



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

### MARINE BUREAU

Long Beach Shoreline Marina  
450 East Shoreline Drive, LB, CA 90802  
(562) 570-4950 FAX: (562) 570-1799

Alamitos Bay Marina  
205 N. Marina Drive, LB, CA 90803  
(562) 570-3215 FAX: (562) 570-3247

Rainbow Harbor/Marina  
200B Aquarium Way, LB, CA 90802  
(562) 570-8636 FAX: (562) 570-8640

July 12, 2018

COMMISSIONERS  
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
City of Long Beach  
California

### RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to support the transfer of ownership of the American Pride Tall Ship from the City of Long Beach to the Los Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI), a California non-profit corporation, doing business as, Children's Maritime Institute; and submission of a ten-year operating permit, with two five-year renewal options, for vessel mooring and operations at Rainbow Harbor for the purposes of hands on, educational at-sea programs aboard the American Pride, to City Council for approval.

### DISCUSSION

On March 4, 2008, Mayor Bob Foster signed a proclamation designating the American Pride as the official tall ship of the City of Long Beach, California, representing the City as an Ambassador of Goodwill in any port she visits. The American Pride, was owned and operated by the Clinton Family who founded the American Heritage Marine Institute (American Heritage), a California non-profit Corporation, doing business as the Children's Maritime Institute, whose mission was to provide educational at-sea programs to Long Beach youth.

The American Pride, is a 130-foot three-mast schooner, originally built in 1941 as a two-mast eastern rigged trawler, who spent 40+ years fishing the Gulf of Maine. In 1986, the vessel was fitted with passenger cabins, additional heads, a dining room, lounge, and crew accommodations, during this time she was a member of the Maine Windjammer Fleet. She was purchased by the American Heritage Marine Institute in 1996. Rainbow Harbor has been the tall ship's home port since 1997.

Between spring 1998 and summer 2016, American Heritage provided educational charter boat services based on the California State Curriculum designed to provide shipboard learning experiences focusing on history, science, and both ocean and wildlife preservation. Through the years, they worked with the Long Beach Unified School District to offer these unique opportunities to local youth. On an annual basis, they served 3,000 students per year.

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In late 2016, the Clinton Family made the decision to cease its operations and entered into preliminary discussions with the Los Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI) for the donation of the vessel, with the intent of having LAMI continue providing at-sea educational programs in Long Beach. Several issues contributed to the eventual abandonment of the vessel and ultimately leaving the City no choice but to impound the vessel on June 23, 2017, under the CA Harbor and Navigation Code, Section 525.

On January 31, 2017, the United States Coast Guard, Certificate of Inspection (COI) expired for lack of the required hull inspection. Until the COI is reinstated the American Pride cannot operate as a passenger vessel. In addition to the overdue hull inspection, various vessel repairs and deferred maintenance requirements are needed to bring the ship up to standards, estimated costs are upwards of \$90,000. Following these repairs, there is no guarantee that the Coast Guard will issue the COI.

Since the time of the impound, the Marine Bureau has been attempting to identify the best way of continuing the American Pride Tallship's legacy in the City of Long Beach of providing at-sea educational programs. These efforts have included discussions with LAMI, following their having expressed interest in assuming responsibility for the vessel's restoration as well as establishing a Long Beach presence for their operation.

LAMI currently operates from the Ports O'Call Village at the Port of Los Angeles in San Pedro. Their fleet includes two 110-foot wooden tall ships, and one 70-foot topsail schooner vessel from which they provide educational excursions. Since their founding in 1982, LAMI has provided more than 90,000 Southern California youth the opportunity to participate in their hands-on learning experiences.

LAMI is organized as a 501c3 non-profit with experienced executive leadership as well as dedicated staff and volunteers and a Board of Directors who provide oversight and governance. The Board's members include professionals from the maritime industry, legal and financial professions, K-12 educators, and professionals from related fields. The organization has the necessary in-house infrastructure, experience, financial support, and capacity in key areas needed to make American Pride's future operation a success including: maritime operations, vessel maintenance and repairs, youth programming and curriculum delivery, community outreach and fund-raising.

Similar to the Clinton family's operation, LAMI's mission is to provide youth with extraordinary at-sea experiences aboard educational sailing vessels, with the on-board educational curriculum focusing on leadership skills and science, technology, engineering and math (aka STEM) fields of study. In order to continue with the Long Beach at-sea educational legacy, LAMI proposes to operate under the name Children's Maritime Institute.

