

MARIN CONSERVATION LEAGUE
Land Use, Transportation, and Water Committee: December 5, 2018, 1 to 2:30 PM

Members Present: Susan Stompe, chair; Nona Dennis, Rick Fraites, Vicki Nichols, Kate Powers, Ann Thomas, Doug Wilson. Guests: RBRA ED Beth Pollard, Jack Krystal.

PRIOR MINUTES. Minutes of November 7, 2018 approved as distributed.

AGENDA. Approved as presented.

RICHARDSON'S BAY REGIONAL AGENCY. Ms Pollard stated that her position as ED is quarter-time, she has previously worked with city governments, and she is determined "something will happen" on her watch. "The current situation", she said (regarding the anchor-outs in Richardson Bay) "is not sustainable." Her presentation included the following:

- The agency currently is comprised of representatives from Belvedere, Tiburon, Mill Valley, and the County of Marin. Sausalito dropped its agency membership in July 2017 in order to address the illegal vehicles on its own. The waters offshore of the city are by far the most impacted and the city wanted control of the area. Sausalito waters go from shore to midchannel.
- Of an estimated 200 vessels illegally anchored in Richardson Bay, about 2/3 are occupied by "live-a-boards". The number could peak at 250, but declines in the spring.
- Many are anchored in eelgrass beds and the California Audubon Society estimates that each of these vessels would scour about three-fourths of an acre of eelgrass. Waste is also an issue. There is a "pump-out" boat in the bay to relocate waste (sewage). In winter there is a problem with vessels breaking loose of anchorage.
- Cost to abate a vessel ranges from \$2,500 to \$7,500, with vessels being crushed, some metal reused, but most of the material going into a landfill. Although it is a regional problem, with boats moving around the bay and the even the state, there is no indication that the state might assume some responsibility for abatement costs. The agency relies on some state boating and waterways grants, and also receives some tax funds from the three cities and the county.
- Tomales Bay recently implemented a mooring project.
- A group of the anchor-out residents have formed a 501c 3 with the intent of working to find a resolution to their situation.

TRANSPORTATION & SAN RAFAEL ISSUES. 1) Kate reported. As of November 29, SMART has begun work on the Larkspur extension. Groups are lobbying for improved pedestrian/biking passage along the train district's multi-use path. 2) Northgate Mall's new owners are considering renovation of the east shopping areas to multi-use buildings. 3) The Oaks in Marinwood, a senior living community approved by the county planning commission, will require bridge access across Miller Creek.

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