



CITY OF LONG BEACH

R-30

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

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November 20, 2007

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between City of Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Department, and the City of Long Beach Harbor Department, with regard to placement of dredge material from the Los Angeles River Estuary and the Catalina Basin into the slip fill at Pier G. (District 2)

DISCUSSION

City Council approval is being requested for the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (PRM) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Harbor Department (Harbor) to place dredging debris, removed from the Los Angeles River Estuary (River) and the Catalina Basin (Basin), into the slip fill at Pier G. The Los Angeles River sends hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of sediment downriver each year. Much of this settles in the estuary, the area generally known as Queensway Bay, where the interaction of the fresh water from the River and salt water from Queensway Bay occurs. This fills in the Channel utilized by recreational boating and the Catalina Express transportation service to Catalina Island. Periodic dredging is thus necessary to keep the channel, and the docking basin for the Catalina Express usable.

The maintenance of the Channel is the responsibility of the federal government through the United States Army Corp of Engineers (ACE), and the maintenance of the Basin is the responsibility of the City of Long Beach (City) and assigned to PRM. The City is also the local sponsor for ACE.

The MOU sets out the parameters for the City of Long Beach (City) and ACE to be allowed to dispose of the Channel and Basin material in the Pier G fill. These are briefly: the City and ACE have all the necessary permits, the City and ACE must not delay the Pier G fill or interrupt the operation of the current slip tenant, and the City is responsible for any additional costs to the Port.

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This item was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Gary J. Anderson on November 6, 2007, and Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on November 9, 2007.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

The use of Pier G as a disposal location for the Channel and Basin contaminated materials is extremely time sensitive, due to the already fixed construction schedule for the Pier G fill. The agreement must be in place before the City will be granted regulatory approval for the dredging. If the MOU is delayed beyond December 2007, it may not be possible for ACE to complete the dredging before the Port needs to begin the Pier G fill and for the City to complete the approval process by Summer 2008.

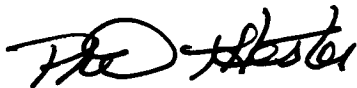
FISCAL IMPACT

The MOU has no direct fiscal impact. The dredging of the Basin has not yet been competitively bid, but estimated City cost for the Basin dredging is between \$600,000 and \$1,200,000. There is sufficient unallocated fund balance in the Tidelands Fund (TF) reserved for this project.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



PHIL T. HESTER
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER