Port Director’s Corner

On July 29th, the Assembly Public Works and Facilities Committee failed to approve an ADF&G grant which would have advanced the Docks & Harbors Board decision to extend the Amalga Harbor boarding float and remove the fish cleaning station. The project which would have added 150 linear feet of moorage for the benefit of trailer users will not be pursued at this time. In the end, public support for new infrastructure was not strong enough to challenge the narrative that excess fish waste and carcasses were creating an unsafe situation for the Amalga residents. Docks & Harbors appreciates all who took part in the public process over the past 10 months. The Juneau EMPIRE story accurately reports the PWFC meeting: https://www.juneauempire.com/news/public-works-committee-nixes-amalga-harbor-dock-extension/

Golden North Derby Weekend: Once again Docks & Harbors will support the Territorial Sportsmen, Inc. efforts to raise scholarship money through the annual Salmon Derby which will be held August 16th-18th. To sum it all up, Docks & Harbor will ramp up staffing to provide resources to the TSI, helping the Derby run as smooth as possible. Harbormaster Borg and Deputy Harbormaster Creswell are part of the planning team and attend the pre-derby captains meetings to pass on information about changes to harbor operations during the derby.

Some of the Statter and Amalga Harbor commitments include:

• Provide two dedicated staff members in the launch ramp parking lot to direct trucks/trailers to empty parking spots and keep the que of vehicles waiting to launch moving.
• Provide a staff member to rove the harbor and assist with any derby issues that arise.
• Provide year-round storage of the derby float and clear a space to moor it during the derby. Tow float to its location prior to derby and then remove it afterward.
• Providing up to four free parking spots for derby volunteers.

Some of the Downtown/Douglas Harbors commitments include:

• Provide two staff members to assist with derby issues.
• Provide loader/operator to move ice at all harbors.
• Provide year-round storage of the derby float and clear a space to moor it during the derby. Tow float to its location prior to derby and then remove it afterward.

Statter Harbor Phase IIIA Update: On July 29th, the Assembly approved a $4M project for Pacific Pile & Marine (of Seattle) to dredge and blast approximately 25K cubic yards of material in preparation for future phases to construct “for hire floats” in support of charter vessels at Statter Harbor. Pacific Pile & Marine will mobilize as early as October 1st and will complete the dredging by May 2020. We anticipate Statter Phase IIIB to be advertised early in 2020 with construction to occur to allow charter vessel use in May 2021.
Docks & Harbors
Office Hours:

Port Office
907-586-0292
Monday – Friday
8:00am to 4:30pm

Port/Field Office
907-586-5720
Monday – Sunday
8:00am to 4:30pm
Closed 12-1pm for lunch

Aurora Harbor Office
907-586-5255
Monday – Friday
8:00am to 4:30pm

Statter Harbor Office
Summer Hours
May 13th – Sept 13th
Monday – Friday
8:00am to 5:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday
8:00am to 4:30 pm
Closed 12-1pm for lunch

Big Kudos to Harbor Employees Jesse Perry & James Miller! Harbor Officer Perry and Harbor Technician Miller were recognized for their efforts to extinguish an arson fire along the Seawalk in July. A letter of thanks paraphrased here: At 5 am on Sunday, July 14th, 2019 while completing the requisite security sweep along the Juneau waterfront, you alertly observed that a trash receptacle was afire and took the appropriate action to remedy. ...upon seeing the flames along the Miner’s Cove Building, the duo worked together to extinguished the fire using buckets of water and an extinguisher. When the situation was under control, JPD was notified and with assistance, JPD was able to identify and arrest an individual responsible for the arson. The actions averted serious consequence to the downtown cruise ship Seawalk, the Miner’s Cove Building and the potential partial disruption to this summer’s cruise ship economy. Upon inspection where the fire was ignited, it is obvious that had you not been diligent in your appointed rounds, the situation would have led to much more serious damage to the surrounding vicinity. You have left a positive impression to Kirby Day and others in the community who realized how much worse this situation would have been if not for your actions. Docks & Harbors and your colleagues are appreciative and the downtown waterfront is secure today because of your efforts.

Farewell to Gary Gillette: After 29 years and 7 months working for CBJ, including the past 11 years for Docks & Harbors, Gary has retired. His efforts to transform the Juneau waterfront speaks for itself and is evident in over $150M of infrastructure improvements that have been realized. He was the 2017 Alaska Municipal League (AML) Employee of the Year. Not only is he a dedicated and competent professional in his vocation, he also shares his talents throughout the community. He has volunteered on the CBJ Historic Resources Advisory Committee and is passionate about retaining the Juneau historicity. Furthermore, he is active with the Treadwell Historic Preservation and Restoration Society to stabilize, preserve and restore the existing structures and buildings of the Treadwell Mine site on Douglas Island. Under a lease agreement with the CBJ Parks & Recreation Department, Gary and his wife operate and maintain the non-profit “Last Chance Mining Museum”. This mining museum serves locals and the one million tourists who visit the Capital City every year. Finally, Gary is the caretaker of the Sentinel Island Lighthouse. In this role, he volunteers his time, skills and resources to restore this remote and historically significant 1902 lighthouse.

Alaska Vessel Registration Reminder: Here is what one needs to know: http://doa.alaska.gov/dmv/reg/boat.htm

- Vessel Under 24’ = no title required.
- USCG documented = no state title required
- Previous law required all undocumented motor boats to be registered
- New law expands registration to include documented boats and barges
- No registration required if in AK waters less than 90 days
- Registration = $24 every 3 years
- Title = $20 one-time (just like your car, or boat trailer)