SUMMARY

Staff is requesting support from the Marine Advisory Commission to submit a proposal for an agreement with Children's Maritime Institute, to provide at-sea educational programs to Long Beach youth for the reasons listed above. This organization in our professional opinion is best equipped to successfully operate the program and undertake the responsibility of preserving the American Pride Tallship (Attachment).

SUGGESTED ACTION:

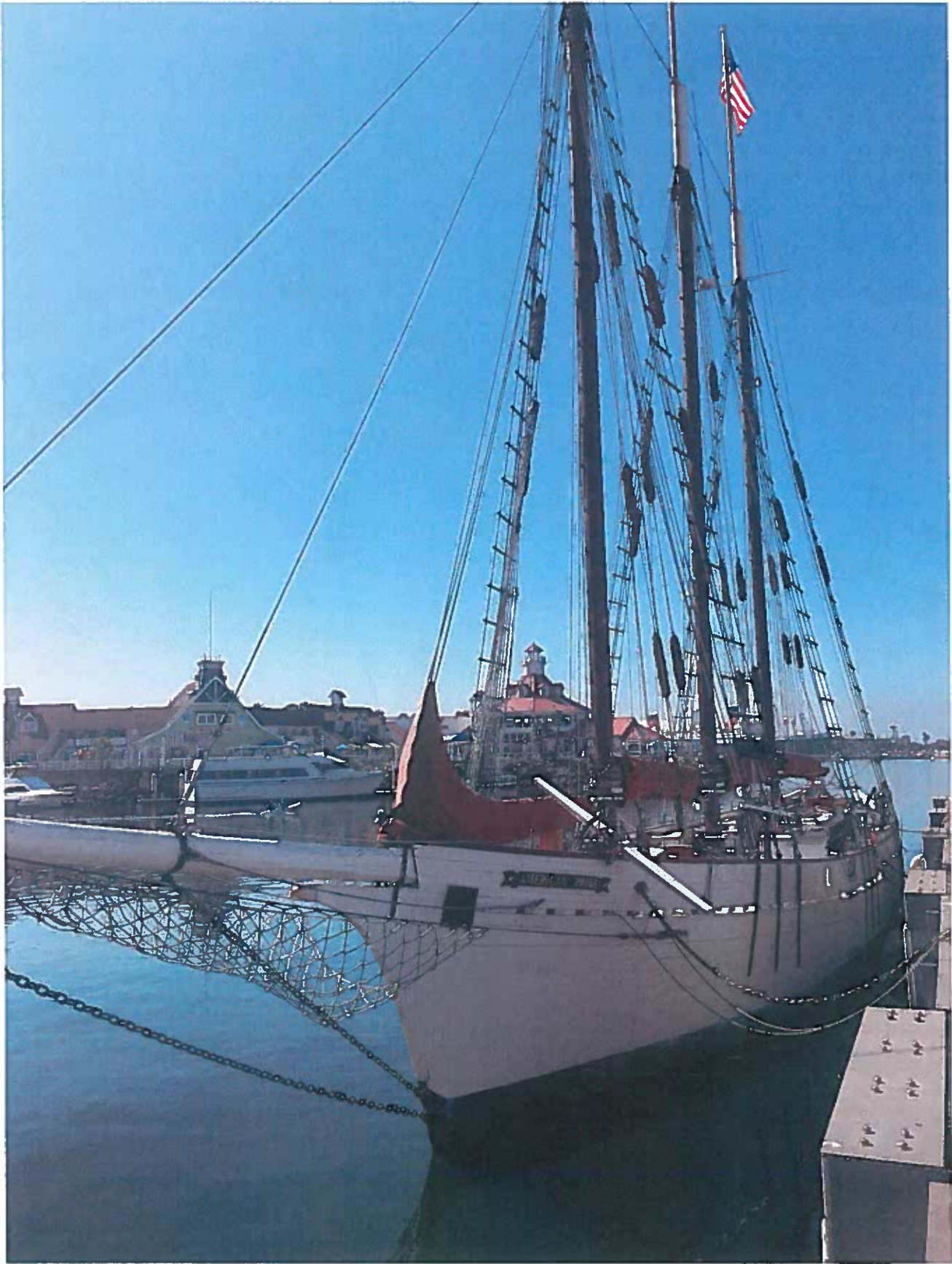
Approve Recommendation:

Respectfully submitted;



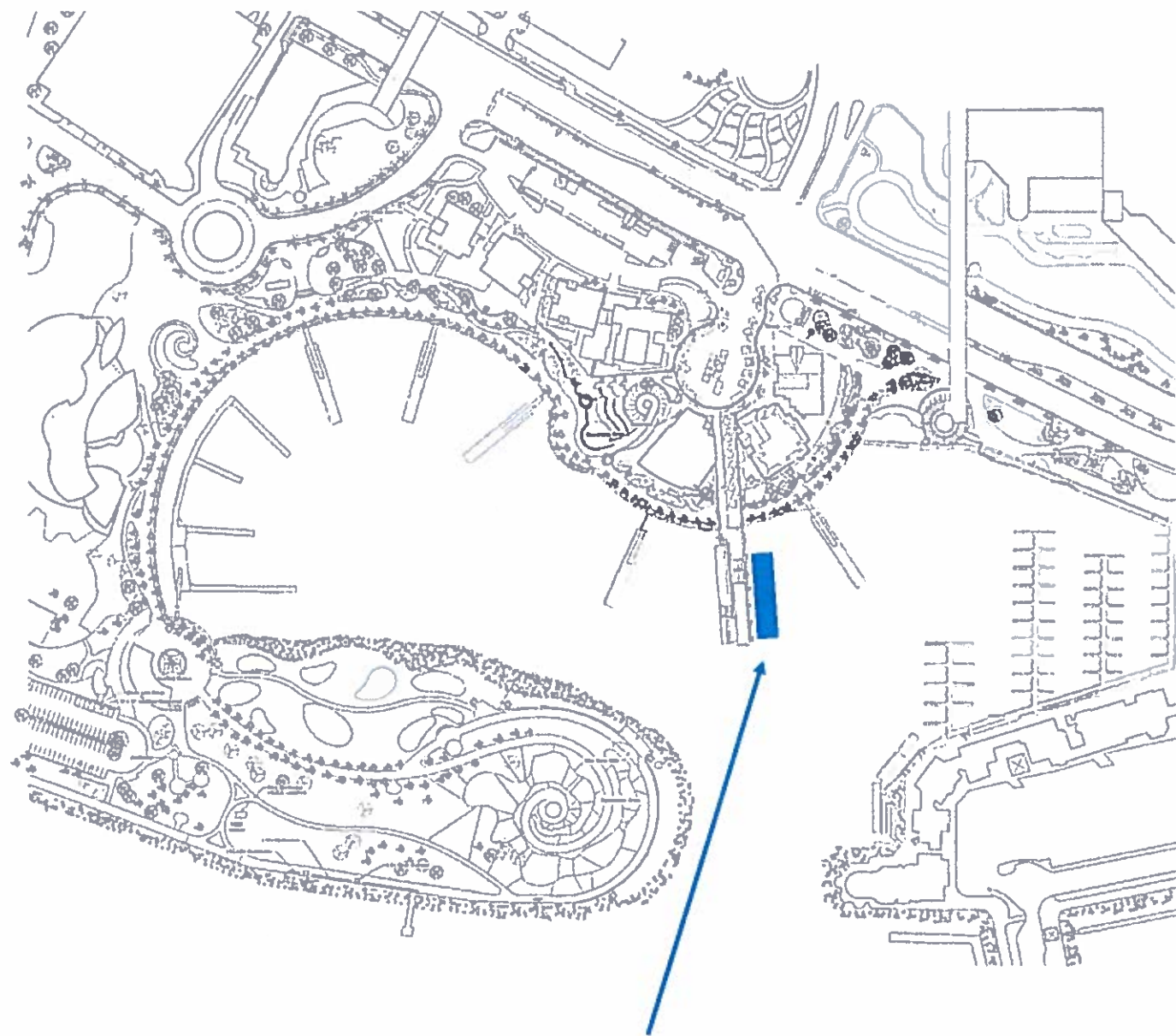
Elvira Hallinan  
Manager, Marinas and Beaches

Attachment 1: Photo of American Pride Tall Ship





Attachment 2: Rainbow Harbor Map/Diagram



Proposed Mooring Location for American Pride  
Pine Avenue Pier