



## **Meeting of the Port Fisherman's Wharf Advisory Committee (FWAC)**

**November 6, 2024 (9:00 to 11:00 AM)**

**Virtual Public Meeting via Teams**

### **Meeting Notes**

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#### **FWAC Attendees**

Jenn Brokaw (Swimmers)  
Joe Burgard (Excursion Operations)  
Mariann Costello (Restaurants)  
Taryn Hoppe (Retail)  
Darlene Plumtree (Museums), Co-Chair  
Dante Serafini (Restaurants)  
Sina von Reitzenstein (Pier 39)  
Sarah Bates (Fishers), Co-Chair  
John Barnett (Crab Boat Owners)  
Mike Rescino (Charter Fishing)

#### **FWAC Members Absent**

Mike LaRocca (Fish Processing)

#### **Port Staff**

Amy Cohen, Business Generation Manager  
Scott Landsittel, Deputy Director of Real Estate and Development  
Eric Young, Director of Communications  
David Beaupre, Deputy Director, Planning and Environment  
Meghan Wallace, Economic Recovery Manager  
Kimberley Beal, Assistant Deputy Director, Real Estate  
Ming Yeung, Assistant Deputy Director, Planning and Environment  
Dominic Moreno, Assistant Deputy Director, Maritime  
Kyle Thomas, Security and Emergency Preparedness Manager  
Uday Prasad, Acting Chief Harbor Engineer  
Messiah Foster, Public Relations Manager  
Robert Davis, Port Real Estate  
Luis Barata, Port Waterfront Resilience  
Don Kavanagh, Senior Property Manager  
Harold George, Property Manager  
Wendy McArthur, Maritime

Chris Horiuchi, Project Manager  
Michael Martin, Port Assistant Director  
Zachary Adami, Maritime Wharfinger  
Ryan Wassum, Planner  
Richard Berman, Assistant Deputy Director, Planning and Environment  
Gabe Mikulich, Maritime Wharfinger  
Wyatt Donnelly-Landolt, Port Development  
Robert Davis, Real Estate  
Shannon Alfred, Environmental Planner

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### **Announcements and Introductions**

- 1. FWAC Ground Rules for Meetings**
  - 2. Approval of Draft September 4, 2024, Meeting Notes**
  - 3. Quick Project Updates**
    - A. Crab Season Delay, Sarah Bates FWAC Chair
    - B. Hyde Street Harbor and Access Work, Noel Aquino, Port Engineering
    - C. Fisherman's Wharf Dredging Update, Zachary Adami, Port Maritime Wharfinger
    - D. Wharf J9 Project Update, Chris Horiuchi, Port Waterfront Resilience Program
    - E. Fisherman's Wharf Little Embarcadero Activation - Amy Cohen, Port Real Estate
    - F. Fisherman Wharf Revitalized: Schedule and Process - Wyatt Donnelly-Landolt, Port Development
  - 4. Agenda Setting for Future Meetings**
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#### **Item #1 - FWAC Ground Rules for Meetings**

Ming Yeung of the Port provided ground rules and other information to start the meeting. This included the introduction of new rule that limits speakers to three minutes for comments or to ask questions. This is consistent with Port Commission policy for public comment.

#### **Item #2 - Approval of Draft Meeting Notes**

September 4, 2024 Meeting Notes were accepted by the FWAC without comment.

#### **Item #3 – Quick Project Updates**

## **A. Crab Season Update**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (“CA DFW”) determined that the crab season will not open on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Due to the continued presence of migrating whales. The CA DFW is set to decide on November 19<sup>th</sup> about a December 1<sup>st</sup> opening. It is possible the season will start December 15<sup>th</sup> but that assumes a small number of whales are present.

*[Note, on November 21, 2024 the CA DFW announced that the crab season would not open December 1, 2024, due to the continuing presence of whales. CA DFW indicated there is a chance for a December 15<sup>th</sup> opening depending on the number of whales present in the crabbing waters and will reassess this option on or around December 5<sup>th</sup>].*

### **Questions/Comments:**

- One question about who the controlling authority is. It is the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## **B. Hyde Street Harbor and Access Work**

The Hyde Street Harbor project includes making general repairs and select utility upgrades at the fishing docks at Hyde Street Harbor. The general maintenance and repair work is almost complete. The contractor is working on installing new power pedestals with lights and upgrading the water lines. Substantial completion of the work is slated for late November/early December.

