



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**
Executive Director's
Report to the
Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: NOVEMBER 14, 2023

FROM: WATERFRONT AND COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVAL OF REVOCABLE LICENSE
NO. 2023-09 WITH ODYSSEY YACHT CHARTER, LLC**

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of the proposed Revocable License No. 2023-09 (License) with Odyssey Yacht Charter LLC (Odyssey Yacht) to use and occupy 4,440 square feet of property at Berth 84 in San Pedro for commercial charter vessel passenger operations. Premises shall be used on a non-exclusive basis and serve prescheduled tour groups. The proposed License is subject to cancellation by the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) or Odyssey Yacht upon 90 days' written notice. Under the proposed License, compensation would be equivalent to seven percent of gross receipts.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article III, Class 1 (18)(b) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve Revocable License No. 2023-09 with Odyssey Yacht Charter LLC;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to Revocable License No. 2023-09; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

DISCUSSION:

Background – The Downtown Harbor is part of the Harbor Department's effort to promote the L.A. Waterfront as a district of cultural, institutional, and educational uses. To complement these facilities, additional berthing was constructed at Berths 84 and 85. Since the completion of the Downtown Harbor in June 2014, the docks at Berths 84 and 85 have been underutilized, and are primarily used for Harbor Department-commissioned boat tours and events such as Tall Ships, Holiday Parade, and movie nights. Small recreational vessels occasionally dock for free for no more than four (4) hours, as

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permitted by the Tariff. The Waterfront and Commercial Real Estate Division (WCRED) has also issued short-term permits to various civic and non-profit groups who requested docking longer than the permitted time.

Odyssey Yacht is currently using dock space at Berth 85 under Revocable Permit 22-14, which will terminate upon this License becoming effective.

The proposed License will promote and activate the L.A. Waterfront through an increase in visitors.

Revocable License – The proposed License (Transmittal 1) grants Odyssey Yacht the non-exclusive right to use the dock at Berth 84 (Transmittal 2) for the operation of chartered commercial passenger vessels serving prescheduled tour groups. Permissible types of tours include, but are not limited to, harbor tours, whale watching tours, dolphin and sea life tours, Catalina trips, weddings, corporate events, holiday parties, sea memorials, dinner cruises and film excursions. Sport fishing tours are not permissible. All tours shall be directly operated by Odyssey Yacht. No advertising, scheduling, collection of money, or any other activities other than the loading and unloading of passengers and supplies are permitted. The only vessels authorized to use the site include:

M/V Odyssey

M/V Bahia

M/V Dreamers Dream

Odyssey Yacht will provide a schedule of charters five business days before each intended use, subject to approval by the Director of Waterfront and Commercial Real Estate (Director). The Director or designee reserves the absolute right to deny any such requests for authorization at his or her sole discretion upon 24 hours written notice to Odyssey Yacht.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of Revocable License No. 2023-09 with the Odyssey Yacht Charter LLC to allow temporary use of Berth 84 on a non-exclusive basis, which is an issuance of berth or space assignment for a municipal wharf. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article III, Class 1(18)(b) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Under the proposed Revocable License, Odyssey Yacht will be required to pay the Harbor Department equal to seven percent of gross receipts from commercial charter vessel operations at Berth 84. Under the previous Revocable Permit No. 22-14, Odyssey Yacht paid annual compensation in Fiscal Year 2023 of \$3,070. Under the proposed Revocable

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License, staff anticipates total compensation to remain at levels similar to those earned under the prior entitlement.

CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has prepared and approved the proposed Revocable License No. 2023-09 as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Revocable License No. 2023-09
2. Site Map

FIS Approval: *MB*
CA Approval: *SO*

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APPROVED:

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