

From: [Megan Barnes](#)
To: [Cesacommments](#)
Cc: jacob.baik@lacty.org; [CC: Karina Banales](#)
Subject: Comments on the IS/NOP for the West Harbor Modification Project - City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 11:43:05 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[20220613_West_Harbor_NOP_Comments_Final.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Good Morning,

Please see the attached comment letter from the City of Rancho Palos Verdes on the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation (IS/NOP) for the West Harbor Modification Project.

Thank you,

Megan Barnes
Senior Administrative Analyst
mbarnes@rpvca.gov
Phone - (310) 544-5226

City of Rancho Palos Verdes
30940 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
Website: www.rpvca.gov



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June 13, 2022

Via Email

ceqacomment@portla.org

Christopher Cannon
Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

SUBJECT: Comments on the Initial Study/Notice of Preparation (IS/NOP) for the West Harbor Modification Project

Dear Mr. Cannon,

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes has reviewed the IS/NOP for the West Harbor Modification Project and offers the following comments for your consideration. We appreciate the one-month extension of the public review and comment period.

The proposed modification represents a significant departure from the far smaller, 500-seat amphitheater that was originally contemplated in the San Pedro Waterfront Project. Rancho Palos Verdes is a semi-rural, residential community, with a significant senior population. Since plans for the 6,200-seat amphitheater were announced, residents of the Eastview neighborhood, which borders San Pedro, have shared repeated concerns with the City about potential noise impacts from performances and fireworks displays at this proposed venue.

The City expects that the supplemental EIR include a detailed noise analysis, prepared by a sound engineer, using measurable testing of noise impacts under various atmospheric conditions from the amplified sound system, fireworks displays, and crowds, including the diameter that these impacts would be experienced. It is imperative that the sound study establish current ambient noise levels when projecting potential noise impacts during the various events that would occur in the amphitheater. It is the City's understanding that speakers surrounding the stage will face south toward the ocean, and that technology will be utilized to further direct sound away from residential neighborhoods. The analysis should thoroughly explain how this proposed technology works and how it will minimize impacts under various atmospheric conditions. The supplemental EIR should also study alternatives that are smaller in size and reach, and clearly cite mitigation measures and how they will be enforced.

In addition to amplified sound, close attention should be given to impacts created by the proposed 25 offshore fireworks displays per year. In recent years, the City has been

Los Angeles Harbor Department

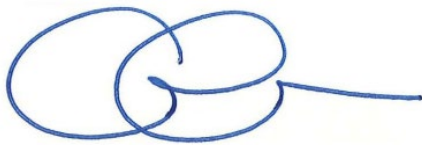
June 13, 2022

Page 2

inundated with complaints about illegal fireworks disturbing neighborhoods in periods leading up to major holidays such as the Fourth of July. Many of these complaints have come from our residents on the east side of the City, including the Eastview neighborhood. It should also be reiterated that sound waves travel different depending on, among other things, atmospheric conditions. These fireworks and explosives trigger flashbacks in veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder, cause pets to run away from home in terror, and cause anxiety, especially in seniors. Fireworks displays should be kept at a minimum for not only these reasons, but also because of the resulting air and water pollution in a region already heavily impacted by the twin ports.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the IS/NOP, and we hope the final analysis will thoroughly address our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ara Mihranian
City Manager

cc: Joe Buscaino, L.A. City Councilmember, 15th District
Rancho Palos Verdes City Council
Karina Bañales, Deputy City Manager

From: [Lijin Sun](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Cc: [Michael Morris](#)
Subject: South Coast AQMD Staff NOP Comments for the San Pedro Waterfront - West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Thursday, May 5, 2022 9:07:37 AM
Attachments: [LAC220414-02 NOP West Harbor Modification Project_20220505.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Mr. Lin,

Attached are South Coast AQMD staff's comments on the Notice of Preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the San Pedro Waterfront - West Harbor Modification Project ([South Coast AQMD Control Number: LAC220414-02](#)).

Thank you,

Lijin Sun

Program Supervisor, CEQA IGR

South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Direct: (909) 396-3308

Fax: (909) 396-3324

**Please note that the building is closed to the public.*



South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

SENT VIA E-MAIL:

May 5, 2022

ceqacomment@portla.org

Christopher Cannon, Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, California 90731

Notice of Preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the San Pedro Waterfront - West Harbor Modification Project (Proposed Project)

South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. Our comments are recommendations on the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the Proposed Project that should be included in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Please send a copy of the Draft SEIR upon its completion and public release directly to South Coast AQMD as copies of the Draft SEIR submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded. **In addition, please send all appendices and technical documents related to the air quality, health risk, and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all emission calculation spreadsheets, and air quality modeling and health risk assessment input and output files (not PDF files). Any delays in providing all supporting documentation for our review will require additional review time beyond the end of the comment period.**

CEQA Air Quality Analysis

Staff recommends that the Lead Agency use South Coast AQMD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook and website¹ as guidance when preparing the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses. It is also recommended that the Lead Agency use the CalEEMod² land use emissions software, which can estimate pollutant emissions from typical land use development and is the only software model maintained by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association.

South Coast AQMD has developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. South Coast AQMD staff recommends that the Lead Agency quantify criteria pollutant emissions and compare the emissions to South Coast AQMD's CEQA regional pollutant emissions significance thresholds³ and localized significance thresholds (LSTs)⁴ to determine the Proposed Project's air quality impacts. The localized analysis can be conducted by either using the LST screening tables or performing dispersion modeling.

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the Proposed Project and all air pollutant sources related to the Proposed Project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of

¹ South Coast AQMD's CEQA Handbook and other resources for preparing air quality analyses can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook>.

² CalEEMod is available free of charge at: www.caleemod.com.

³ South Coast AQMD's CEQA regional pollutant emissions significance thresholds can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/handbook/scaqmd-air-quality-significance-thresholds.pdf>.

⁴ South Coast AQMD's guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/localized-significance-thresholds>.

heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips, and hauling trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers and air pollution control devices), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, such as sources that generate or attract vehicular trips, should be included in the analysis. Furthermore, emissions from the overlapping construction and operational activities should be combined and compared to South Coast AQMD's regional air quality CEQA *operational* thresholds to determine the level of significance.

If the Proposed Project generates diesel emissions from long-term construction or attracts diesel-fueled vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the Lead Agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment⁵.

Mitigation Measures

In the event that the Proposed Project results in significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized to minimize these impacts. Any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be analyzed. Several resources to assist the Lead Agency with identifying potential mitigation measures for the Proposed Project include South Coast AQMD's CEQA Air Quality Handbook¹, South Coast AQMD's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan for the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan⁶, and Southern California Association of Government's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan for the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy⁷.

South Coast AQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that air quality, greenhouse gas, and health risk impacts from the Proposed Project are accurately evaluated and mitigated where feasible. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at lsun@aqmd.gov.

Sincerely,

Lijin Sun

Lijin Sun

Program Supervisor, CEQA IGR

Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

LS

LAC220414-02
Control Number

⁵ South Coast AQMD's guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mobile-source-toxics-analysis>.

⁶ South Coast AQMD's 2016 Air Quality Management Plan can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/Agendas/Governing-Board/2017/2017-mar3-035.pdf> (starting on page 86).

⁷ Southern California Association of Governments' 2020-2045 RTP/SCS can be found at: https://www.connectsocial.org/Documents/PEIR/certified/Exhibit-A_ConnectSoCal_PEIR.pdf.

From: [Crystal816](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Amphitheater vs Ferris Wheel
Date: Friday, April 15, 2022 8:59:22 AM

CAUTION: External email.

The Amphitheater is the worst of two bad and trite ideas. Someone is being paid big bucks - come up with something unique. Keep in mind sound travels up the hill and all San Pedrans will be effected by the loud music generated by the fake fun. We hear SP Fish Market music. We hear the cars racing around on the pier. We hear the LB Grand Prix. We hear fireworks from miles and miles away.

Make it about the real working port. The Ports O' Call was a stupid trite idea even in its hayday because every city has a fake fisher village with sucky parking and it the trash involved with a touristy spot.

Do continue to have boat excursions leaving from there.

Emphasize the uniquely diverse melting pot of humanity that makes up SP.

Encourage small businesses catering to people wanting to have a quiet conversation with good food, desserts, coffee, etc... while overlooking the water.

Make it an extension of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium with important info about the environment around the port.

Put in a parking garage, housing ... stores, that are useful to the community. Spend half the money to keep the place clean. It is a pig sty every weekend as it is now.

We don't need a giant, loud food hall. We don't need a fake "Farmers' Market" like in LA. We could use more beauty.

Crystal Schmidt
3412 S Carolina
SP
(424) 308-2549

From: [Benedict, Bryan](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Sunday, May 8, 2022 2:05:27 AM

CAUTION: External email.

I am very much in favor of the plans for the amphitheater at the LA Waterfront. This is exactly the kind of thing our community needs. My friends and neighbors that I have discussed this with all agree. We are all very excited to see the developments taking place along the waterfront. Thank you for these plans to improve our community.

Thanks,

Bryan Benedict | Design Director
Die-Cast Vehicles – Hot Wheels & Matchbox
Mattel, Inc. | 333 Continental Blvd. (HTC 1-5) | El Segundo, CA 90245
(310) 252-3414 office | (310) 227-7835 mobile | e-mail: bryan.benedict@mattel.com



Mattel Confidential Information. May Include Trade Secrets.

From: [Dave Borst-Smith](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Amphitheatre - West Harbor
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 12:07:23 PM

CAUTION: External email.

With the basic design in place and sound control already established in the amphitheatre design, I believe this is the greatest asset and opportunity for our community that we have ever had in San Pedro, other than the port itself.

Much thought has been given to sound impact already, and I'm sure will continue, with a stage facing south to open water, shell cap design over the stage to control sound direction, location chosen on the southern most tip of the West Harbor project and westerly breezes blowing (mostly) towards Terminal Island and the prison, I believe this will be THE catalyst to guarantee major success for West Harbor.

Every tenant who is coming in or is considering coming in to invest in San Pedro at West Harbor will be benefactors of the amphitheatre. I'm sure they have calculated the positive financial impact and their success based on its presence already. It will underpin every tenant down there and their clientele will grow in the long term because of it. It will create an additional 4-6000 people drawn to West Harbor during spring, summer and fall months, 2-5 times a week, depending on summer bookings. That creates a lot more people down there as a "captive audience" than there would have been. Good business.

Nederlander will provide these main line acts as they did at The Greek Theater and make that a reality. They have a great track record for strong booking and that would play out over at least 7 months of the year. When has any other town in Los Angeles ever had that opportunity?

More benefactors would be all the businesses in the area of 5th, 6th and 7th Street. Many have struggled for as long as I have lived here and now finally get their chance!

I have lived on San Pedro for 40 years, raised my family here and love this town. I want the very best for it and this is the first time I see opportunity for true success. I believe West Harbor and the new amphitheater underpinning it, will put this town on the map finally and be a positive for everyone.

Finally, with the technology of today and the provisions already in place for the amphitheatre project, I think it unfair and wrong to think of it as a similar situation (concerns on sound impact) to the larger general admission festivals staged at the end of the LA harbor in a large, open parking lot, with no real thought or consideration to stage / speaker placement and logistics. Having that impact in our town is a totally different animal and who wants that?! We shouldn't compare the two.

I hope this is a helpful point of view from a long time resident.

Sincerely,

Dave Borst-Smith
310 519 8000 c

From: [James Brown](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: Fw: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 4:22:00 PM
Attachments: [2022-05-03_16-16.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

James Brown
Owner
San Pedro Brewing Co.
Partner
Port Town Brewing Co.

From: Veronica Reynaldo <verr67@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 4:17 PM
To: James Brown <jbbeer@msn.com>
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project

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Sent with Genius Scan for iOS.
<https://dl.tglapp.com/genius-scan>

Sent from my iPhone
Veronica Reynaldo

SAN PEDRO BREWING Co.

May 3, 2022

Christopher Cannon
Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 S Palos Verdes St
San Pedro, CA 90731

Via: email & US Mail

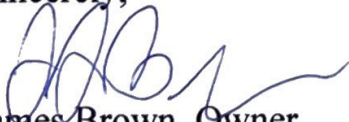
Dear Mr Cannon,

I have owned the San Pedro Brewing Company since 1999 and will open Port Town Brewing Company on 7th Street this summer.

I am writing to you regarding the proposed 6,000 person amphitheatre at the West Harbor Project. I fully support this idea as a wonderful addition to the project. Bringing thousands of people to see top name concerts on the waterfront and will have a huge impact not only for the West Harbor businesses but, the entire downtown business district and other parts of San Pedro, like 22nd Street Landing and J. Trani's on 9th Street. I also understand that during the off season the amphitheatre will be used for larger community events which is something that we are in need of.

I am looking forward to walking down 6th Street to West Harbor, grabbing a bite and a beer and seeing one of my favorite bands at the amphitheatre!

Sincerely,



James Brown, Owner
San Pedro Brewing Co./Port Town Brewing Co.

From: [Nicole Budzinski](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Sunday, May 15, 2022 9:47:34 AM

To whom it may concern,

The West Harbor project is an exciting addition to our waterfront and our San Pedro community but with that excitement comes concern for the pollution that it will generate. There is already a staggering amount of trash that is blown and washed into the harbor daily and ultimately ends up in the ocean affecting wildlife.

The West Harbor project has an opportunity to be at the forefront of sustainability and be a completely completely eco friendly indoor/outdoor entertainment venue. Styrofoam products should be completely banned and single use plastics should be minimized as much as possible. Any single use plastic product that must be used should be compostable and West Harbor should partner with a composting facility that can eliminate this waste. Water refill stations should also be readily available for the public to use.

I hope you seriously consider and implement these suggestions. It is time for us to make a conscious effort to live in harmony with the environment.

Nicole Budzinski

From: [June Burlingame Smith](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Cc: [Middleton, Diane](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project"
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 3:14:07 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Mr. Chris Cannon:

The proposed Amphitheater for 6200 people in the new West Harbor development poses some very important quality of life as well as environmental questions. Among them are:

1. Impacts of sound pollution on the surrounding community
2. Impacts of traffic in and through San Pedro
3. Parking and access to the venue itself as well as to the rest of San Pedro
4. Air pollution in the San Pedro basin
5. Effect on San Pedro's downtown merchants

I choose to mainly speak about the sound pollution problem. Although each of the identified areas also concern me highly, I know that others in the community have already raised questions and addressed them.

The Port and the developers have to understand that excessive, repetitive, and ongoing high decibels will impact people's well being: it will have a direct effect on physical bodies as well as interrupt peace and quiet in people's homes and outdoor experiences. There are numerous scientific studies that show these negative effects, and any proposition for such a large venue and its proposed loud concerts must follow the science, not just the economics. The Port and the developers need to show what scientific studies they are using to justify their proposed levels of sound, and they must conduct real, not virtual, experiments to show how sound will carry and at what decibel levels.

There need to be strict decibel limits enunciated AND ENFORCED throughout all of the impacted areas.

Sound pollution is a serious issue for all people, but young people who may be deprived of sleep or play because of such disturbances are particularly vulnerable. Educators and parents have good cause for alarm and concern, and the EIR must be complete and compelling to dispel any worries about these conditions. Such harm to young people is very hard, if not impossible, to reverse because it is a loss and interruption of the ability to concentrate and learn.

Transparency is also required for whatever sound engineers the Port and Developers are using as their primary resources for their proposals. Names and

reports and studies must be shared with the community, and the community given the opportunity to assess the value of these recommendations. There are "sound engineers," and then there are "sound" engineers.

As you can see, the issue of sound pollution is broader than a "NIMBY" complaint and must be taken seriously by the Port and Developers as well as addressed by scientific measures that cover health, well being, and quality of life more than just the almighty dollar.

Thanks.

Burlingame Smith

Fermin Resident

June

Point

From: [J Campeau](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#); [Cannon, Chris](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 5:30:30 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Mr. Cannon,

The entire scope of the proposed, huge out-of-scale 6200 seat Amphitheater project that was added to the new West Harbor development from a 2009 original 500 seat plan, is a disaster for our San Pedro residential and business community. To think such a bad plan can really work, without the use of common sense or practical considerations, is an illusion no matter if all the boxes are checked in the SEIR to come.

The people responsible for designing this misplaced Amphitheater have no idea what or who will be affected, or perhaps they don't care. This begins with the direction of the sound speakers; it is totally wrong. All speakers must face EAST towards Terminal Island which is industrial. The Amphitheater may conduct some sound tests that will only apply during certain atmospheric conditions, they will never be able to mitigate noise pollution to our community as long as the speaker sound system does not face east in direction.

And then what happens when the frequent Santa Ana winds blow in from the east? Fog and humidity as well as many other atmospheric rapidly changing factors will play tricks with the source of sound and decibels in our San Pedro community. Sound travels unpredictably, recoils and bounces all around our hillside community that faces East. Often harbor seals can be heard from the old Port's O'Call out to lands' end in Point Fermin. We can hear trains banging in the north harbor or even at Pier 400 on Terminal Island.

The proposed Amphitheater design has a noise blast scheduled for over 100 nights per year to all of San Pedro residents and businesses south and south west of the proposed project. Then they want to add 25 Pyrotechnics events per year, along with all the added light blight from new light installations around this project.

On top of all of this are the off nights that will be scheduled during the year, there will be an undetermined amount of additional sponsored events during the year, using the same sound system. In addition, there will be 100-200 nights of unregulated, unsupervised noise events that will be given Temporary Entry & Use Permits (TEUP), producing noise ordinance violations, cause disruption, and extra traffic. And these permits are being issued without including San Pedro's three neighborhood councils that represent our community's majority stakeholders, that can advise on how to best control the unruly element of such big events.

A most recent example of just such a mess was last weekend's event, June 11-12, 2022, at Pier 45-49 outer harbor. Unacceptable, unbelievable loud noise till midnight! As usual, the community had to bear the burden with all of the disruptions from another badly planned event. Residents had to call in to complain because their late

evening was being disrupted by violations of noise ordinance curfew hours. Luckily, the complaints helped mitigate the repeat of Saturday's noise pollution disaster on Sunday, 6/12/22. But changes always happen after the fact because of poor planning and approval for many events like this. When the community is caught by surprise again, they have to take action and complain to then affect changes in noise and light pollution. Nowhere mentioned in the TEUP for this last event were noise ordinance compliance regulations of 10pm curfew or sound decibel thresholds! It's just left up to the event manager? They went to midnight!!

Is the Port Police really going to shut down a concert in violation of curfew hours and noise from a 6200 seat Amphitheater? And how many times per year will the neighbors have to complain? What are the penalties for violations? Just warnings? Who's watching out for our many San Pedro Community residents when these permits are issued that are in violation of noise ordinance law?

The Port doesn't include San Pedro's community 3 neighborhood councils for event planning discussions, nor do they require that event applicants receive endorsement from neighborhood councils. The Port issues TEUP's without informing the San Pedro community nor do they ask for endorsements of upcoming events.

The Amphitheater is said to have biodegradable confetti at their concerts. Will biodegradable confetti be blowing into the water? Who will clean it up from the water at night? How will fish, mammals and wildlife be affected as it is introduced into the food chain? And how can the fluids from washing down the AstroTurf with cleaning solvents be prevented from going into the water right next to it?

And then the element of all the free party concert goes than can have many good views of the Amphitheater stage along San Pedro Plaza Park from Beacon Street, and along Miner Street, Block Field Park and Sampson Way. What bathrooms will those people use? Where will they throw their trash? Where will they park? Will San Pedro be protected with all the increased party scene in our streets and parks by private security, or do the taxpayers have to pay for all this with increased staff from LAPD and Port Police and Fire department?

BUSINESS: How will the surrounding businesses compete with their own ambience and vibe including music and outdoor dining during the SOUND BLAST hours from the Amphitheatre? Will these businesses have to close down during those hours? No matter what anyone from the Chamber of Commerce might say, it's not good for surrounding businesses to have no control of their ambience and vibe of their place of business, while the noise of huge concerts is blaring throughout San Pedro from the new Amphitheater.

For example, how can the new Trani's Dockside restaurant located at 22nd St. and Sampson Way deal with the noise pollution on their dining patio? How can they create ambience and conduct business while they are be blasted out of the water by this new Amphitheater? What of our new Brouwerij West Brewery with their indoor/outdoor ambience, including music, or the 22nd Street Landing Seafood Grill and Bar, also indoor/outdoor, as well as the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel.

What about all of the new restaurants and bars at the new West Harbor development area? Those new businesses will have indoor/outdoor seating. They won't be able to create any ambience and vibe, or be able to conduct business while concerts are

going on at the Amphitheater. And who wants to eat outside near the Amphitheater with the stench of all the portable toilets for 6200 people plus staff, stage personal, and security personal?

How is it fair that most of the San Pedro Residents who live near the ocean with windows open for fresh air, will now have to close their windows indefinitely because of all the noise?

All the clean-up noise and traffic after each concert will go into early am hours!

What about the effect to the marine and land wildlife that lives here with us?

Unmanageable more traffic, inhibit cruise terminal vehicle traffic, no parking, crime, speeding, vehicle street take-overs, road rage, new light blight pollution and air pollution, police response sirens, helicopters, fire department and ambulances.

This all should be addressed in the SEIR to come from the proposed 6200 seat Amphitheater. It will have far more than a significant impact. It will be unmanageable. The new proposed Amphitheater has a long term quality of life cost to bear for the residents of San Pedro. It is an unnecessary added element to the West Harbor New Development.

Thank you,

James Campeau

From: [Keith Larson](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Comments regarding amphitheater
Date: Friday, April 15, 2022 9:10:56 AM

CAUTION: External email.

I think the idea of building an outdoor amphitheater rather than a Ferris wheel is an excellent one. BUT ANY redevelopment plan first MUST have adequate security, policing, and prosecution or it is a waste of money. This should be part of a comprehensive plan or you are planning to fail.

Keith Larson
503.803.9193

From: [Laurie Feldman](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: san pedro waterfront - west harbor modification project
Date: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 9:25:11 AM

CAUTION: External email.

In order of priority:

1. Please ensure that all building materials and landscaping are NOT PLASTIC. We need to stop discharging microplastics into our precious ocean waters. You can possibly get AltaSea to help with recommendations for appropriate materials - they are just down the street from the West Harbor site.
2. Include ON-SITE PARKING. And make it free or cheap so that concert goers will actually use it. This will cut down on local resentment significantly.
3. Give A LOCAL RESIDENT DISCOUNT so that they will come and engage with this project. it will be worth the cost in complaint reduction.
4. Make sure that SIGNAGE from the 110 to the West Harbor development is very good in order to the reduce traffic burden.

Also, please fix the link for "<https://www.portoflosangeles.org/environment/environmental-documents>". It did not work when I clicked on it.

Thank you,
Laurie Feldman
San Pedro, CA

From: [LisaLeFae](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 3:23:47 PM

CAUTION: External email.

I want it to go on record that I oppose the expansion of the original project. From what I understand, the original plan was for a 500 seat venue. Now there is an additional 6,200 seat amphitheater added to the plan? NO. And fireworks shows each weekend? NO. This is so harmful for the waters, the birds, the fish, and the mammals. Reminder, humans are mammals. The additional harmful noise, chemicals, trash, traffic, pollution generated by such an expansion is not healthy for the community, the water, the air, or the land. We have no thoughtful, efficient public transportation serving this part of Los Angeles. Yes, we are part of the City of Los Angeles. It seems every other community is linked to the train system, but not us. And you want a development encouraging an additional 6,200 people to descend here each weekend, in addition to those arriving for the cruise ships via taxi, Lyft, or Uber? NO. No thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa K Ferguson
383 W 9th St.
San Pedro, CA 90731

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Lisa Ferguson, Stone Woman Art](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: Ports O Call (West Harbor)
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 3:08:23 PM

"The proposed West Harbor Modification Project involves development of an approximately 108,000-square foot outdoor amphitheater as well as an entertainment venue on approximately 2.5 acres in the southern portion of the former San Pedro Public Market Project site (now called West Harbor). The amphitheater would provide up to 6,200 seats and would host approximately 100 paid events per year, generally from April through November. The venue also could host smaller, local community, nonprofit and sponsored events year-round."

I want it to go on record that I oppose the expansion of the original project. From what I understand, the original plan was for a 500 seat venue. Now there is an additional 6,200 seat amphitheater added to the plan? NO. And fireworks shows each weekend? NO. This is so harmful for the waters, the birds, the fish, and the mammals. Reminder, humans are mammals. The additional harmful noise, chemicals, trash, traffic, pollution generated by such an expansion is not healthy for the community, the water, the air, or the land. We have no thoughtful, efficient public transportation serving this part of Los Angeles. Yes, we are part of the City of Los Angeles. It seems every other community is linked to the train system, but not us. And you want a development encouraging an additional 6,200 people to descend here each weekend, in addition to those arriving for the cruise ships via taxi, Lyft, or Uber? NO. No thank you.

Sincerely,

Lisa K Ferguson
383 W 9th St.
San Pedro, CA 90731

--

"I'd searched all my life for this older world that was lost to me, this world only my body remembered. In that moment I understood I was part of the same equations as birds and rain."

~SOLAR STORMS, Linda Hogan

Doing my best to live respectfully and responsibly on the land that was once the Kingkingna Village on Tongva Land, now called San Pedro at the Port of Los Angeles.

From: [Bob Gelfand](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:51:55 PM

CAUTION: External email.

From: Robert Gelfand
Issuesbob@sbcglobal.net
Date: June 15, 2022

There are numerous questions to be answered regarding the West Harbor Modification Project. These include two serious concerns with regard to effects on the people who live adjacent to and within a few miles of the proposed project.

One question is the overall effect on traffic and parking. The residential neighborhoods alongside Pacific Ave and west of Point Fermin already have their streets taken by people who use the parking in order to visit the beaches and public parks during the spring, summer, and fall months. A performance event would likely involve a large fraction of the audience arriving briefly before the performance and leaving directly afterwards. How could two to three thousand automobiles (mostly from the 110 freeway) be accommodated by surface streets without creating substantial difficulties for the people who live in San Pedro? This is not a once-a-year event such as the Rose Bowl Game, but as the proposal says, it would be for 100 nights a year, during the seasons when visitation is already at its highest. What is the automobile traffic likely to be on a summer weekend when the proposed West Harbor project is attracting people for its other uses?

From the standpoint of those of us who live near and adjacent to the proposed project area, the most serious question is that of noise. What is missing from the project description is any specifics about what kinds of performances are to be scheduled. The proposal does refer to electric amplification and video screens, suggesting the production of what is colloquially referred to as "Rock and Roll," and which may be described more broadly as performances which use amplified guitars, drums, keyboard instruments, horns, and other sonic devices. The proposal also suggests that there will be fireworks on many nights.

Therefore, the first question is as follows: What precisely are the kinds of performances that will be scheduled, how loud will they be not only on site but within the two to four mile radius that we can expect the sound from such performances to carry, is the sound likely to carry even farther, and what guarantees will be contractually obligated with regard to noise limits so as to protect the public?

In this regard, please note that Figure 1 in the proposal shows an area that includes tens of thousands of San Pedro area residents and their dwellings, and most if not all of them would be subject to the sound pollution that is traditionally generated by a modern Rock and Roll performance.

The NOP does include Noise as one element of its projected study, but any such inquiry is critically dependent on the kinds and volume of sounds that would be generated. In addition, the ability of sound to carry within the particular geography adjacent to the amphiteater is a critical question.

In this last regard, I would ask the agency undertaking these studies to recognize that residents of San Pedro have been bothered by music performances that took place on the space locally referred to as the Outer Harbor Cruise Ship Terminal and by the Port as Pier 46. The irritating and intrusive noise was heard, and felt, as far away as residences along Gaffey St, as far west as Wilder's Annex, and indeed in other directions of a like distance.

It should also be pointed out that hosting musical concerts is not a core mission of the Port of Los Angeles. Shipping would not be affected appreciably whether the concert venue exists or fails to exist. In this regard, the study should consider the fact that the local residents already endure some effects on their quality of life due to the presence of the Port of Los Angeles, including air pollution, truck traffic, numerous construction projects, and noise. There has been a nearly constant negotiation process regarding all manner of noise, such as the warning bells on Pier 400 that could be heard all along the residential areas until the Port figured out how to get the noise under control. In this sense, the addition of another source of noise should be considered as a cumulative impact, and I would ask the study group to analyze the proposed project in this regard.

Thank you.

Robert Gelfand
535 W 37th St #206
San Pedro, California

From: [Celya G](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project, Parking and the bus and shuttle options for transporting event visitors
Date: Monday, May 2, 2022 9:54:26 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Hi there,

Please enlarge on how event parking will be managed during events for both the thriving new West Harbor development the city and Port are hoping for, and the sold out events that the venue management is counting on.

I'm aware of the variety of parking lots off-site and close by as well as across town on Harbor Blvd at the cruise terminal lot as well as the extended lot parking at Harbor College.

While a venue for 6,000+ people doesn't mean 6,000 cars, how traffic arriving and departing is a major concern for residents across town due to what'll be earnest advertising for visitors arrive early to enjoy the town - and they getting lost in the process in one direction or another trying to reach event parking too late to park close and unwilling to park far.

Say, the parking situations at the Hollywood Bowl AND Cabrillo Beach on Independence Day, madhouse rushing in a no rush situation.

As residents of the Cabrillo Beach/Point Fermin community, we're happy to direct lost souls to the parks, beaches, the fish place at olde Port's O'Call, the freeway, etc.

But we're not always out and here's hoping that your office contacts Google Maps to inform them to send out a car to record where the venue is, its parking options, and what the lot designations are, so visitors know how to arrive at the correct location on their first attempt, and know which shuttle or trolley services to look for if their parking is off site, and for how long transportation'll be running to ferry late arrivals to their event.

Second to the parking issue, the venue sound system.

Here's hoping the new design that's been glowingly advertised by project managers as keeping the sound exclusively within the seating area truly does exactly that, as literally the sounds of everything happening between the race cars in downtown Long Beach to concerts and drift car events at Berth 46 waft across the water across entire hillside between 7th St and south toward Cabrillo Beach, up across the hills to the Marine Exchange at the Angel's Gate Cultural Center.

Anyone can say that that's bunk, but no one enjoys listening to the train signals, blaring horns, the tones from cranes in motion, and yard hostlers that don't know how to back up at Pier's 300 and 400 either.

Looking forward to an informative meeting,

Celia Gonzales

From: Austin Gould
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Monday, May 2, 2022 11:38:52 AM

Hello I am a home owner in San Pedro named Austin Gould. I am excited about the project, and I think it will add a lot of enjoyment to the area, and bring about a lot of economic development.

However please be considerate of those who live directly next to the venue and make sure to mitigate any negative impacts on the environment. If you can do the whole construction project without harming any wildlife, then I'm for it.

-Austin Gould
2435 S Gaffey St.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Noel Gould](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Cc: [June Smith](#); [Robin Rudisil](#)
Subject: CEQA comments for proposed amphitheater expansion
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 5:17:48 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Mr. Cannon,

I'm writing to express my concern regarding a number of issues with the proposed 6,200 seat amphitheater in the new West Harbor Development.

1. Noise pollution throughout the entire San Pedro Community from music and fireworks
2. People gathering throughout the community to "tailgate" and hear concerts for free.
3. Inadequate infrastructure to support the additional traffic in and out of San Pedro.
4. Tremendous increase in pollution from standing vehicles.
5. Food trucks spewing diesel fumes into the air.
6. So called biodegradable confetti used at the concerts that will end up blowing into the harbor.
7. People throwing their trash into the harbor.
8. Inadequate parking.
9. Insufficient hotel space for people coming to concerts.
10. zero light rail service to San Pedro.
11. Harm to marine life due to many of the above.

It's vital that the DSEIR address all these issues in detailed ways using real world testing conditions and not simply virtually modeling. The effects of temperature inversion, which occur +/- several hours at dusk and dawn cause sound to carry much further than at other times throughout the day. This is one of the reasons sea lions can be heard barking a mile away and trains and containers can be heard in the Port all the way up the hill, yet rock concert volumes are much louder than these other sound sources. The direction the speakers are pointed won't provide much mitigation for these issues since sound, especially bass which is non-directional, travels throughout the community once it's propagated.

Many references have been made to Nederlander Concerts' experience running the Greek Theater, however, the Greek, even after it's 2015 expansion, is only 5,900 seats and sits in the middle of the 3,000 plus acre Griffith Park and is NOT located in a residential community. Still, great emphasis is made after concerts by the promoters for people leaving in their cars to be conscious that they're traveling THROUGH a residential community and to do so quietly. There is acknowledgement that even the noise from car stereos and talking is disruptive to residential communities, and yet, here in San Pedro, the powers that be are trying to push an amphitheater 300 seats larger than the Greek a mere 1,400 feet from the edge of a quiet residential community in which the right to quiet peace and enjoyment of their homes will be forever destroyed by such a project.

This will hurt local businesses as well which will be inundated with the sound and pollution from this project and would likely eliminate the desire for outdoor dining.

Please be sure all of these issues will be deeply analyzed and addressed in the DSEIR and that the Community will be heard regarding solutions to these issues, or that if no adequate mitigation solutions are possible, that the new proposal will not move forward.

Sincerely,
Noel Gould
Point Fermin Resident
310-625-1157
aquarianstudios@hotmail.com

From: [Jacqui Grennan](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 10:02:11 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Please make intentional efforts to work with sound engineers to ensure that sound does not project towards the residences. Take into account not just geographic distance but also direct line-of-sound. Establish curfews no later than 10 p.m. Provide maximum decibel levels for all sound, particularly sounds in the bass range. Thanks.

From: Joyce Hall
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: New design
Date: Monday, May 2, 2022 12:49:48 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Hello -

I look at your design for the theater but that is great,

Please tell me where the parking is for visitors but mainly the handicap. I do not see a parking structure nor in my visit at the port the handicap parking is very limited. It keeps me away

Explain.

Also it is hard to go to the friday market downtown because of the same reason. why not use the crafted area for this.

Joyce Hall

From: [Joyce Hall](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: Handicap Parking
Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 3:12:55 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Gentlemen,

I wanted to make sure you received this message. I am concerned about this project because we will be getting a lot of people and I would like to know where is the parking structure for them.

Mainly - where is the Handicap parking? There is very few there now. Pretty sad.

Please explain.
jocondama@aol.com

Joyce Hall
2235 w. 37th street
San Pedro 90732

From: [Donna Hattin](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project.
Date: Sunday, May 8, 2022 10:52:19 AM

CAUTION: External email.

As a frequent visitor to the San Pedro waterfront area, I have been following with interest the redevelopment plans for the the Water front. I would like to express the following concerns about the new proposal for the bandshell expansion project.

#1- I question whether there is a realistic amount of parking available for a venue with a 6200 person capacity. Even with the expanded parking now planned, the scope of the redevelopment seems to fall far short of parking available for 6200 patrons in addition to patrons of the restaurants and retail venues.

#2 - Does the expansion continue to allow for an active children's play area? While the redevelopment seems largely focused on retail and restaurant facilities, the recreational opportunities to be provided seems extremely limited. Encouraging physical activity and curiosity about the ocean environment seem to be taking a back seat. Play areas that include ocean and boating themed climbing and play activities should be incorporated and emphasized. Has any thought been given to creating a safe area for pedal boat type concessions within the redevelopment area?

#3- Will the expanded lawn area for the concert band shell be available for other activities while not in use for concerts and events? It seems like a very large area would be under utilized the majority of the time unless provisions are made for dual use of the lawn space of the amphitheater.

#4 Will there be a designated family picnic area incorporated into this space? Allowing space for families to gather and bring their own food provides a community service for those who may not be able to afford the restaurants in the new facility.

#5- Is there a robust recycling program planned for the entire re-development area? Currently the city of San Pedro provides no regular recycling services to this area. It is of utmost importance that the entire redevelopment project incorporate a recycling program to keep plastics and other waste out of the ocean, and green initiatives be implemented by ALL vendors.

#6- In reviewing the concept renderings, I wonder whether any provisions are being made for onshore shower and bathroom facilities for mariners?
Allowing for the temporary and permanently docked vessels to have access to facilities on a membership or single-use fee basis would be of enormous use to the boating community of the region.

Thank you for your time,

Donna Hattin
dhattinrr@gmail.com

From: [Drew Leach](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Comment- West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 2:52:43 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Port of LA,

The noise impact from the Dreamstate festival at Berth 46 the weekend of June 11-12 was greatly disruptive to residents in Point Fermin and around the coastal areas. Many complaints were filed, and the noise issue was addressed by the relevant parties. On the second night of the concert, the reverberations, vibrations, and sounds were greatly diminished, if not resolved for area residents. I recommend studying the sound/bass levels on the first night (Saturday, June 11th) to determine the levels at which the sound became disruptive to residents, and compare to the adjustments made by the relevant professionals on Sunday, June 12th, which seemed to resolve the issue. These sound adjustments, settings, and levels should serve as a guideline in assisting the City of Los Angeles/ Port of LA in determining guidelines/sound ordinances for future concerts and/or special events.

Sincerely,

Drew A. Leach
Chair, Outreach and Communications
Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council

From: [Rosalyn Leach](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Port project - amphitheater
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:04:43 AM

CAUTION: External email.

I would like to add to those who are requesting a good sized fixed seating area in the planned amphitheater as well as grass "blanket" seating.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathleen Miller](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 7:26:17 PM

CAUTION: External email.

The Amphitheatre component of West Harbor will set this coastal attraction apart from all others. It has my full support. I urge everyone in Los Angeles and San Pedro to get behind this game changing project.

Kathleen Maguire

Sent from my iPhone

From: [barbara mcgahey](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: Public comment
Date: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 4:35:00 AM

CAUTION: External email.

I am excited to see this amphitheater built.

From: [Kate McWatters](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Friday, December 30, 2022 8:34:10 AM

CAUTION: External email.

I live near 25th and Western. How will the noise resulting from performances at the proposed amphitheater be mitigated so that we will not be subject to noise pollution?

Kate McWatters

From: [Charles Messel](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 8:46:10 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Hi Ceqa comments,

As a local resident and the recipient of last weekends Techno Party noise, I have several concerns about the new West Harbor Modification Project.

While I applaud things that will bring additional revenue into San Pedro, I also have concerns about how much of the revenue will actually be applied to the local area. How much of the revenue will go elsewhere and not help the local area at all?

The additional traffic and especially the noise will be of major concern to local residents. We often feel like the port and the city of Los Angeles do not take the citizens of San Pedro into consideration when basically running roughshod over the San Pedro area. The additional traffic near the marina area off 22nd Street is bound to cause issues with an already thriving recreational area.

San Pedro has a rather unique topography with residential areas in fairly close proximity to commercial areas of the port. With the addition of commercial areas being just a short distance across the water from residential areas, the propagation of noise is particularly difficult to predict.

As a property owner in San Pedro (12 unit apartment building), I already have concerns about additional noise causing issues that affect my business and income, as well as property values. I had one tenant considering going to a hotel last weekend due to the Techno noise. They were also suggesting that if this type of thing occurred more often, that they would have to move. If I start losing tenants due to this type of party venue, this will directly effect my income.

What noise impact studies have been done on the new amphitheater project?

Are the rules for decibel levels and curfew going to be similar to the current master conditional use permit (MCUP)??

What guarantees do the local population have that this project can peacefully coexist with the people who live here?

--

Best regards,

Charles Messel <mailto:chuckm@cox.net>

"There's a difference between good sound reasons
and reasons that sound good."

From: [RHONDA MOORE](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification project
Date: Monday, May 2, 2022 8:45:32 PM

CAUTION: External email.

We need more fresh food options, or healthy.
Blue Bowl, Cava, Tender greens , Portos or a Portillos
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Betty Ragland](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 1:25:48 PM
Attachments: [Cathy Ragland Comment Letter - West Harbor Initial Study.pdf](#)
[W 19th St.m4a](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Please find attached a comment letter regarding the proposed West Harbor Modification project. Also attached is an audio file recorded on my phone outside my front door during an event on nearby Port property. Note that the sound is much louder when played back on the phone than when played on my computer.

Betty Catherine Ragland

Cathy Ragland
1913 S. Crescent Ave.
San Pedro, CA 90731
June 15, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Dear Mr. Cannon and Los Angeles Harbor Department Staff:

I recently learned via email notification that the Los Angeles Harbor Department (LAHD) has announced that a Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) is being prepared for a modification to the San Pedro Public Market (SPPM) project, now known as West Harbor. My immediate reaction to the West Harbor Initial Study/Notice of Preparation (IS/NOP) was surprise. As a long-time homeowner whose residence is very close to the project area, I am frustrated and angry that the planning process has been lacking in transparency and community involvement.

Discussions of a “world class” Los Angeles waterfront development began amid the San Pedro secession movement. Neighborhood Councils were formed to provide greater local control over decisions affecting the community. City leaders and LAHD staff conceded that the port had grown and prospered at the expense of nearby communities. Promises were made that a “world class” waterfront development would revitalize the “ghetto by the sea” that San Pedro had become. Over many years, LAHD has spent large sums of money on outreach, consultants, public workshops, setting up a Port Community Advisory Committee (PCAC), evaluating development proposals and conducting environmental reviews. I attended most of the meetings, and like many other San Pedro residents, I expressed the desire for improved public access and aesthetics, with a reasonable amount of commercial development on the waterfront. In response to public input, waterfront design proposals were modified repeatedly.

When the EIR for the San Pedro Waterfront Development was approved in 2009, LAHD promised continued community engagement. The Outreach Plan and Communications Strategy outlined in the LA Waterfront Implementation Guidelines prepared in 2010 states, in part (highlights are mine):

The communication strategy with the stakeholders will include the following outreach efforts:

- Large, community-wide “update” meetings, as needed but with a minimum of two held annually
- Project-specific design workshops with the general public and affected tenants.

- It is anticipated that for each project-specific element of the waterfront program, a minimum of two, preferably three, workshops will be conducted based on the following:
 - Initial kick-off workshop to solicit design for the specific waterfront project
 - Workshop to present design alternatives based on the feedback from the kick-off meeting
 - A public presentation on the preferred design
- Project updates at meetings held by community organizations (i.e. Neighborhood Councils, Port Community Advisory Committee (PCAC), chambers, Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), Citizens Advisory Committee, clubs/associations, etc.

In 2018, the public was invited to a Town Hall meeting at which the SPPM project was described in detail, with artist renderings of design elements. The public was left with the impression that this “preferred design” would be moving forward as planned. There have been no public workshops since 2018, yet now we are told that the “preferred design” is actually something much different than previously described. It is my impression that LAHD is attempting a quiet “bait and switch” in order to minimize project costs while maximizing revenue. The new “preferred project”, with a 6,200-seat event space and giant restaurants, might benefit developers, business owners and event promoters. It could potentially make life miserable for people like me who live nearby.

Here are some of my specific concerns about the West Harbor project:

- Aesthetically, West Harbor is a big step downward from the SPPM design. The commercial development appears to consist of large, cheaply constructed metal-framed buildings with little space between. Inclusion of a large amphitheater comes at the expense of the well-designed public open space included in the former Discovery Sea Amusement Section of the SPPM project.
- Noise will be a problem. One thing I love about living on the San Pedro waterfront is that we do not need air conditioning. Our doors and windows are always open in summer. We are already enduring some noise from events on Port property (a sound clip recorded August 14, 2021 on my front porch is attached). Even if operators of the amphitheater agree to noise limitations, it is unlikely that concerts would comply without strict enforcement. I am not confident that the rules would be enforced.
- Light pollution, which is already a problem, would be increased.
- Traffic congestion, which is already a problem in San Pedro, would become a huge problem on event nights, especially if multiple cruise ships are coming and going at the same time. Also, visitors will park on nearby streets, compounding the existing shortage of parking spaces for residents and businesses. If event parking is not free, this will be a very big problem.