### **Questions/Comments:**

- No questions or comments noted

## **C. Fisherman’s Wharf Dredging Update**

The Fisherman's Wharf J-9 waterfront dredging is complete. The dredging was able to get to a depth of 12 feet in almost every area needed between J-9 and Scoma’s. Roughly 8,000 cubic yards of dredge spoils were transported to Montezuma Slough in Solano County for beneficial reuse wetlands, which is a positive environmental contribution to wetland restoration in the Bay Area. In addition to the silt and mud, the dredgers discovered and removed approximately five tons of illegally dumped debris that accumulated over the last 20-30 years between the slips and in the fairway.

Port staff are preparing plans for dredging the inner lagoon and associated fairways in 2025.

### **Questions/Comments:**

- Question about timing and location of 2025 dredging work

- Answer – the 2025 dredging includes the fairway approach towards J9 and the inner lagoon. Port is sampling the bay floor and working on permits for that dredging season.

#### **D. Wharf J9 Project Update**

The J-9 float work was scheduled for substantial completion in mid-November; however, unforeseen complications with dredging, including significant debris removal, caused delays. The J-9 team began work on the float installation in early October, pushing slated substantial completion to early to mid-December, barring unforeseen complications.

During this phase of the float work, a portion of the timber deck at Wharf J-8, immediately adjacent to Scoma's, was observed to be sagging and barricaded for safety. Fortunately, the J-9 float contractor agreed to repair this section of wharf with new piles and a steel support beam. The repair work commenced without undue delay.

#### **Questions/Comments:**

- No comments or questions.

#### **E. Fisherman's Wharf Little Embarcadero Activation**

San Franpsycho, a uniquely San Francisco brand, commenced operating in a container adjacent to the sidewalk on the promenade. The pergolas and spinning chairs are active. The Welcome Center at the Plaza, housed in a container, will open soon and other containers are close to opening. There will be a photo booth and visitor information from custom openings in the container. Plans for lights on the Pier 43 ferry arch are advancing and installation should be soon.

The maintenance team and the Fisherman's Wharf CBD staff were thanked for their efforts. The CBD is working to install up to three ground murals in spring 2025. It was noted that a few street performer locations were slightly moved, and only one location was removed due to the activation efforts.

#### **Questions/Comments:**

- It was noted by several parties that the area is noticeably cleaner and is a great activation for the previously spare area.

#### **F. Fisherman's Wharf Revitalized**

In February 2023, the Port received an unsolicited proposal from Fisherman's Wharf Revitalized ("FWR") to redevelop portions of SWL 301 and Pier 45 Shed A at Fisherman's Wharf. After analysis and public feedback, this proposal was presented to the Port Commission in October 2023 resulting in the approval to execute an exclusive negotiating agreement ("ENA") with FWR. The ENA was signed in January 2024 which allowed FWR to solicit public feedback and refine the scope and specification of the project. In October 2024, the Port Commission endorsed a non-binding term sheet ("Term Sheet") for the project. There was public feedback at the

meeting including comments from the Fishing and Crabbing community and concerns from others, including neighborhood businesses, on using the spaces for other uses than a beverage garden and exhibit hall.

The Term Sheet outlines the key terms of the project and provides for higher level conceptual and development terms, including rent. It is more accurately described as a “guide” for the next steps and not a contract. The Term Sheet sets the rules and terms for how this development will occur, including refining the design of the project and environmental and regulatory reviews by multiple agencies. In addition to the reviews, the next stage will develop a design that delves into specifics and examine issues with construction impacts, transportation, and traffic.

This is at least a twelve-month process including community engagement throughout. Twelve months is aggressive timing and typically takes longer. The Term Sheet requires a San Francisco Board of Supervisors Budget and Finance Committee (“BOS”) public hearing, which is tentatively scheduled for December 4, 2024 and if successful, a final vote by the full Board of Supervisors after that.

#### **Questions/Comments:**

- There was a comment on the audience at the Port Commission being at odds with approval of the Term Sheet as presented.
- There was a request for an “official channel” for more open forums for public comments other than FWAC meetings.
- There was a question about the timing of an EIR and community feedback and that it typically takes more than 12 months to finalize
  - **Answer** – EIR, including community outreach and multiple discussions, cannot be submitted without approval from the BOS. Completion of an EIR is a material step before developers will commit to spending significant funds to advance the project.
- Request for the Port to be more transparent with its plans and how it shares its information regarding the project.
- There was discussion and explanation on formal and informal public comments.
- There was a comment on opportunity to address or comment on specific or big elements of the project.
  - **Response** - These projects are very complex, particularly with the Port because of the costly infrastructure improvements required, including the seawall and pier substructure. Sometimes changing one component can have cascading effects across the entire project. It is too soon to discuss specific elements. Part of the opportunity to be more specific will come through design charrettes as the project advances.

#### **Item #4 - Agenda Setting for Future Meetings**

The next FWAC meeting will be held on January 8, 2025 (because January 1, 2025 is a holiday)

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM**