

April 14,2011

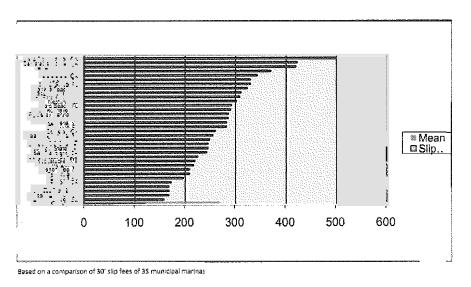
Long Beach City Council 333 W. Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA

RE Item 15 - Alamitos Bay Marina Rehab Project

Dear Council Members,

The Boating Coalition would like you to <u>ask pertinent questions regarding the report</u> of the financial feasibility for Alamitos Bay Marina Rehab Project. We have some concerns about the following:

- This marina is one of the most expensive projects in any of the public harbors that we have investigated. Most reconstruction of docks in the state of California are between \$20,000 - \$40,000 per slip. <u>This Project is a whopping \$60,000 per slip.</u>
- 2. The pricing of the boat slips in Long Beach are very high even though the City of Long Beach has adopted a cost recovery method to assess slip fees.



US Municipal Marinas

- 3. The Marina Bureau has not provided adequate cost efficiency practices like adding more slips in Alamitos Bay Marina by the use of double-wide slips. The days of a finger on either side of the boats are a luxury we can no longer afford.
- 4. The Department of Boating & Waterways is reasonably skeptical about offering public loans funding larger slips which have a limited access to the public.
- 5 The removal of affordable, entry-level boating opportunities for the general public and catering to wealthier boaters is highly unethical and against Article 10 of the California Constitution as well as other statutes.
- 6. Beyond the ethical issues, the boating industry experts are now admitting that moving to large, luxury yachts was <u>unsustainable</u>.

"For years, as long as I've been in the industry, everybody was working to build bigger and bigger and bigger boats and it's interesting to hear that it's kind of moving in the other direction, and I think it needs to. <u>We've aot to build what the</u> <u>market wants and right now it wants smaller boats</u>." **Thom Dammrich, President, National Marine Manufacturers Association November 2010**

"It's important for the industry as a whole to keep boating affordable. Those who can help make boating more affordable - they're going to win in this market." Steve Tadd, Director of Marketing at Elkhart, Ind.-based Nautic Global Group, which builds Rinker, Hurricane, Polar Kraft and Godfrey boats November 2010

Please consider the above information and ask pertinent questions for the citizens of Long Beach.

Sincerely,

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Jon Nahhas The Boating Coalition