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management

June 15, 2022

Page 3

- The shortage of affordable housing could grow significantly worse due to an increase in demand for short-term rentals. Visitors who attend events may want to spend the night, especially if they are consuming alcohol. With increasing numbers of investor-owned properties, and the popularity of short-term rental applications, it is inevitable that long-term residents will be displaced. Restrictions on this practice have proven difficult to enforce.
- The San Pedro waterfront is windy. It will be very difficult to prevent trash from getting into the ocean. Items most likely to harm marine life, such as balloons and single-use plastic bags should not be allowed.
- The 6200-seat amphitheater seems to be very poorly planned. Artificial turf is not attractive and not durable. It is made from petroleum products, and as it degrades it contributes to plastic pollution. It is not something one would expect to find as part of a “world class” waterfront development. Nor would one expect temporary seating, portable toilets and food trucks at a major concert venue, which is expected to host frequent events. LAHD should consider whether this part of the project is viable as designed.
- Public art should be included in any waterfront design to enhance the San Pedro arts scene.
- In my opinion, a development model focused on “drawing” huge crowds of visitors is not the kind waterfront development that would make San Pedro a more desirable place to live. Downtown San Pedro businesses would benefit more from a regular flow of customers than from periodic overcrowding. The communities near the port will not thrive if our waterfront is simply turned over to profit-driven stakeholders. As I have commented many times in the past, a greener, more attractive, well-maintained, walkable waterfront with some visitor-serving amenities will attract visitors and locals. The waterfront is the attraction.

Thank you for considering my comments. I hope that LAHD will improve outreach efforts before any action is taken on the West Harbor project.

Sincerely,

Cathy Ragland

From: [Kenneth Ragland](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 2:50:34 PM
Attachments: [Comments - West Harbor Modification Project NOP - K Ragland.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Greetings,

Please see attached PDF for submittal of a comment letter for the West Harbor Modification Project. I would appreciate confirmation that this comment letter has been received.

Thanks,

Kenneth Ragland

June 14, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Subject: COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT TO THE SAN PEDRO
WATERFRONT PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE WEST HARBOR
MODIFICATION PROJECT

While I have specific comments and questions below about the proposed West Harbor Modification Project (Project) and the potential impacts of the Project, first of all I want to make some general comments about the proposal to include a 6,200-seat amphitheater in the West Harbor development. A performance venue of this scale is not appropriate for the San Pedro waterfront development. This is not a historical venue for such a facility, and inclusion of this amphitheater in the West Harbor project places a very intrusive element next to a long established mature residential area.

It would be difficult to reconstruct the history of all the debates and community involvement that shaped the project that was approved in the final 2009 EIR for the San Pedro Waterfront, or point to a specific meeting or instant when any particular proposal fell by the wayside. Suffice to say, there were wide-ranging discussions, proposals and deliberations that occurred in numerous meetings, sponsored by various community organizations: committees meetings and hearings sponsored by the Los Angeles Harbor Department; and at neighborhood councils and local neighborhood associations, *for years*. These involved stakeholders from every part of and every demographic group in this area and beyond, with many ideas about what should be included in the “Bridge to Breakwater”. It is not an accident or oversight that an amphitheater of this scale or similar large outdoor performance venue featuring amplified sound was not part of the 2009 San Pedro Waterfront EIR. Now, many years later, the applicants for this project are trying to insert this into the Project. I can’t help but think: Haven’t we been here before?

Large portions of the residential neighborhoods between Gaffey Street and the harbor are comprised mostly of minorities and lower income residents. Often these residents may not be regularly engaged in civic issues, and because of language barriers may find it difficult to stay

informed about changes in the community and public projects. That raises the concern that the current level of awareness within the community of changes in this project, is certainly far less than when the 2009 EIR project alternatives were being worked out. And it raises the issue of environmental justice to insert this kind of facility next to their neighborhoods, a facility that will serve thousands of people from other areas with expensive entertainment, while potentially giving them frequent evenings interrupted by annoying and distorted sound rumbling across their homes and neighborhoods.

Therefore, there needs to be significant outreach for community participation in these areas, exceeding what is normally required for a CEQA document. The Harbor Department should insure that residents in neighborhoods near the Port are aware of this proposed Project through mailings to residents with visual renderings and bi-lingual descriptions of the proposed Project and potential impacts. Other measures may be appropriate, such as special community meetings.

Project Overview and Description

The Project description indicates the Amphitheater would host “approximately 100 paid concert and major events” annually, generally from April through November. Please clarify whether an “event” is defined as a single performance or show, or does the term include potentially a party or group might have an “event” that encompasses several performances over several days? The latter case would suggest there will be potentially many more days when the venue would be used than just “approximately 100 paid concert and major events per year“. It is easy to see that this could wind up being several concerts or performances a week. What is the anticipated number of times this facility would host individual performances or activities that would involve significant attendance and amplified sound?

The amphitheater is described as seating 6,200 people. Is that the maximum capacity of attendees at concerts and events, or will there be additional people allowed for standing room or sitting on open lawn areas?

The description indicates that access to the Amphitheater would be controlled on “event-related days for paid events” (underlining mine, for emphasis). Does this mean that that a portion of the waterfront promenade in the area would be closed to the public, or that access to public areas of the waterfront, such as Public Park (Veteran’s Park), south of the amphitheater would be closed to the public on these days? It is likely that many “events” would occur on weekends, when most of the public would want to visit the waterfront and promenade? Are they going to find they cannot access this portion of the waterfront promenade?

The use of the amphitheater for paid events, if it involves closing of a part of the waterfront promenade or other public areas on weekends or holidays, would seem to be in contradiction to the first two principle objectives in the list of project objectives approved in the 2009 EIR, as well as in the 2016 San Pedro Public Market EIR. The list of principle objectives is provided here,

below, for reference; from page 2-2 of the 2016 Supplemental EIR for the San Pedro Public Market (underlining and bold font for emphasis is mine):

“1) Enhance and revitalize the existing San Pedro Waterfront area, improve existing pedestrian corridors along the waterfront, increase waterfront access from upland areas, and create more open space, through:

- providing public access to the San Pedro Waterfront and new open spaces, including parks and other landscape amenities linked to the promenade;
- creating a **continuous** waterfront promenade throughout the project area allowing the public access to the water’s edge;
- enhancing key linkages between downtown San Pedro and the waterfront, including the creation of a downtown harbor and promenade that will become the focal point for vessel activity and draw visitors to downtown San Pedro;
- creating and expanding the waterfront promenade as part of the California Coastal Trail to connect the community and region to the waterfront;
- providing for a variety of waterfront uses, including berthing for visiting vessels, harbor service craft and tugboats, as well as other recreational, commercial, and port-related waterfront uses;
- providing for enhanced visitor-serving commercial opportunities within Ports O’Call, complementary to those found in downtown San Pedro, as well as a potential conference center; ...”

While the project objectives do allow for “visitor-serving commercial opportunities”, the proposed Project amphitheater with frequent paid concert and major events, especially when conceived as a major event venue with world class entertainment and draw, is out of scale with and not compatible with the primary intent of the project objectives for the San Pedro waterfront. It would become the central focus of everything at the waterfront, not an enhancement that is complementary to downtown San Pedro. For years local businesses have complained that they have not benefited from the cruise ship industry, that passengers pass through San Pedro without spending time here. It appears that this venture will be similar to the experience with the cruise industry. The parties involved will profit, while the existing San Pedro businesses and residents will not see much benefit, and will be subject to the negative impacts. The previously approved SPPM project, with a conference center, is more appropriate and more in alignment with the project objectives for the San Pedro waterfront.

Supplemental EIR and Project Alternatives

The NOP for the West Harbor Modification project does not mention any project alternatives, and as a supplemental EIR, states that it will only consider the proposed changes to the earlier SPPM EIR. While that *may* comply with the CEQA requirements, the changes proposed will have significant effects on San Pedro, beyond the Port. Given the historical community interest and involvement in the waterfront development, and how intimately it affects the adjacent residential neighborhoods and businesses, the scope and potential impacts of the approved SPPM should be incorporated into the supplemental EIR, as an alternative project, in effect, a “no project” or “no project modification” alternative.

Significant Impacts

The initial study finds noise will be a potentially significant impact. The proposed Project will increase ambient noise across a large area of San Pedro. It is difficult to envision how this could be mitigated to an acceptable level. The largely open flat areas adjacent to the waterfront and the proposed Amphitheater, partly over water, mean that sound will carry long distances, and under certain atmospheric and temperature conditions this sound propagation is enhanced dramatically.

When there are events with amplified sounds on the waterfront, such as the recent Dreamstate Electronic Dance Music festival (June 11-12, 2022), the sound is very annoying, and often at levels that interfere with our normal routines, trying to watch television or movies at home. Often, the sound propagates in a way that makes it difficult to know exactly the location of the source. For that reason, and since most of the time this is not a regular occurrence, we do not register a complaint.

The proposed project, with 100 plus events (perhaps several performances each week over months), with amplified sound, with thousands of attendees, is certain to present significant impact, and most likely a profound negative impact from ambient noise to residents in the neighborhoods from near downtown San Pedro, to live-aboards in the marina, and south toward Point Fermin, and for some distance into San Pedro to the west.

If mitigations are proposed, they should be subject to actual testing by acoustic engineers. Test design should be subject to independent review and presented to the community and/or neighborhood councils, and scheduled test events should be announced in advance to the community. This would require set up sound systems at

the proposed venue site, and development of a program to play music and sounds at various volumes and frequencies, at different times in the evening, and under various atmospheric and temperature conditions, to determine if any mitigation proposal really works.

Sincerely yours,

Kenneth Ragland
San Pedro, CA

From: [Karen Rasmussen](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 4:20:38 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Hello,

I live in a townhouse which is part of the multi unit building 674 W. 27th St. My cross street is Peck St. When I first saw the plans for the proposed amphitheater, I thought it was a good idea. San Pedro needs something to draw people from out of town to it. I am not yet convinced that the restaurants and other parts of the West Harbor development can be supported by the San Pedro community alone. This is not the most wealthy community, and I'm not sure how many people here have sufficient disposable income to frequent the development.

For this reason, I thought the proposed amphitheater would be a good additional development to help draw in people from out of town.

However, last weekend there was an electronic dance music festival at Berth 46. I was shocked at how loud the music could be heard from my patio. Even when I went inside and closed my door and window, I could not only hear the music but FEEL the bass vibrations! This caused me to revise my previous positive thinking toward having an amphitheater within hearing distance of multiple residences.

