



**TO ALL NEWPORT HARBOR MOORING PERMITTEES:  
NMA ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR  
OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> 6:30 PM**



Newport Mooring Association

Summer 2018

Plan to attend the **Newport Mooring Association's** annual meeting on October 25th at 6:30 PM at Marina Park, 1600 W. Balboa Blvd., Newport Beach. This meeting will once again feature Harbormaster Dennis Durgan as keynote speaker who will discuss topics of interest going on in Newport Harbor.

If you haven't paid your dues for 2017, please do so now. It's money well spent. The NMA is constantly vigilant in watching out for the rights of all Newport Harbor Mooring Permittees.

**Please send a check for \$35 or more to:**

**Newport Mooring Association,  
P.O. Box 1118,  
Newport Beach, CA 92659-1118**

Use the form below to renew your NMA Membership and please include your Email address.

Your Newport Mooring Association (NMA) has accomplished a lot to be proud of in both 2016 and 2017.

**SUMMARY OF NMA ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER PAST TWO YEARS:**

**Spring of 2016:** Annual mooring permit fees were reduced from over \$55 per linear foot to \$35 per linear foot. This was accomplished through a long term multi-year process that required the NMA to get involved in City of Newport Beach politics.

**Summer of 2017:** A new Mooring Ordinance was passed by City Council:

- Mooring transferability, which was due to sunset in 2020, has been restored.
- A mooring owner/permittee may have a maximum of two moorings.
- A mooring may be transferred no more than one time per year.

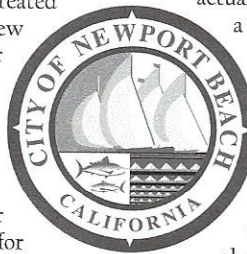
- The fee for a mooring permit transfer is 75% of the current annual fee.
- The market for moorings will now be more transparent. All sales will be listed on the City's website.
- Private parties are still not allowed to rent moorings. Only the City and the 3 Yacht Clubs can do so. The City retains the proceeds from renting private moorings for the administration of the Tidelands which benefits all users.
- If the City rents your mooring, and it is subsequently damaged during use when rented, the City will be responsible for timely repair.
- The annual cost for a mooring is currently \$36.02 per linear foot and may increase annually but annual increases are not to exceed 2% per year.

**2018 NEWS TOPICS**

The City of Newport Beach recently revamped its organizational structure on June 12th and has created a new Harbor Department. The Head of the new Harbor Department will be Harbormaster Dennis Durgan, who will now report directly to the City Manager. Mr. Durgan will have the title of Director of the **Harbor Department** as well as the title of Harbormaster. In addition to approving the new structure, the City Council also approved an increased budget for the new Harbor Department which will allow for an approximate 20 percent increase in man hours. The idea behind these changes is to enhance customer service in the harbor. If you are a mooring permittee, you are a customer. The old Harbor Resources Department will be rolled into Public Works and will retain a couple of employees to deal with primarily Harbor engineering issues such as dredging.

Deputy City Manager Tara Finnigan has stated that: "This year there will be an increased focus on Code Enforcement.

The City's code enforcement supervisor (Matt Cosyion) will actually be on loan to the new Harbor Department for a full year to help implement some changes and to train the Harbor Department staff."



**What this means to Mooring Permittees:** It would probably be a good time to make sure the right vessel is on the right mooring, your mooring lines are looking good, and that your current insurance and registration are on file with the City of Newport Beach. If you are living

aboard your vessel you might want to make sure you are properly registered with the City as a liveaboard. It might just be a good time to review all of Title 17 of the City of Newport Beach's Municipal Code which is known as the Harbor Code. Section 17.60.040 deals specifically with Mooring Permits. You can easily find these online with a Google search but another good starting point would be the new and very good City of Newport Beach Harbor Operations website: [www.newportharbor.org](http://www.newportharbor.org)

