



STAFF REPORT

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Chris Munson, Facilities Manager
Matt Ashton, Chief Harbor Patrol Officer
Robiy Ellison, Facilities Supervisor
Bill Gaalswyk, Pier Crew Lead

DATE: July 23, 2019

SUBJECT: Harford Pier Camel Purchase

Recommendation / Proposed Motion

- Receive and file; no action necessary

Policy Implications

- None at this time

District Major Objective/Goal

Objective #1 – Keep the Harbor Functional for Boaters

Objective #3 – Ensure Efficient and Effective Facilities to Deliver Critical Services

Fiscal Implications / Budget Status

\$85,000 is included in the 2019/20 FY Budget for Avila Pier & Harford Pier Lumber & Materials.

Alternatives Considered

See Discussion.

Background

A camel is designed to protect the pier when a boat is tied up alongside for fueling or on/off-loading. Camels help absorb impact to the pier when a boat shifts up and down and side to side with the swell, wind, and tide. They distribute the force of the boat on the pier across multiple piles. There are seven camels on Harford Pier; six belong to the District and the other is owned by Patriot Sportfishing but maintained by the District.

Various camel options were presented to the Board at the February 26th and May 28th meetings.

Discussion

Staff has decided to pursue foam-filled fenders as a pilot project. The fenders compress and are non-marking, so they would not pose a threat to boats. Each 20' section is \$6,500.

The shipping cost is not significant since they are delivered from Los Angeles, not Maine like other options. A full camel would cost about \$15,000 after tax, which is comparable to the materials and maintenance costs put into a traditional camel over 5 years. This quote is for 24" diameter fenders. Staff looked into 18" fenders to save money, but the savings were not significant.

After reviewing other designs, it was decided that they were either too expensive, untested, or threatened to cause boat damage. The first set will be tested at the Harbor Patrol Landing. With additional feedback and a testing period, staff will plan and budget to convert the other camels pending positive results.

The initial purchase will be done using part of the budget for Avila Pier & Harford Pier Lumber & Materials. As the Harbor Terrace project transition will likely take some of the Pier Crew's time and space will be limited for material storage, it is anticipated that the lumber and pile order will be less than in years past.



Similar Fenders at Monterey



Ocean Guard - Netless Foam Filled Fender

Conclusion

Staff will proceed with purchasing a set of foam-filled fenders to conduct a pilot project at the Harbor Patrol Landing. Funding will come from the existing budget, so no budget adjustments will be needed.