



Docks & Harbors The Tide Line February 2024

Happy Valentine's Day

Port Director's Corner: The January winter storms brought more than 4 feet of snow to our harbors. The impact resulted in nine vessels and one boat shelter succumbing to our Alaskan weather. Docks & Harbors sympathizes with our patrons and their financial losses accompanying the property loss. We are thankful that there were no known injuries or loss of life during this unprecedented event. Docks & Harbors staff efforts included responding and assisting another 30+ vessels which were in peril of sinking. When staff was not providing emergent services, they were diligently working to provide access to slips thereby allowing boat owners the ability to tend to their vessels. Docks & Harbors called in all available seasonal staff to assist and rented additional frontend loaders to move snow piles providing parking access at each harbor. The Docks & Harbors staff worked extremely long days during the height of the storm and every snow removal apparatus was fully employed. Following the loss of the vessels, Harbormaster Creswell was fully engaged with the US Coast Guard and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADCE) in planning and collaborating to mitigate pollutants in our harbors. Some of the vessels were uninsured and the US Coast Guard will normally federalize the vessel response in order to remove any material hazard. Once the pollution risk is minimized, the vessel disposal is left to the boat owner. If the boat owner is unable or unwilling to remove the salvaged vessel, typically Docks & Harbors completes the demolition action. The Juneau harbor community should be very proud of the actions of the Harbormaster and his staff as they responded to this significant snowfall event.

Douglas Harbor Lighting Project: Chatham Electric has received and is preparing to erect the light poles to provide security lighting in the Douglas Harbor parking lots. Docks & Harbors staff is working to clear snow to provide access for Chatham to install the light poles in the very near future.

D&H encourages electronic statements to make online bill pay at juneauharbors.com faster and easier! Please send an email to harbormaster@juneau.gov to request electronic statements.

Launch Ramp Permits: All launch ramp permits are available at any of our harbor offices or online at juneauharbors.com

Docks & Harbors Meetings

All meetings will be held at the locations below and via Zoom

Operations/Planning

Wednesday

February 21st

CBJ Room 224

at 5pm

Regular Board

Thursday

February 29th

CBJ Room 224

at 5pm

Meeting

agendas & minutes can be found [here](#)

Help stop theft in our Harbors & vandalism in our restrooms! If you see something call JPD Non-Emergency Line at 907-586-0600 & report to the Harbor Office at 907-586-5255.

Aurora Harbor Rebuild (Phase III): Trucano Construction continues making good progress with installation of "H Float". All the floats, constructed in Tacoma, have arrived and pile driving is in full swing. After the floats have been installed, Alaska Electric will run power followed by Harri Plumbing & Heating with potable and fire water systems. The substantial completion is mid-May; however, we have contractually permitted Trucano to tend to other harbor patron needs resulting from the January storms.

Text Messaging Notification: D & H has re-established a SMS (Short Message Service) account after several months of not having this communication option. If you have already signed up, you will not need to do it again. Harbor patrons have an option to "opt in" for short text messages pertaining to D & H operations. Our goal is to inform the public of vital (or timely) information. This will be used to notify patrons of harbor utility outages, severe weather conditions or topical items for debate from the Harbor Board. There is no cost to sign up and interested citizens must "opt in" to receive these notification. Scan the QR code on the right to sign up.



Employee of the Quarter: Harbor Operations Supervisor Kevin Dugan was recognized at the January 25th regular Board meeting as the Employee-of-the-Quarter. The citation read in part: *Kevin's finely honed leadership skills enabled him to navigate the turmoil of short staffing with ease. He was the first one to volunteer to work when it was determined the crew would be short staffed on any given day. He gave up many weekends to ensure there were no gaps in coverage and his positive attitude never wavered. Perhaps Kevin's most admirable trait is his desire to work alongside his crew in the field. He prefers to be working outside with his team, rather than behind his desk at his computer. Kevin captures the perfect picture of what it means to lead by example.*



New Harbor Security Officer: Docks & Harbors is pleased to announce that we have hired Brian Haight as our new evening Harbor Security Officer. Mr. Haight has a strong military and police background who is highly qualified for this position. As our evening Security Officer, he will be patrolling all harbors and the downtown port after the regular workday. Please welcome Brian as you see him on the floats and in our parking lots. Welcome aboard - Brian Haight!

Harris Harbor Security Gate: Fabrication for the security gate is complete and will be shipped to Juneau in early February. It is our intention to have our term contractor (Carver Construction) complete the installation. Docks & Harbors staff will then work on the security mechanism, lighting, and camera necessary to provide the envisioned security improvements. These details are likely to take several weeks before rolling out a system which is user friendly to our patrons and at the same time a deterrent to potential criminals. It has always been our position that the Harris Security Gate will remain open and unlocked during normal waking hours (i.e. 6 am to 11 pm).

Waterfront Vendor Permits: Docks & Harbors has two three year/three year renewable waterfront sales permits available for the 2024 season. A waterfront sales permit allows for the sale of tours in three designated areas at the CBJ's cruise ship docks. Permits will be sold by outcry auction at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 15th, 2024 in the CBJ Assembly Chambers if more than two applications are received. In order to bid on a 2024 permit, you must meet the eligibility requirements in the application to bid found [here](#). If you are eligible, please complete the permit application to bid and provide a \$30,000 cashier's check/money order bid deposit to the Port Director. This bid deposit must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14th, 2024, the day before the auction. Winning bidders must pay the bid price in full by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 15th, 2024

Port Office

907-586-0292

Monday-Friday

8:00am-4:30pm

Port/Field Office

907-586-5720

Currently Closed

Aurora Harbor

907-586-5255

Monday-Friday

8:00am-4:30pm

(typically closed 12-

1pm for lunch)

Statter Harbor

907-789-0819

Monday-Friday

8:00am-4:30pm

(typically closed 12-

1pm for lunch)

Docks & Harbors CY24 Fees: We have previously communicated that at the October 23rd Assembly meeting, proposed regulation changes to raise rates 9% across all Docks & Harbors fees were approved. The fees are effective January 2024; however, the rate increase for monthly harbor moorage will be spread out over three calendar years. For monthly harbor moorage (05 CBJAC 20.035) only, the rate will go up 3% in January 2024, another 3% in 2025 and only 2.8% in 2026. The Board believes that this fee impacts most of the harbor patrons and recommended this user group be provided a graduated fee increase. Docks & Harbors commenced the rate setting efforts in 2020. In addition to the one-time fee increase, most all fees are also subject to the previous calendar year's CPI (Consumer Price Index) for Urban Alaska. The CPI for 2023 was 1.5% and will be applied to the Port/Tourism type fees on April 1st and the rest of the Harbor fees on July 1st. The CPI adjustment in CY23 was well below what was experienced in the previous two calendar years which were 4.9% and 8.1%. The harbor rates starting July 1st will be updated on our website here after the Board takes action to either accept or reject the CPI CY23 adjustment at its February Board meeting.