*continued on back*



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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (important): \_\_\_\_\_ Mooring #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (crucial): \_\_\_\_\_

A general rule of thumb to avoid code enforcement citations is that your vessel needs to look good out on her mooring. Think of your vessel as part of the overall beautiful harbor landscape. Your vessel needs to not stand out visually in a negative way. In a well maintained garden the weeds will get picked. Make sure your vessel isn't perceived as a weed in the garden as most citations that are issued have to do with lack of vessel upkeep -- excessive bird crap and/or sea lions, black mold, flaking varnish, even a big hairy growth underwater due to lack of bottom cleaning are all items that will result in your boat being noticed. Pay particular



attention to the type of sea lion deterrent devices you chose to use. Any device that could permanently harm a sea lion is not going to be legal and you risk being cited -- an example might be a wooden batten filled with sharp nails that could break off of your vessel and stay lodged in a sea lion.

Although this could change in the future, if you do receive a "Notice of Potential Violation", the process to rectify currently goes something like this:

- You will have a certain timeframe to correct the problem without any monetary penalty. This timeframe is typically 2 or 3 weeks but could be either shorter or longer.
- If you do not correct the problem, you will receive a 2nd notice with a lesser timeframe.
- If you do not comply with the 2nd Notice in the timeframe specified, you will then receive a Citation with a \$100 fine.
- Failure to comply with this Citation in the timeframe specified will result in an additional \$200 penalty.
- Failure to comply with the 2nd Citation and the \$200 penalty will result in an additional \$500 penalty.
- If you fail to comply with the 3rd Citation, you risk the revocation of your mooring permit.

## LONGER TERM ISSUES AND TOPICS:

**Sandline Moorings** – This is still a subject of interest and there are plans to engineer and try a few Catalina style sandline moorings to replace a few of the current double moorings in various mooring fields around the harbor. The 10 Visitor Moorings constructed last year are sandline moorings and are working well. Four of them were moved to the eastern edge of the H field and six remain in front of Marina Park.

**Law Enforcement** – The Harbor Patrol, which is run by the Orange County Sheriffs Department, remains the law enforcement agency in the harbor. The OCSH Harbor Patrol has no code enforcement responsibility with regards to City of Newport Beach rules and regulations (Title 17), and conversely the City of Newport Beach harborworkers and code enforcement personnel have no general law enforcement capability or responsibility when it comes to criminal activity. It is very probable that sometime in the not too distant future the City of Newport Beach police and fire departments will have a presence in the harbor in the form of a dedicated police boat and a dedicated city owned fire boat.

**Changes to Mooring Field Boundaries** – The Harbor Commission is tasked with making the harbor a better and more useable asset for the public at large. In doing this there might be some impacts to the some of the mooring fields but the impacts are expected to be slight and very workable. One Harbor Commissioner has mentioned the following topics:

- On the North side of Balboa Island there is a beach known as Ruby Beach that is very popular with young families. It has been suggested that perhaps the onshore moorings currently on Ruby Beach could be moved to another location to greater enhance the charm and useable area of Ruby Beach.
- In the "G" Mooring field, which is located in a very active part of the harbor adjacent to the turning circle where many sailboat races are conducted, there are County owned moorings that maybe could be relocated to another area of the harbor in order to better open up this body of water.

**Accessibility** – Most of the offshore moorings in Newport Harbor do not have shoreboat service and would have more value if they were more easily accessible. Is there a modern solution that would create value for all offshore mooring permittees? Could the "Bird Scooter" concept be applied to several city owned or privately owned electric dinghys? The NMA is brainstorming and researching ideas such as this.

### Join the Board of the Newport Mooring Association

– Your NMA is looking for new boardmembers to help with all NMA activities. We could use help on several committees: If interested please send an Email to: [mail@newportmooringassociation.org](mailto:mail@newportmooringassociation.org) and plan to join us at our next board meeting.



## Newport Mooring Association

P.O. Box 1118, Newport Beach, CA 92659-1118