



# Docks & Harbors

## The Tide Line



June 2013

### Port Director's Corner

#### Statter Harbor Launch Ramp-

With the successful completion of Phase I of the Statter Harbor Master plan, we have now turned our attention to Phase II - Statter Harbor Launch Ramp. This project would improve access for harbor patrons by providing a new launch facility including associated uplands for approximately 100 trailers and 80 vehicles. Lack of available trailer and vehicular parking has been an Auke Bay complaint for many years as the current on-site parking provides for only 22 trailers. Surveys taken have indicated a capacity of 88 trailers in the Horton Lot, Auke Bay Elementary and along Back Loop Road. The proposed project will provide for launching at all tidal ranges (existing ramp requires a tide height above 0 mean low water) and will include efficiencies such as "make ready" and "tie-down" lanes. The Statter Harbor Master plan has been in some form of design since 2002 when CBJ voters first approved infrastructure funding through a 1% Sales Tax initiative. Alternative design options were considered through the federally required NEPA process until the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative (LEDPA) decision was achieved after 4.5 years of studies and consultation with regulatory agencies and public involvement.

At the June 25th, 2013 CBJ Planning Commission meeting, the Commissioner will consider a "Conditional Use" permit which is necessary for the project to move forward. At their May 14th meeting, the Commissioners voted the project down but through a procedural vote on May 28th, agreed to reconsider the application.

I would encourage all harbor patrons and interested members of the public to attend and testify at the 7pm meeting held in Assembly Chambers on June 25th. In a representative democracy, communities are served best when board participation is achieved from all concerned. At the May 14th Planning Commission meeting, **no members from the public testified in favor of the project**. Docks & Harbors believes the proposed project balances environmental stewardship with the need to provide recreational opportunities to CBJ harbor patrons; is harmonious with the community by developing in a "waterfront commercial" zoning district; and has been extensively vetted through a transparent and deliberate process.

#### Some considerations for those who wish to provide public comment:

- Statter Harbor is highly congested with trailers, busses and vehicles. A reasonable solution to improve the facility is to provide uplands area through intertidal fill and segregate the user groups to improve safety and efficiency.
- Numerous alternatives required under the Environmental Assessment were evaluated and considered before arriving at the LEDPA.  
<http://www.juneau.org/harbors/documents/AppendixB-UplandsAlternativeAnalysis-PND2011a.pdf>
- Docks & Harbors issues over 2000 trailer permits annually. This is greater than the approximate 1300 slips available at public moorage.
- The Mendenhall Valley has half the Juneau population but boat launching recreational opportunities is limited and have not kept pace with trailer demand and population growth.
- Alternatively, you may submit your comments to me, via email [Carl\\_Uchtyl@ci.juneau.ak.us](mailto:Carl_Uchtyl@ci.juneau.ak.us) for inclusion into the public record.

#### Docks and Harbors

Meetings:

##### Operations Meeting

June 18th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

At the Aurora Harbor

##### CIP Meeting

June 20th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

In the Assembly Chambers

##### Finance Meeting

June 25th, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

In CBJ Room 224.

##### Regular Board Meeting

June 27th, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

In the Assembly Chambers

Meeting agendas and minutes can be found at:

<http://www.juneau.org/harbors/board.php>

#### Dates to Remember:

June 25th - CBJ Planning Commission Meeting.

#### Statter Harbor Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

An event to commemorate the opening of the new Statter Harbor floats was held on May 15th. The Juneau Delegation, several members of the CBJ Assembly and Mrs. Anita Statter were on hand to appropriately celebrate the completion of Phase I. The Juneau Empire story is linked below:

<http://juneauempire.com/local/2013-05-15/ceremony-celebrates-statter-harbors-revival>

#### Taku Dock Reconfiguration Bid Award

Trucano Construction was awarded the bid for the Taku Dock project which consists of reconfiguring the dock and resurfacing it with a concrete deck. This work will add capacity and also address navigational issues with the Cruise Ship Berth project. Project to start fall 2013.



**Meet the Staff.** Ashley Bruce is the newest member of the Docks & Harbors team and will be working at the Port/Field office as a Seasonal Administrative Assistant I. Ashley was born and raised in Juneau and is currently attending the University of Alaska Southeast. She is studying for a Bachelors degree in Environmental Sciences, and eventually plans to achieve a Professional Engineers Designation. Ashley said she enjoys hiking trails, camping around Juneau, traveling Alaska, and rebuilding classic cars or motorcycles with a couple of friends. She said she entered a 1965 Harley Sportster in the Juneau Dipstick Classic car show and took home second place. Ashley invites you to stop by the Port/Field office and say hi.

**Docks & Harbors' changes.** Mr. Doug Unruh has been selected as the new Operations & Maintenance Supervisor at Statter Harbor. Mr. Unruh has been a full time Harbor Officer working at Auke Bay since 2004. Mr. Doug Liermann was selected as the Senior Harbor Officer responsible for supervising the downtown "Docks Enterprise" during the summer season and working in the Aurora Harbor office during the winter. Mr. Liermann started out as a seasonal employee in 2000 before becoming a full time Harbor Officer in 2005.

**Statter Harbor Protocols:**

Move-up/Tighten-Up! We are looking to maximize transient moorage at Statter Harbor this season. After mooring, please move your vessel up as close as practicable to the adjacent boat. When possible, readjust your vessel when adjacent boats move to encourage efficient moorage practices.

**Launch Ramp Updates**

- North Douglas Launch Ramp. On April 26<sup>th</sup> the Downtown Harbor Supervisor secured a front end loader and dewatering pump to clear the ramp with sediments which accumulated over the winter. Then again on May 24<sup>th</sup> a snow plow was used to remove sediment which had accreted in less than one month's time. New bumper strips were also installed on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The Harbormaster will continue to monitor the situation and provide required maintenance.
- At a May 23<sup>rd</sup> Docks & Harbors' CIP Committee meeting, the public was invited to participate in a "master plan" discussion for North Douglas Boat Ramp. The Committee heard the request from the public in attendance that this facilities needs upgraded access, greater launch ramp capacity and improved safety measures. The two engineering challenges with North Douglas is lack of available uplands and the geography which drops off rapidly from the shoreline (thus preventing a cost effective alternative to fill). The Committee consensus was not to initiate a major project at North Douglas until other ongoing harbor projects are complete (Douglas Harbor, Aurora Harbor, Statter Harbor). Docks & Harbors staff will engage the users to determine what risk mitigation can be taken up to improve the safety at this facility.
- Echo Cove Launch Ramp. In May, Docks & Harbors installed boulders on the south side of the launch ramp to prevent unauthorized vehicular access to DNR lands.
- Harris Harbor Launch Ramp. The Downtown Harbor staff is working to shore-up some of the concrete planks which appear to have been undermined by prop wash.
- Statter Harbor Launch Ramp. The Auke Bay Harbor staff has overseen the asphalt repairs to the parking lot and ramp. They will also be adding crushed rock on the north side of the ramp which typically experiences erosion annually.

**Safety Tip** - Carbon Monoxide (CO) can harm and even kill you inside or outside of your boat! To protect yourself, your passengers and those around you, learn all you can about CO. Use the checklists below, and do not operate your boat without doing the following:

**Each Time You Go On a Boat Trip**

- Make sure you know where CO exhaust outlets are located on your vessel.
- Educate all passengers about the symptoms of CO poisoning and where CO may accumulate.
- When docked, or rafted with another boat, be aware of exhaust emissions from the other boat.
- Confirm that water flows from the exhaust outlet when the engines and generator are started.
- Listen for any change in exhaust sound, which could indicate an exhaust component failure.
- Test the operation of each CO alarm by pressing the test button.
- Print and use these checklists, and do not operate your boat without doing the following:

**Once a Month**

- Make sure all exhaust clamps are in place and secure.
- Look for exhaust leaking from exhaust system components. Signs include rust and/or black streaking, water leaks, or corroded or cracked fittings.
- Inspect rubber exhaust hoses for burned, cracked, or deteriorated sections. All rubber hoses should be pliable and free of kinks.

**Once a Year**

- Have a qualified marine technician:
- Replace exhaust hoses if cracking, charring, or deterioration is found.
- Ensure that your engines and generators are properly tuned, and well maintained.
- Inspect each water pump impeller and the water pump housing. Replace if worn. Make sure cooling systems are in working condition.
- Inspect all metallic exhaust components for cracking, rusting, leaking, or loosening. Make sure they check the cylinder head, exhaust manifold, water injection elbow, and the threaded adapter nipple between the manifold and the elbow.

**Port Office Hours**  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Closed 12:00 to 1:00  
586-0292

**Port/Field Office Hours**  
Open until October 1  
Saturday - Wednesday  
8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
Closed 12:00 to 1:00  
586-5720

**Aurora Office Hours**  
Sunday- Saturday  
8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
[Closed Saturday & Sunday noon to 1:00]  
586-5255

**Statter Harbor (Auke Bay) Summer Office Hours**  
Sunday- Saturday  
8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
[Closed Saturday & Sunday noon to 1:00]  
789-0819

**For Maritime Emergencies:**

Contact the U. S. Coast Guard by VHF radio CH 16 or call \*CG from your Alaska registered cellular telephone.

**Boating Legal**

What you need to carry on your boat to be legal in Alaska. Below is the link to the quick reference guide  
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/boating/postcard031313.pdf>