I believe that L.A. already has too much noise and light pollution. San Pedro has a unique environment, including many wild animals and marine mammals. I know the impact that the numerous illegal fireworks in this town already negatively impact on domestic and wild animals, as well as our community members who live with PTSD.

I am also very concerned about the potential pollution from the amphitheater. We often have very strong winds here, and I do not see how wind-born pollution into the water could be prevented.

For the reasons above, I do not support having this proposed amphitheater built. The people of San Pedro love this town because of its relative isolation from the rest of the city, for its natural beauty, and its peaceful atmosphere. While I do hope that more people from out of town come to the waterfront development, I hope they will also come to appreciate the unique nature of our community. I do not think the amphitheater will benefit San Pedro, the people who live here, and the wildlife in our community.

Sincerely,

Karen Rasmussen
rasmussen.karen@gmail.com
674 W. 27th St., Unit 6
San Pedro, CA 90731

From: Laura Rosenberger Haider
To: Cegacommments; Hojvin.Ip@california.sierraclub.org
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project on the LA Waterfront.(revised)
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 9:16:02 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Do not use artificial turf.

Artificial turf often is coated with PFAs or PFOSs to waterproof it.

PSR found that PFAs are linked to cancer and low birth weight. Dr. Blair Johnson Wylie MD MPH said based on the research of Jamie C Dewitt PHD that PFAs are linked to Suppression of adaptive immunity, liver abnormalities in animals, and adverse developmental & reproductive outcomes in animals. The C8 Health Study linked PFOAs to thyroid effects, increased risk of kidney & testicular cancer, ulcerative colitis, increased cholesterol, high blood pressure, and preeclampsia. The IARC said that PFOAs are Class 2B probable carcinogens and linked to thyroid disease. (from Dr. Jamie C. Dewitt, PHD & Blair Johnson Wylie MD, MPH)
OEHHA concluded that one PFA, PFNA, causes male reproductive toxicity and PFOA causes cancer.

EWG found PFAs in canned tuna, fish sticks, and take-out food packaging in amounts over the safe level. Maybe we need a place to wash dishes there.

UC Davis advertisers bragged about Health Stadium's quick draining artificial turf. It even had a rubber layer underneath. Many types of rubber have Prop 65 warnings on them.

Recycling bill AB 661, promotes used tire crumb in synthetic turf. CA OEHHA 2019 draft report confirms 126 chemicals—in used tire crumb: "...22 polar targets, 32 non-polar targets, and 20 PAHs, 11 aldehydes, 67 confirmed volatile organic targets were detected in field air samples.

(Hydrocarbons can cause abnormal heart rhythms, respiratory depression, low oxygen, dizziness, rapid disorientation, & confusion that could lead to loss of judgment, narcosis, and incapacitation (Drummond 1993, Sugie et al 2004) That might explain the car accident at the UC Davis Commencement that was an additional medical call)

Yale (2019) identified a total of 306 chemicals in crumb rubber: 52 are classified as known carcinogens, 6 are considered suspected or presumed carcinogenic by US EPA and European Chemicals Agency (ECHA); additional 197 considered carcinogenic a priori.

December 2020, researchers in Netherlands revealed they identified an additional 46 carcinogenic chemicals in crumb rubber products.

The Federal Research Action Plan (FRAP), US EPA, found 355 chemicals..

Tire crumb is estimated to be 28-30% of microplastic pollution in our oceans; 50% in urban areas. December 2020, University of Washington discovered antiozonant 6PPD in tires converts to 6PPD-quinone which has resulted in a 40-90% decline in coho salmon population. .

“6PPD is more toxic than Mercury, 27 times more toxic than Cyanide, 425 times more toxic than Arsenic and more toxic than DDT...we do know that all those same ingredients in the chemical reaction that kills salmon are in those playground and playing surfaces...What we need is research on the risks from 6PPD quinone and on the possible substitutes. We need to treat this with urgency befitting a danger to our children.”

The Honorable Katie Porter, Chair. Natural Resources Committee, Oversight and Investigations. 15 July 2021.

South Korea (2020): children who play on used tire crumb playgrounds, 10 times more likely to develop cancer.

2022: 91 used soccer fields in 17 countries, 4 continents confirmed multiple toxic/carcinogenic chemicals in all 91 samples.
(by Dianne Woelke MSN)

If uncoated, most plastics decompose in sunlight and release PCBs. Artificial turf heats to high temperatures in sunlight. During the UC Davis commencement ceremony at an artificial turf stadium there were about 32 heat-related medical calls and about 10 heat-related ambulance calls. (from Gregory Yee's article in LA Times: 'UC Davis cuts commencement ceremony short - 7 people hospitalized amid excessive heat' June 10, 2022) Washing to cool off turf would create humidity that reduces people's sweat and makes them feel hotter and the wash-water pollutes the harbor.

Walking on artificial turf creates microparticles that could penetrate or kill fish. Microparticles were found in fish fillets from fish in the Great Lakes, US, by Mcillwraith & Munno et al 2021. Nanoparticles cross human placentas into babies and persist.

Dr Al Sears summarized that in a small-scale study, a team of researchers found that individuals with Inflammatory Bowel Disease had larger amounts of microplastics in their stool. The results were published in the journal Environmental Science & Technology.²

Scientists estimate that the average American consumes enough microplastics to put a credit card together every single week. That amounts to 74,000 particles of microplastic a year.³

Fish ingest them and they make their way into our food supply. In a recent study, 74% of fish fillets tested contained microplastics. 41. "UEG Week: IBD prevalence three times higher than previous estimates and expected to rise further, new study reveals." Accessed on May 31, 2022.

2. Yan Z, et al. "Analysis of microplastics in human feces reveals a correlation between fecal microplastics and inflammatory bowel disease status." Environ Sci Technol. 2022;56(1):414-421

3. Oosthoek S. "Americans consume some 70,000 microplastic particles a year." ScienceNewsforStudent.com

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Accessed May 31, 2022.

4. McIlwraith H. "I Eat Fish, Am I Eating Microplastics?" Ocean Conservancy. 2021.

In an OEHHA presentation on nanoparticles 2 years ago, scientists claimed that nanoparticles negatively affect several organs of the body.

Also, Chelsea M. Rochman and Munno et al (2021) found that water bodies where plastic bottles and other pieces of trash were found also contained high levels of microparticles. Kennedy Bucci et al (2021) found pre-consumer polyethylene led to a decrease in fish population. Only 75 - 90% of the fish population remained due to physiochemical effects from particle stress. At the macromolecular level, Earn et al in 2019 found gene expression effects and effects on population size & death of wildlife.

Therefore, a place to return used drink bottles & receive 5 or 10 cents is needed near the entrance and exit. Better is to have Primavera or Glacier or Watermill Express or Culligan water refill machines. Most people don't have the time to drive a few sticky drink bottles to their town dump and don't want their car or purse messy. Most plastic bottles get incinerated, creating air pollution in disadvantaged communities.

Also, don't fluorescent lighting which contributes to eyestrain & dizziness and poor overall health of employees.

From: [Laura Rosenberger](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#); [Richard Ivall](#); [Hoiyin Ip](#)
Subject: Plastic pollution from the project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 6:56:32 PM

CAUTION: External email.

Artificial turf is the most toxic. It often is coated with PFAs or PFOSs to waterproof it.

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Also, don't fluorescent lighting which contributes to eyestrain & dizziness and poor overall health of employees.

From: [scott sandell](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 11:33:34 PM

CAUTION: External email.

I am writing to express my opposition to the amphitheater in the West Harbor Modification Project. The noise from the amphitheater is deeply concerning to me, as it would negatively affect the quality of life in the surrounding community and be harmful to wildlife.

And that's not all. According to the notice of preparation: "The West Harbor Modification Project could result in **adverse impacts on human beings, either directly or indirectly, related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, GHG emissions, noise, and transportation.**"

But let's start with the noise impacts. There are certain sounds associated with life in San Pedro -- the sounds of the ships, the fog horn, the trains, the "Star Spangled Banner" from Ft. MacArthur at 4:30 p.m., the church bells. Loud concerts are rarely part of the equation. But the proposed amphitheater would change this dramatically.

The notice of preparation states: "The West Harbor Modification Project would construct an outdoor venue hosting concerts and other special events. The project would include an amplified sound system. **Noise from the sound system, as well as from audiences attending the events, could propagate into the surrounding community and would be audible at nearby noise-sensitive land uses.** As a result, the West Harbor Modification Project could increase ambient noise levels in the vicinity. Therefore, this issue will be evaluated in the SEIR."

How often would this affect the surrounding community? According to media reports, "The amphitheater is expected to have 6,200 seats and host about 100 paid events per year, generally from April through November, according to port officials. Smaller, locally sponsored and charity events would also be able to use the venue year-round."

That's **at least 100 loud events per year**, and probably more.

Ask the neighbors of the Greek Theatre or the Pacific Amphitheatre about the noise and see how happy they are. Not very happy, judging from **noise complaints and lawsuits**. Why would residents of San Pedro and nearby communities want to bring this upon themselves?

Furthermore, the noise will **affect wildlife, including endangered birds**.

The notice of preparation states: "The West Harbor Modification Project would construct an outdoor venue hosting concerts and other special events. The project would include an amplified sound system, fireworks, and lighting displays. Noise from the sound system, audiences attending the events, and fireworks could propagate into the surrounding community and be audible to nearby species, such as marine mammals in the channel and endangered California least terns (*Sterna antillarum*) at the Pier 400 Nesting site."

How else could this amphitheater affect the community significantly, according to the notice of preparation?

"The West Harbor Modification Project could create a **new source of substantial light or glare** due to lighting and screens being used during concert events."

"The West Harbor Modification Project could result in **increased emissions of criteria air pollutants** due to possible higher trip generation."

"The West Harbor Modification Project could result in a **cumulatively considerable net increase in a criteria pollutant** for which the project region is a nonattainment area for an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard due to potentially higher trip generation rates."

"The West Harbor Modification Project could **expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations** due to additional vehicle traffic during concert events."

"The West Harbor Modification Project could result in **other emissions (such as those leading to odors) adversely affecting a substantial number of people** due to the use of pyrotechnics and fireworks during events."

"The West Harbor Modification Project could **generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions due to combustion sources** associated with the proposed project during both construction and operation that may have a significant impact."

"Implementation of the West Harbor Modification Project **could conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing the circulation system**, including transit, roadway, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities as a result of increased trips, and could require transportation management and event control."

"Implementation of the West Harbor Modification Project could **conflict or be inconsistent with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3, subdivision (b)** as a result of increased trips and vehicle miles traveled from concerts and special events."

"Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? Potentially Significant Impact. The West Harbor Modification Project has the **potential to result in significant impacts on biological resources.**"

"Does the project have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.) Potentially Significant Impact. The West Harbor Modification Project, in conjunction with other related projects, has the **potential to result in significant cumulative impacts.**"

"Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on

human beings, either directly or indirectly? Potentially Significant Impact. The West Harbor Modification Project could result in **adverse impacts on human beings, either directly or indirectly, related to aesthetics, air quality, biological resources, GHG emissions, noise, and transportation.**"

As much as I was sad to see Ports o' Call go, I realize that the waterfront needs revitalization and am genuinely excited about the new development. It can increase the quality of life for local residents. But the proposed amphitheater would not, and I beseech you to reconsider it.

