



Parks and Waterfront Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 22, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission
Submitted by: Gordon Wozniak, Chair, Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission
Subject: Letter of Support for Budget Referral: South Sailing Basin Dredging

RECOMMENDATION

Send the attached Letter of Support for Budget Referral: South Sailing Basin Dredging to be added to the scope of the project for the study of dredging the main channel.

BACKGROUND

At a regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, the commission took action to send to Council the attached Letter of Support (M/S/C: Floyd/Capitelli): Ayes: Birnbach; Capitelli; Cox; Diehm; Floyd, Kawczynska; Landoni; Srioudom; Wozniak; Noes: None; Abstain: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This referral refers to the budget process the consideration of \$350,000 for planning and evaluation work related to South Sailing Basin dredging. Combining the planning and evaluation work for both projects, may result in cost savings.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Staff should research and consider the environmental impact of dredging the South Sailing Basin.

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager concurs with the recommendation contained in this report.

CONTACT PERSON

Gordon Wozniak, Chair, Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission, 510-666-0662

Attachments:

1. Letter of Support – Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission to Council
2. Photo of South Sailing Basin dock and surrounding mudflats at low tide at 3:53 PM on Jan. 30, 2022

Attachment 1



City of Berkeley
Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

Date: Feb. 16, 2022

Re: Support for Dredging the South Sailing Basin

To the Berkeley City Council:

The Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission strongly supports the Budget Referral of \$350,000 for planning and evaluation of dredging in the South Sailing Basin. At present, the City has hired a consultant for planning work for dredging the Main Harbor channel. Adding the South Sailing Basin dredging study to this contract could result in significant savings.

The South Sailing Basin provides water access for small-craft and aquatic recreation: e.g. small sailing boats, kayaks, paddle boards, windsurfing, and swimming. Since the basin has not been dredged in 50 years, the accumulation of silt and mud, make it impossible to launch boats on low tide days. See Attachment 2, which shows a low-tide event on Jan. 30, 2022, where the mudflats extended beyond the launching dock.

The silting of the South Sailing Basin threatens the long-term viability of aquatic recreation in this area and could jeopardize the City's multimillion dollar investment in new docks, launch facilities, and parking. If dredging is not carried out, these important recreation facilities could eventually be closed, which would be a loss for everyone.

Respectfully,

Gordon Wozniak, Chair

Berkeley Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission

Attachment 2

Photo of South Sailing Basin dock and surrounding mudflats
at low tide at 3:53 PM on Jan. 30, 2022



