



June 9, 2022

COMMISSIONERS
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation for the Marine Advisory Commission to support the advancement to City Council to authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary for a Second Amendment to Right-of-Entry Permit No. with Orange County Coastkeeper, a nonprofit organization of Costa Mesa, CA, to continue to monitor the restored Olympia Oyster beds at Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve, from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025. (District 3)

DISCUSSION

On June 11, 2011, the City Council approved a Right-of-Entry Permit with California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), to restore native Olympia Oysters, *Ostrea lurida*, at Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve (Dunster) in Alamitos Bay. Olympia Oysters are the only oyster species native to the West Coast and their populations have plummeted due to anthropogenic causes. Oysters greatly benefit the coast, including Alamitos Bay, by not only filtering and cleaning the water, but also providing habitat for a wide assortment of organisms to use.

Dunster (Attachment A) is a 2.7-acre park containing 1.5 acres of land and 1.2 acres of shallow water along the northwesterly side of the Los Cerritos Channel adjacent to the Pete Archer Rowing Center (Attachment A). The public can observe the oyster bed created by CSUF at low tide via access from a meandering pathway, as well as a gangway to two floating observation platforms and one floating dock. The oyster bed is partially protected from potentially erosive currents and boat wakes by a floating breakwater. The protected nature of Dunster provides ideal conditions for oyster bed habitat.

The initial CSUF project, in partnership with Orange County Coastkeeper, was a success and concluded in 2016, but additional factors including erosion, dredging, and sedimentation degraded the oyster bed. On December 4, 2018, the City Council approved Right-of-Entry Permit No. P-00202 with Orange County Coastkeeper to both restore the

COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 2022

Page 2

damaged oyster bed and expand the oyster bed area through 2020. The First Amendment to Permit No. P-00202 extended the term to December 31, 2022.

The Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (PRM) recently received a proposal from OC Coastkeeper to continue to access Dunster to track the success of the restored and expanded oyster beds for a minimum of five years from the restoration completed in 2020, through 2025, and to potentially provide educational programming to discuss estuary science, marine restoration, and conservation. Monitoring is conducted between OC Coastkeeper, California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), and CSUF, with trained college students collecting data at least twice a year and analyzing this data for their master's research.

The Second Amendment to Permit P-00202 will contain the following amended terms and provisions:

- Permittee: Orange County Coastkeeper, a nonprofit corporation.
- Term: January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2025.
- Permitted Area: Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve, located on the northwesterly side of the Los Cerritos Channel adjacent to the Pete Archer Rowing Center at Marine Stadium.
- Authorized Use: The Premises shall be used for the purpose and extent reasonably necessary to engage in monitoring activities, and educational programming as approved by the Department.
- Condition of Use: OC Coastkeeper shall be responsible for obtaining all necessary certificates, permits, and approvals, as required by federal, state, and local authorities, and will provide copies to the PRM Marine Bureau. All OC Coastkeeper activities must occur during Dunster regular public hours, unless otherwise approved in advance and in writing by the City Manager or his designee. OC Coastkeeper shall provide and pay for all costs associated with the activities conducted under Permit P-00202.
- Permit Fee: As the authorized use is beneficial to the health of Alamitos Bay, no Permit fee shall be charged by PRM to OC Coastkeeper.
- Insurance: OC Coastkeeper, and its agents, shall provide evidence of insurance as required and approved by the City's Risk Manager.



COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 2022

Page 3

FISCAL IMPACT

OC Coastkeeper will be responsible for all required certificates, permits, approvals, and costs associated with this recommended action. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Sincerely,



ELVIRA HALLINAN
MANAGER, MARINAS AND BEACHES

Attachment A: Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve



JACK DUNSTER MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESERVE

