



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** May 6, 2008

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Administrative Division, Waterfront Department

**SUBJECT:** Introduction Of Ordinance Amending The Municipal Code Pertaining To Slip Permit Assignment Of Twenty-Foot Slip Permits In Santa Barbara Harbor

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 17.20.005.C Pertaining to Assignment of Slip Permits for Twenty-Foot Slips through a Twenty-Foot Slip Lottery; and
- B. Adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Relating to the Process for Assignment of Twenty-Foot Slip Permits in Santa Barbara Harbor.

**BACKGROUND:**

In March 2005, City Council adopted an Ordinance and accompanying Resolution restructuring Waterfront Department procedures for assigning slips permits. As described in the Ordinance and Resolution, when a slip permit becomes available for which there are no interested applicants on either the Master Waiting List or Sub-Master List (a collapsed version of the Master Waiting List, in chronological order of application), the Waterfront utilizes a "Lottery List" to assign the slip permit.

**DISCUSSION:**

In August 2001, the Waterfront Department assigned the final twenty-foot slip permit to an applicant for that slip-size category on its Waiting List. Subsequent to that assignment, six twenty-foot slip permits have been returned to the City. In August 2005, following Council's approval of the new Slip Waiting List procedures, the Department began offering available twenty-foot slip permits to applicants on the Sub-Master Waiting List. Only one permit was accepted by an applicant on the Sub-Master List. In January 2007, the Department began offering available twenty-foot slip permits to all 34 applicants on the Lottery List (by ranking). Only one permit was accepted during this process, which concluded in January 2008. Four twenty-foot slip permits remain unassigned.

If available slip permits are declined by all members on the Lottery List, Municipal Code Section 17.20.005 (C) requires that the Department re-offer the slip permit assignments every six months. Staff believes that in the case of assigning twenty-foot slip permits from the Lottery List, this approach would not result in timely assignment of those slip permits. By adopting the proposed ordinance (and companion Resolution), Council would approve a process by which a separate, twenty-foot lottery can be undertaken for twenty-foot slip permits left unassigned from the Master Waiting List, Sub-Master Waiting List and Lottery List. This approach will broaden access to these small-vessel slips, helping the Department further provide in-water opportunity for small boats. The Department has had numerous inquiries from individuals wanting to know how they might obtain a twenty-foot slip permit.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

Assignment of the four outstanding twenty-foot slip permits by a separate lottery process (including application of a Lottery List Assignment Fee equal to the Department's Slip Transfer Fee—a current requirement of the Department's Waiting List policy) would result in a first-year revenue enhancement of \$22,566. Annual, ongoing slip-fee revenue from these berths would be approximately \$6,700.

**CONCLUSION:**

With adoption of the proposed Ordinance and Resolution, the Department could conduct a separate lottery for outstanding twenty-foot slip permits, expediting these assignments, providing better service to the boating public, utilizing available harbor berths and enhancing revenues. The Harbor Commission voted unanimously in favor of this approach at its February 2008 meeting. The Council's Ordinance Committee forwarded a positive recommendation to the Council on April 22, 2008.

**PREPARED BY:** Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** John N. Bridley, Waterfront Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office