Docks & Harbors
The Tide Line
December 2019

Port Director’s Corner -
The Docks & Harbors Board met on November 12th and 13th to engage in a deliberate strategic retreat process which was facilitated by Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove. Over the two days of the retreat, the Board members were asked to share their reasons for volunteering to serve on the Docks & Harbors Board.

Other topics presented included: Board & Staff role & scope, CBJ Law Briefing, Fiscal Update, Review of D&H Strategic Planning Documents, Board Priorities & Work Plan. The Board developed six goals and intends to develop work plans in support of these goals in the coming months. Those six goals include: Capital Improvement Projects, Regulation Updates, Community Engagement, Land Use Plan, Security/Crime, Fundraising/Revenues.

Harbor Patrons: We are in the process of electronically rekeying the Statter Harbor restrooms. Effective Tuesday, December 17th, 2019 at 4:30 pm, a green fob key will be required to enter the Statter Harbor Restrooms. With Harbors switch to Millennium, patrons will need to get a new fob key. You can obtain the green fob key at either of the Harbor offices. If you have a Harris bathroom fob currently, staff can program Statter Harbor bathrooms on that fob as well. Note - the gray fobs will still need to be used to operate the cranes and power pedestals until further notice.

Opportunity to Propose for Marine Passenger Fees: Every year, CBJ asks city departments and the public for project proposals to be funded with Marine Passenger Fee proceeds. Proposals can be submitted through January 2, 2020. The City Manager will develop a draft recommendation list of projects to be funded by January 15. The public will then have 30 days to comment on the list of projects. All Marine Passenger Fee project proposals and comments will be forwarded along with the City Manager’s recommendation list to the Assembly Finance Committee for review, and to the Assembly for consideration during the upcoming budget cycle. More information about the Marine Passenger Fee program, including project proposals from previous years, can be found on the City Manager’s website, under Special Projects.

Statter Harbor Phase IIIA Project. Pacific Pile & Marine (PPM) continues to make good progress under its contract to dredge 25K cubic yards of material as part of the first phase to construct new for-hire floats. Many interested onlookers have questioned why the large quantities of rock are being staged in the uplands? The answer is that PPM will be constructing a drilling pad of approximately 15K cubic yards in the water of the dredged area which is necessary to drill/blast a rock outcrop which cannot be removed with a clam shell bucket. When the dredging is complete, most but not all of the Class A shot rock will be used as a surcharge to mechanically improve the soft soil sediments over the summer. In the fall of 2020, phase IIIB will install a retaining wall and floats which will be used by the charter operators.
Recent Assembly Actions. On November 25th, the Assembly adopted recommendations from the Docks & Harbors Board regarding three items:

1. **New Regulation – CBJ 85.20.040 – Unattended Vessels at Boat launch Prohibited.** Docks & Harbors heard concerns from the Amalga Harbor/Huffman Cove residents that vessels were being left unattended at the Amalga Harbor boarding float overnight. There were no prohibitions limiting the length of time a vessel may be unattended at a launch ramp facility. This new ordinance codifies new requirements and sets a fine at $75 for violators. The ordinance does allow for a vessel to be unattended while the individual transits to their towing vehicle/trailer in the process of recovery of the vessel at the launch ramp facility.

2. **A Resolution in Support of Full Funding from the State of Alaska for the Municipal Harbor Facility Grant Program** - This resolution recommends full funding for the State of Alaska DOT Harbor Facility Grant Program and it is supported by multiple harbors throughout the state on an annual basis. Docks & Harbors has been a beneficiary of approximately $11 million in harbor grant funding since the program’s inception. We were recently notified of a $125K Tier II grant for zinc anode installation at Harris Harbor. Docks & Harbors submitted an application this year for $2M for the next phase of Aurora Harbor. In addition the municipalities of the Ketchikan, Sitka, Anchorage, Homer, Cordova, Kake and Edna Bay have offered to contribute $12,145,312 in local match funding for FY2021 towards eight harbor projects of significant importance for Alaska.

3. **A Resolution encouraging automatic registrations for fishing vessels active in the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission database** - The substantive portions of this resolution were drafted by the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA), of which CBJ Docks & Harbors is a member and seeks to mitigate administrative burden to commercial fishermen. This resolution recommends an update to the Alaska state statute directing fishing vessels in the Commercial Fisheries Entry Vessel (CFEC) Database be automatically issued Alaska vessel registration numbers and that the CFEC and Division of Motor Vehicles create a system for information sharing to this end. In 2018, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 92, the Derelict Vessel Act. An unintended consequence of this bill was that some active fisherman were caught unaware of the need to register vessel ownership across the State. By encouraging minor statutory changes, some burdens to commercial fisherman can be eased without diminishing the goal of reducing the number of derelict vessels in Alaskan waters.

**Downtown Waterfront Improvement Project:** Trucano Construction continues to make progress in the deck-over project along the Juneau waterfront. It is anticipated that the retaining wall will be completed by January at which time will begin the process to install over 120 pilings for the deckover and construction of bus staging. The photo to the right shows the concrete forms in the formation of the retaining wall.