From: [Kathleen Schueller](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West harbor modification project
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 4:49:05 PM

CAUTION: External email.

As a life long member of San Pedro, I wish to voice mine and my husbands objection to the concert venue planned for our waterfront. As citizens living in the area we are entitled to peace and quiet. We already play host to the noise generated by the port activity and this concert center would greatly add to that atmosphere.

As a satellite of Los Angeles we currently already have within 20 miles numerous centers for concerts, theatre, racing events, sports, etc... no need for any more.

John and Kathleen Schueller
930 S Goodhope Av
San Pedro, CA 90732

And yes we can hear any noise from the port which is within 2 miles of our home

Sent from my iPhone

From: meant4the60s@aol.com
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:44:00 AM

CAUTION: External email.

Hello.

I am a resident of Point Fermin and I have some concerns about the Amphitheater planned for the waterfront development.

This past weekend the Port hosted an electronic dance music festival and for many residents including myself, conditions were uncomfortable, for some, unbearable. The loud thumping and vibration of the music was felt and heard for several hours. This caused me to have a pretty debilitating headache. I also suffer from nausea when I am subjected to heavy vibrations. A passing helicopter, an MRI, loud bass from a nearby vehicle and even concerts with heavy bass make me feel ill. I'm usually able to overcome it pretty easily because these instances are short-lived. I can remove myself from these things. But, an outdoor concert or music festival for hours on end that I can feel from my home is not something I can just remove myself from. And I shouldn't have to escape my home to feel relief, something I did on Sunday afternoon in anticipation.

I did reach out to the Port of LA with a noise complaint and I was pleasantly surprised to see that the event organizers took specific measures to mitigate any further disturbances. This worked well! I could not feel the vibration in my home and the bass was audible, but not thudding through my brain and body.

I do not wish to see plans for an amphitheater cancelled. I do believe a venue of that nature is a positive thing for our town. I am just weary of the noise and vibration impacts, not just for myself, but for my neighbors and our wildlife.

I would be happy to see the Port instill some rules (curfew, decibel limitations, time constraints, etc) for this planned venue. I think with certain limitations set in place, a concert venue here in San Pedro will be a fabulous addition to our town.

Thank you for allowing the community to have a voice here.

Raechel Thacker

From: [Marcia Lee](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project - AGAINST
Date: Saturday, April 16, 2022 6:42:49 PM

CAUTION: External email.

To Whom It May Concern;

I am a resident of the South Bay area and am writing to voice my strong dissent to the modification project that will include an oversized amphitheater.

My objection is primarily to the size of the venue. There is already uncontrolled traffic and congestion in the area. This will worsen a quality of life issue for residents as well as imperil public safety.

Please consider the opinions of the the RESIDENTS of this area, not just the developers who are looking only to profit.

Thank you.

Marcia Lee

From: [Lori Paddock](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Friday, April 15, 2022 4:44:23 PM

CAUTION: External email.

We do not need another attraction in the South Bay. We do not need added congestion to the #405, #10, #605, #710 and #110 freeways that intersect the area, they are overloaded already. The newly added Sofi Stadium already has us at the breaking point of out-of-control traffic. We also do not need the added noise and pollution, etc., the ports do a good job of that already. Please don't let this happen! I know I speak for many of us who live and work here. Our laidback South Bay does not need to become another "Westside".

Lori

" a born here-lives here-worked here-retired here resident of the South Bay."

Sent from my iPad

From: [Robert Nizich-Atty- nizich](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Thursday, April 14, 2022 9:16:37 AM

CAUTION: External email.

Have you been to the Hollywood Bowl? Surrounding neighbors are blasted by concerts. When the motocross or racing has taken place in a nearby location the sounds of revving engines and loudspeakers blast throughout all of San Pedro. Past Lobsterfests, and the music associated with it, blast throughout all of San Pedro. A 6,000 plus person venue with 100 concerts or more events per year would seriously destroy what little peace we have in our homes. The PORT is already banging containers and moving trucks creating loud noise at night. The lighting on the docks already makes one pull the shades to sleep at night. Throwing a 6,000 person NOISE VENUE would be a serious mistake.

Please consider this an absolute NO for allowing such a venue producing this sound regardless of how many people it seats.

Bob Nizich
1514 Averill Park Dr.
San Pedro, Ca. 90732

From: [Anderson, Natalie](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Friday, April 15, 2022 8:54:21 AM

CAUTION: External email.

For the Port of Los Angeles project, I vote for the amphitheater over the tall, view obstructing Ferris Wheel. The amphitheater would provide much more varied entertainment for differing needs - music, kids, family, comedy, community activity, etc.

Natalie Anderson | **Manager, Technology Project Management Group**
UCLA Events & Transportation | cell: (424) 832-4592

From: [Lee Williams](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 3:26:43 PM
Attachments: [Letter of Support.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management

Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project. The possibility of having a 6,200 seat amphitheater with 100+ shows and additional community events will have an enormously positive impact on our community economically, artistically and with jobs.

West Harbor's partnership with Nederlander means we can attract acts like Bonnie Raitt, The Gipsy Kings, Alicia Keys, Norah Jones, Smokey Robinson, Stephen Marley, The Beach Boys, The Chicks, ZAZ and a host of comedy shows. This unique location is not just another music venue. It will be a part of thousands of memories each and every night. People will talk about these shows fondly for decades. I, for one, will be telling all of my friends for decades to come about the time I saw the Rolling Stones, here, on the water whether it happens or not.

The opportunities for first and summer jobs will return for harbor area youth and the graduates of Willenberg Special Education Center here in San Pedro are uniquely prepared to step into many of these jobs to experience the independence and pride that comes from gainful employment so close to home.

I currently live a short distance from the Battleship IOWA. I was surprised how little I heard of the music from the Beach Boys concert during Fleet Week and this is when the speakers were pointed directly at my house. The site selection and the orientation of the amphitheater will allow patrons to enjoy the views without impacting the surrounding residents. The traffic generated by 6,000 attendees will be minimal as well considering how often we have multiple cruise ships, major events and concerts now, with even higher numbers of attendees and passengers.

As a small business owner, employer and patron of the arts, I urge this body to support the additional seats at the amphitheater as well as the construction of the iconic Aerobar.

Lee Williams

kw | KELLER WILLIAMS PV REALTY

550 Deep Valley Drive, Suite 359 | Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274
Phone and Text: (310) 400-6389 | DRE 01726182 | LeeWilliams@KW.com

MAKE YOUR MOVE: LAmove.com

Download our **MOBILE APP** <http://app.kw.com/KW1SVSY0D>

May 3, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

RE: West Harbor Amphitheater Project

Thank you for the opportunity to support this project. The possibility of having a 6,200 seat amphitheater with 100+ shows and additional community events will have an enormously positive impact on our community economically, artistically and with jobs.

West Harbor's partnership with Nederlander means we can attract acts like Bonnie Raitt, The Gipsy Kings, Alicia Keys, Norah Jones, Smokey Robinson, Stephen Marley, The Beach Boys, The Chicks, ZAZ and a host of comedy shows. This unique location is not just another music venue. It will be a part of thousands of memories each and every night. People will talk about these shows fondly for decades. I, for one, will be telling all of my friends for decades to come about the time I saw the Rolling Stones, here, on the water whether it happens or not.

The opportunities for first and summer jobs will return for harbor area youth and the graduates of Willenberg Special Education Center here in San Pedro are uniquely prepared to step into many of these jobs to experience the independence and pride that comes from gainful employment so close to home.

I currently live a short distance from the Battleship IOWA. I was surprised how little I heard of the music from the Beach Boys concert during Fleet Week and this is when the speakers were pointed directly at my house. The site selection and the orientation of the amphitheater will allow patrons to enjoy the views without impacting the surrounding residents. The traffic generated by 6,000 attendees will be minimal as well considering how often we have multiple cruise ships, major events and concerts now, with even higher numbers of attendees and passengers.

As a small business owner, employer and patron of the arts, I urge this body to support the additional seats at the amphitheater as well as the construction of the iconic Aerobar.

Lee Williams

kw | KELLER WILLIAMS PV REALTY

550 Deep Valley Drive, Suite 359 | Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274
Phone and Text: (310) 400-6389 | DRE 01726182 | LeeWilliams@KW.com

From: [Tom Williams](#)
To: [Ceqacommenters](#); Nicole.enciso@lacity.org
Cc: state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov; craig.shuman@wildlife.ca.gov; loni.adams@wildlife.ca.gov; vanessa.navarro@usace.army.mil; ceqacommentletters@wildlife.ca.gov
Subject: WEST HARBOR MODIFICATION PROJECT Comments on NOP
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 1:04:15 PM

CAUTION: External email.

DATE: June 15, 2022

TO: Chris Cannon, Director Los Angeles Harbor Dept.,
Environ.Mgmt. Div., Office of Planning and Research,
425 Palos Verdes Street San Pedro, CA 90731
ceqacommenters@portla.org

ATTN.: Nicole Enciso Harbor Department Environ. Mgmt. Div.
310-732-3615.

CC: State Clearinghouse - state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Loni Adams, Env.Scientist, loni.adams@wildlife.ca.gov
Craig Shuman, Div. Env. Marine Regional Manager
craig.shuman@wildlife.ca.gov
Becky Ota, Env.Prog.Mngr. Dept. Fish & Wildlife
becky.ota@wildlife.ca.gov
Eric Wilkins, Sr. Env.Scient. Supr.
Dept. Fish & Wildlife eric.wilkins@wildlife.ca.gov
Loni Adams, Env. Scient. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
loni.adams@wildlife.ca.gov
Vanessa Navarro, Proj.Mgr. LA.District, U.S. Army CoE.
vanessa.navarro@usace.army.mil
Fernie Sy, Snr. Coastal Analyst Cal.Coastal Comsn.
Celine Gallon, Snr. Env.Sct. Supvr. LA. Regl.Wtr.
Qual.Cntrl.Brd. celine.gallon@waterboards.ca.gov
Habitat Consvrtn.Progr.Brnh. CEQA Progr.Coordntr.
Calif.Dept.Fish and Wildlife
ceqacommentletters@wildlife.ca.gov
Andrew Green Cultural Resources Analyst
andrew.green@nahc.ca.gov

FROM: Dr Clyde T. (Tom) Williams,
President Citizens Coalition for A Safe Community,
4117 Barrett Rd., LA Ca 90032-1712, 323-528-9682

ctwilliams2012@yahoo.com

SUBJECT: INITIAL STUDY / NOTICE OF PREPARATION, DRAFT
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR **WEST HARBOR
MODIFICATION PROJECT**

RE: Public "Scoping" Comments for Draft SEIR SCH Number
2005061041 APP#190529-080
Lead Agency: Port of Los Angeles/Harbor Department
Project Location: San Pedro, Los Angeles, Ca.

