



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: February 28, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Operations Division, Waterfront Department

SUBJECT: Resolution To Amend Rules And Regulations For The Santa Barbara Mooring Area

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Establishing Rules and Regulations for Issuing Mooring Permits in the City of Santa Barbara Mooring Area, Setting Minimum Specifications for Installing, Inspecting and Repairing Such Moorings, and Repealing Resolution No. 09-075.

DISCUSSION:

Established in 2006, the Permitted Mooring Area east of Stearns Wharf includes 46 mooring sites. Moorings are owned by individual permittees and inspected annually by City-approved inspectors. The inspection cost is borne by the permittees who pay annual permit renewal fees of \$250. City Council Resolution No. 09-075 requires that any time the number of Mooring Area permittees declines to 30 or fewer, the Waterfront Department shall undertake a new lottery to fill the vacant mooring sites. The Department conducted lotteries in 2006, 2007, 2010 and 2011 to assign vessels to available mooring sites.

Owing to termination and/or voluntary relinquishment of several mooring permits during the past year, the current number of active permits is 26. Moreover, out of 45 applicants in last year's lottery, only three resulted in permit assignments. Many applicants dropped out during the sign-up process. Others dropped out during the "prove-up" process, during which individuals provisionally awarded mooring permits are required (within 90 days) to have a mooring installed, pay their initial \$250 annual permit fee and establish a vessel on the mooring in order to finalize the assignment.

In order to address these issues and others, staff proposes the following amendments to Resolution 09-075:

1. Requiring a non-refundable \$50 Application Fee that would accompany a mooring permit application. This would limit the number of speculators participating in lotteries and applying for mooring permits and reduce staff time spent on applications that don't result in issuance of permits;
2. Eliminating reference to the Grandfather Lottery. The Grandfather Lottery was completed and will not be repeated;
3. Amending language to reflect that anytime the total number of Mooring Permits assigned in the Santa Barbara Mooring Area declines to thirty (30) or fewer, a lottery "may" be held, which would provide the Department more latitude in the scheduling of lotteries and would create consistency with existing Resolution language stating, "Such lotteries shall be conducted at the discretion of the Waterfront Director";
4. Changing the amount of time a permittee has to replace a sold or destroyed vessel from 90 days to 120 days, consistent with time allotted to slip permittees in similar situations. The amended Resolution also proposes other minor changes in the time allotted for relocating a mooring that has migrated off station and submission of Mooring Inspection Reports; and
5. Adding language stating that if a permittee allows alterations or repairs to his/her mooring by persons not listed on the Waterfront Department's list of Approved Mooring Inspectors, this is cause for permit termination.

Staff believes these changes to City policy related to administration of the permitted Santa Barbara Mooring Area will streamline the program and reduce staff time spent on mooring permit assignments. At its January 2012 meeting, the Harbor Commission voted unanimously to forward these changes to Council for its approval.

ATTACHMENT: Drawing—East Beach Permitted Mooring Area

PREPARED BY: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office

