**Docks & Harbors**

**The Tide Line**

September 2012

---

**Port Director’s Corner**

On October 2nd, citizens of Juneau will be provided the opportunity to approve or reject two ballot propositions effecting two ongoing capitalization projects within the CBJ Harbor system. The first project, to rebuild Aurora Harbor, commits $7M to Docks & Harbors. The 50 year old harbor has exceeded its useful life which requires complete replacement, including existing head floats, main floats, and finger floats; electrical system; domestic water system; and install fire suppression system. The estimated total replacement cost is $18M; however, funding is not immediately available to pursue the complete project thus is being approached in phases. Phase I of the project is currently funded at $4M from “harbors funds” and ADOT matching grant to replace A & B floats with anticipated completion in the spring of 2014. The ballot initiative would provide $7M in funding for Phase II which is anticipated to replace floats C, D, E, F & G. Docks and Harbors would leverage all local funds to match available grants to the maximum extent possible.

The second project commits $1.3M to the Statter haul-out and kayak launch ramp facility. The existing boat launch ramp at Statter Harbor has deteriorated beyond its useful life. The Statter Harbor master plan calls for a new ramp and associated parking to the north of the existing ramp, which is funded and pending permits could begin construction next spring. The existing travel lift equipment and support structures are beyond their useful life and need replacement. The Statter Harbor master plan envisions the existing launch ramp to be replaced with a new boat haul-out, kayak launch ramp and boarding float thereby continuing to provide boat haul-out services at Statter Harbor.

Voters will be asked to approve or reject these harbor projects under two separate propositions. A total of $59.5M of city-wide projects would be funded between the two ballot measures. The first ballot proposition would authorize the issuance of $25M in general obligation (GO) bonds. The second ballot will ask the voters to approve extending the 1% temporary sales tax for five years. Projects eligible under the 1% sales tax initiative have been vetted by the Assembly and include $44.8M with $10M allocated to pay the first five years of debt service on the GO bonds.

Here are how the various scenarios would affect the harbor projects ($8.3M):

- **#1 – Both propositions pass.** $7M would be allocated to Docks & Harbors under the GO bonds for Aurora; $10M of 1% sales tax would be allocated to pay the first five years of the GO debt service. $34.5M would fund Assembly prioritized projects, including $1.3M for Statter.
- **#2 – GO bond fails/1% sales tax pass.** $44.5M would fund $8.3M toward Aurora/Statter harbor projects.
- **#3 – GO bond pass/1% sales tax fail.** $7M would be allocated to fund Aurora; Statter would not be funded.
- **#4 – Both fail.** Neither Harbor project is funded.

**Downtown Visitor’s Center**

Local artists Arnie Wiemer and Lisa Rickey were commissioned to provide artwork at the newly constructed Visitor’s Center which is now complete and on display. Arnie’s mural is that of a hand trolling fisherman and Lisa’s sculpture is that of bull kelp and sea urchins.
Meet the Staff
Ron Hilbert grew up in San Diego, CA. He moved to Juneau in 1979 looking for work. He was hired by the State of Alaska working in the State Archives as a Computer Network Technician and retired after 22 years. Ron has two daughters and four grand children. Ron began working for Docks and Harbors on May 25th, 2003 as a Seasonal Harbor Technician I, working out of the Port Dock Office. In 2004 he was promoted to a Harbor Officer. He currently works out of the new Port/Customs Building. Ron said his job is to provide security to ensure cruise ship passengers have a safe environment. He establishes restricted areas with fencing and other barriers in accordance with Juneau Facility Security Plan. Ron said he likes his job and enjoys meeting people. His last day this season is September 7th, but plans to come back in the spring of 2013.

Boat Fire
The Fire Department was called to the Auke Bay Loading Facility in August for a fire on the F/V Wasabi. The owner was installing a new engine when an electrical fire broke out. The Fire Department was able to drive down on the float to access the boat. The fire was resolved quickly and luckily was contained only to the vessel.

Douglas Breakwater
The Douglas breakwater project has resumed and the contractor anticipates completion by the end of September.

Petro Marine Fuel Dock
Petro Marine (Auke Bay) will close October 15th for the demolition of DeHart’s Marina. They will be reopen after Statter Harbor is completed.

Notice of Proposed Changes to Regulations
• Docks and Harbors is proposing to adopt an amended section of 05 CBJAC 15.050 to read:
  (c) Potable water fees assessment.
  Unit Charge
  Each 1,000 U.S. gallons or portion thereof $3.35 to $4.67
• Docks and Harbors is proposing to remove the 5 knot speed restriction in Gastineau Channel abeam the Mike Pusich Douglas Harbor as stated in 05 CBJ 45.040 (a) (2) .

End-of-Season Shuttle/Tour/Taxi Company Owners Meetings
Shuttle & Tour operators meeting will be held at 8:30 am on September 28 at the JPD Station. This will be an opportunity for provide input for next year. End-of-season Taxi company owner meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am on September 28 at the JPD Station.

Auto Pay Credit Card Options
Several Harbor patrons have inquired about auto-paying monthly moorage. This option currently exists and is available for all harbor users. Please contact Aurora Harbor office at 586-5255 for patrons in the Aurora, Harris or Douglas Harbors or Auke Bay office at 789-0819 for patrons in the Statter Harbor to get signed up.

Alaska Dept of Fish & Game interested in trawler purchase
The Alaska Dept of Fish & Game is looking to purchase a 100’ – 120’ by 32’-36’ North Pacific trawler. Vessels will be evaluated for conversion to a fisheries research vessel. Candidate vessels must be less than 10 years old, steel Construction and have a house forward arrangement. A maximum freeboard of 4’ and a maximum draft of 14’6” are Required. Parties with suitable vessels available for purchase should contact: Patrick Eberhardt, Coastwise Corporation 907-929-3148 or e-mail: trawler@coastwise.com

Aurora Harbor
Electrical Work
Aurora Harbor patrons may have noticed some electrical work is taking place on the head walk to consolidate power pedestals and remove some failed components. This work was necessary to address some metering issues raised by AEL&P. Patrons should watch for continued work on the head walk electrical system this fall.

Rebuild Update
This fall, Docks and Harbors will be coordinating a public meeting for the purpose of inviting input from Harbor patrons as we move forward with design criteria in replacing Aurora Harbor. Please contact dwight_tajon@ci.juneau.ak.us if you wish to be notified by email to the time and location of this meeting.