLs, and investigate and explore roles and responsibilities.
- 3 Delivered letter in support of SFSU Estuary and Ocean Science Center.
- 4 Attended California Boating Congress and met with Senator McGuire and hand delivered thank you letter.
- 5 Met with BCDC Executive Director and lead counsel.
- 6 Working with Harbor Master Malcolm to bring on board a Citation Review/Appeal service.

DBW

- 1 Met with DBW Commissioner Tom Pier to discuss RBRA activities and VTIP grant process.
- 2 Received letter from Senate Rules Committee re: Fernandez appointment.
- 3 Met with Deputy Director and Grant Manager while in Sacramento for CAHMPCC Conference

BCDC:

- 1 Meetings with BCDC Enforcement Committee staff to review activities continue each month.
- 2 Presented update to full BCDC Enforcement Committee along with Enforcement Committee staff.
- 3 Met with BCDC Executive Director and lead counsel to explore options for boaters living in the anchorage.
- 4 Toured Sausalito Marinas for placement of vessel and liveaboard owner who lost his vessel in storm.
- 5 Working to convince Sausalito Marinas to assist RBRA in achieving BCDC requirements.
- 6 Received USCG's response to RBRA's Petition for Rulemaking to Amend Anchorage Boundaries within the Richardson Bay Special Anchorage Area. The response advises, "that there are no navigational or environmental factors that would necessitate changes to the anchorages from a federal perspective." And, "Per 33 CFR s 110.126a, the Coast Guard authority for operational management is delegated to the Richardson Bay Regional Agency and the County of Marin." This letter confirms RBRA's position that existing federal regulations did not require rule changes and RBRA's delegated authority allowed for the implementation of the adjusted anchoring zone and Eelgrass Protection Zone/no-anchoring zone.

Housing:

- 1 HHS received approval from County Board of Supervisors on Draft Agreement between RBRA and HHS.
- 2 Status meetings to keep the flow of information current between RBRA, MHA, and HHS have begun.
- 3 HHS continues to work on bringing a contracted case worker on board to work with anchor outs. Downtown Streets Team is lending assistance until a dedicated case worker is approved.
- 4 There are currently three people from the anchorage in process for the Temporary Housing Voucher Program.

Vessel Buy Back Program:

- 1 VBBP was brought back online effective April 14, 2023, with a new MOU and Professional Services Agreement approved with MarinLink.
- 2 The first vessel in the reinstated program was turned over to RBRA on April 18, 2023.

Richardson Bay:

- 1 Communications with Harbor Master Malcolm on consistent basis for briefings on activities in the anchorage and throughout the bay.

- 2 Continue working with vessel owners and live aboard boaters on solutions to achieve our next BCDC Agreement milestone in 10/23.
- 3 Toured Sausalito Marinas and met with operators seeking solutions for vessel owners for vessel relocation and continued reduction of anchor outs in the Bay.
- 4 Positive progress working with Sausalito harbor masters, marina owners and operators to find opportunities for relocating vessels.
- 5 Toured anchorage and met members of the anchor out community.
- 6 Met with boater on a Saturday at Army Corps yard who lost his vessel in winter storms so he could retrieve personal items.

Grants:

- 1 Received updates on all grants, grant balances and applications.
- 2 Finishing up loose ends on EPA grant and attended a kick-off meeting with interested parties. More details to complete over the next few months.
- 3 Drafted letter for SFSU Estuary and Ocean Science Center in support of their programs.
- 4 Grant reimbursements for DBW, OPC and NOAA grants are on track and reimbursements continue.

Public Outreach:

- 1 Presented to Marin Conservation League Water and Transportation Committee.
- 2 Presented to BCDC Enforcement Committee.
- 3 Attended anchor out lunch in the park on Sunday April 9, 2023.

General:

- 1 Harbor Master Malcolm, Board Clerk Karen Prows working with County Counsel continue to dedicate extensive time to respond to the current Public Records Act request. This level of attention had begun to wane in the last report but increased during this reporting period.
- 2 Numerous meetings with insurance counsel to discuss upcoming issues.
- 3 Senior Advisor McGrath has concluded his assistance on the Housing Program and remains available on an as needed basis.
- 4 Attended the CA Boating Congress in Sacramento. Met with Senator McGuire and hand delivered thank you letter.
- 5 Press interviews (2) regarding the Temporary Housing Voucher Program.
- 6 Attended two days of the CA Association of Harbor Masters and Port Captains annual conference in Sacramento, May 24-25, 2023, where Harbor Master Malcolm was recognized as the 2022 CA Harbor Master of the Year.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1: April 26, 2023, SFSU Estuary and Ocean Science Center support letter
Attachment 2: May 1, 2023, letter from California Senate Rules Committee
Attachment 3: May 18, 2023, USCG response to petition for rulemaking
Attachment 4: Streamline Contract