Thanks for the opportunities to comment on the scope of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for construction and operation of the modifications of the West Harbor (Waterfront) Project.

See attached:

San Pedro Waterfront Project Environmental Impact Report (SCH#2005061041)
2009

San Pedro Waterfront Environmental Impact Statement (EIR).

As a SEIR, the proposed SEIR must provide the current context of the original FEIR and all previously approved modifications and references to the appropriate earlier SEIRs for the planning area. Provide previous Goals and Objectives of the original and any subsequent modifications leading upto this SEIR.

Provide also the past and current master ground leases/modifications and those proposed for this SEIR

From: [Tom Williams](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#); Nicole.enciso@lacity.org
Cc: state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov; craig.shuman@wildlife.ca.gov; loni.adams@wildlife.ca.gov; vanessa.navarro@usace.army.mil; ceqacommentletters@wildlife.ca.gov
Subject: Re: WEST HARBOR MODIFICATION PROJECT Comments on NOP
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 1:06:45 PM
Attachments: [WHbr NOP Comts 0615 Final.docx](#)

CAUTION: External email.

DATE: June 15, 2022

TO: Chris Cannon, Director Los Angeles Harbor Dept.,
Environ.Mgmt. Div., Office of Planning and Research,
425 Palos Verdes Street San Pedro, CA 90731
ceqacomment@portla.org

ATTN.: Nicole Enciso Harbor Department Environ. Mgmt. Div.
310-732-3615.

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becky.ota@wildlife.ca.gov
Eric Wilkins, Sr. Env.Scient. Supr.
Dept. Fish & Wildlife eric.wilkins@wildlife.ca.gov
Loni Adams, Env. Scient. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
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Vanessa Navarro, Proj.Mgr. LA.District, U.S. Army CoE.
vanessa.navarro@usace.army.mil
Fernie Sy, Snr. Coastal Analyst Cal.Coastal Comsn.
Celine Gallon, Snr. Env.Sct. Supvr. LA. Regl.Wtr.
Qual.Cntrl.Brd. celine.gallon@waterboards.ca.gov
Habitat Consvtn.Progr.Brnh. CEQA Progr.Coordntr.
Calif.Dept.Fish and Wildlife
ceqacommentletters@wildlife.ca.gov
Andrew Green Cultural Resources Analyst
andrew.green@nahc.ca.gov

FROM: Dr Clyde T. (Tom) Williams,
President Citizens Coalition for A Safe Community,
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ctwilliams2012@yahoo.com

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MODIFICATION PROJECT

RE: Public "Scoping" Comments for Draft SEIR SCH Number
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Provide also the past and current master ground leases/modifications and those proposed for this SEIR

DATE: June 15, 2022

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Environmental Management Division, Office of Planning and Research,
425 Palos Verdes Street San Pedro, CA 90731 ceqacomments@portla.org

ATTN.: Nicole Enciso Harbor Department Environmental Management Division 310-732-3615.

CC: State Clearinghouse - state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov
Loni Adams, Environmental Scientist, 858- 204-1051 or loni.adams@wildlife.ca.gov
Craig Shuman, Div. Env. Marine Regional Manager craig.shuman@wildlife.ca.gov
Becky Ota, Environ.Prog.Mngr. Dept. Fish and Wildlife becky.ota@wildlife.ca.gov
Eric Wilkins, Sr. Env.Scient. Supr. Dept. Fish and Wildlife eric.wilkins@wildlife.ca.gov
Loni Adams, Env. Scient. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife loni.adams@wildlife.ca.gov
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Fernie Sy, Senior Coastal Analyst California Coastal Commission
Celine Gallon, Snr. Env.Sct. Supvr. LA. Regl.Wtr.Qual.Cntrl.Brd. celine.gallon@waterboards.ca.gov
Habitat Consvrtn.Progr.Brnh. CEQA Progr.Coordntr. Calif.Dept.Fish and Wildlife
ceqacommentletters@wildlife.ca.gov
Andrew Green Cultural Resources Analyst andrew.green@nahc.ca.gov

FROM: Dr Clyde T. (Tom) Williams, Citizens Coalition for A Safe Community,
4117 Barrett Rd., LA Ca 90032-1712, 323-528-9682 ctwilliams2012@yahoo.com

SUBJECT: INITIAL STUDY / NOTICE OF PREPARATION, DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL
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COMMENTS:

Visual Aesthetics

Provide a view-/sound-shed assessment of lighting and noise for operations and events – 200+/years – in the Project site and comparisons for what has occurred in 2015-2020, pre-pandemic. Assess/mitigation for visual impacts on the access corridor from I-110/SR47 ramps to the Project site for say 3000 vehicles moving in/out during the hour prior and following an event in the Project site.

Hazardous Materials and Contamination –

Provide historic aerial photos from 1915-2030 and review of railroad, tankage, and creosote soaking pits for RR ties and wharf wooden structures.

Provide 20x20ft surface network of borings of >20ft depth with 1-ft sampling and testing for gaseous/fluid/solid contamination from railroad uses and other sources of contaminations.

Provide de-contamination program for all hazardous soil sites and require full soil, gases, and liquid decontamination for all materials within the Project planning areas and parking.
Provide and coordinate with LACiDCP for acquiring hazardous uses review by EDR used in many EIRs for the City DCP.

Environmental Justice/Equity –

Provide maps and tables regarding San Pedro conditions as noted in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and how construction and operations of amphitheater events, 200 per year, may impact those residing west of the Project and Harbor Blvd. from Bonita-Amar (north) to 19th Ave. (South).
Provide specific impacts and mitigations for operational impacts of >100 nighttime events of traffic (3000 car in and 3000 trips out along the limited access which generates noise/traffic/air pollution impacts on adjacent residential populations who may not be able to afford attendance of such events.
Provide the same number and valued performances affordable by the median household income residents of the same area and off-freeway traffic corridors.
Provide mitigative transit from transit facilities/parking areas at >5 miles from the I-110/SR47 offramps for the routes into the Project site.

Land Uses Consistency – Using maritime properties for entertainment activities appear to be inconsistent with good maritime/environmental practices especially when berth-use delays and offshore waiting/queuing are required for container ships and along with increased risks of collisions, anchor dragging, general spillage/discharge, and offsite environmental impacts.

Land Use Planning –

p.4-34/3 NOP The West Harbor Modification Project is consistent with the PMP, which includes goals to provide enhanced public access to the waterfront and visitor-serving facilities including retail, restaurants, museums, and parks.
Provide estimate service area for the Project site and the forecasted uses by those residents within San Pedro vs those from elsewhere in the City (e.g., those within one mile vs those within 15 miles). Include environmental justice parameters (e.g., median household incomes) for users/visitor/paying-attendees and the EJ Setting of local areas and beyond.
Provide Environmental Justice/Equity assessments for changes of entertainment and public access for typical patrons for the proposed Project amphitheater and sky tower compared to the site historic uses (e.g. 2010-21)
Provide mitigation for any EJ related impacts for the Project and mitigate any impacts through ticketing and charges e.g., maybe local area free ticket drawings).

Provide all historic Planning and Environmental documents for the Project site (e.g., 2018 Harbor Plan) with concordances as to modifications, alterations, supplemental, and subsequent changes of historic CEQA/Planning documents required for the same areas as the proposed Project.
Provide specific timelines for the Project area and related parking and traffic circulation routes thereto.
Provide an overall summary of Environmental Justice issues/impacts/mitigation requirements for earlier assessments and any continuations/expansions of the same for the proposed Project.

Recreational Services: Provide alternative comparisons of current and anticipated affordable local community uses/users for performance facilities, viewing tower, and marine recreation facilities: moorings/dockage for watercraft <35ft length boats vs >40ft motorized yachts.

Transportation

Need for local and regional Transit and Active Alternatives

Provide assessment of Project visitors transportation to/from the Project sites and their most-likely origins and uses of activities/features provided by the Project, including 30+ft yachts, 100+ft high tower views, and 6000-visitor amphitheater.

Provide assessment for Project and area associated parking requirements to be provided east of Harbor Blvd. Provide parking as to surface, elevated, or underground.

Provide assessment and mitigation for providing equal opportunities for recreational users of the Project sites, and associated areas with active/assisted access from west of Harbor Blvd..

Provide for pedestrian/active/ADA ramped overpasses (two: 1000ft at 25-50ft above project site level) crossing from eastern termini of 10th and 13th Streets and associated San Pedro Plaza Park promenades at 65ft elevation to Project Parking area and perhaps over parking to Project Active areas at 10-15ft amsl elevation.

Hydrology/Infrastructure: Provide network analyses and assessments for LID facilities and systems for 3/4in rainfall in 24 hours collection, conveyance, storage, and reuse for the entire Project site and associated irrigation and recharge areas in the system.

Provide analyses and assessments for stormwater containment system (no-ocean/marine discharges, directly or indirectly) for all parking and other pavements or non-permeable ground covers.

Provide analyses and assessment of Sea Level Rise for the expected life of Project, i.e., 50 years 2030-2080. Provide POLA policies and preparations for waterfront and marine impacts from SLR and policy, planning, and design guidelines: Port Master Plan, Engineering Design Guidelines, LA Waterfront Design Guidelines, Develop/provide one page vulnerability zone map for Project area and vicinity. Provide for ongoing monitoring of POLA-SLR and continuing updates for the Project plan and vicinity.

Provide alternative land use plans more suitable/affordable for residents of the I-110 Corridor and San Pedro, versus those for Palos Verdes.

Provide for fisheries/wildlife compensatory measures for all existing non-maritime/marine uses/activities of the Project on a 1:1 basis, 1000sqft for non-maritime uses = 1000sqft of suitable reconstructed wetlands/aquatic habitats, including for all boating facilities.

Historic Land Uses and Resources/Hazards

Provide historic aerial photos and satellite images (e.g., every 10 years from 1923 to date) and assessment of potential contamination by hazardous materials, oils, creosotes, gasoline and diesel fuels, RR brake fluids and hazardous contaminants therein.

Provide for borings at locations of potential historic remains – waste dumps, water-less privies, building basements and pit storage areas, etc.).

Provide magnetometer surveys of potential site areas for historic underground remains based on photo interpretations of historic uses.

Provide historic review of land use plans/projects and implementations for 2000-2022 for the western waterfront.

Provide review of all projected land use plans/projects and implementations for 2022-2045 for the western waterfront and comparisons with projected population, households, and jobs of relevant Transportation Analysis Zones (SCAG) for 2045.

Provide evaluation, assessment, and mitigations of past and projected land use planning and apparent piecemealing/segmentation of such to avoid public participation and reviews of development actions by the Port of Los Angeles.

Provide any comments/past judicial reviews and findings regarding piecemealing by the POLA or the Port of Long Beach.

Provide review of historic development for recreational boating and the service and user populations and related Env.Just. issues as to who could/did use the facilities during the transitions from small sail-/motor-boats (<30ft) to larger motorized yachts of 30-50+ft.

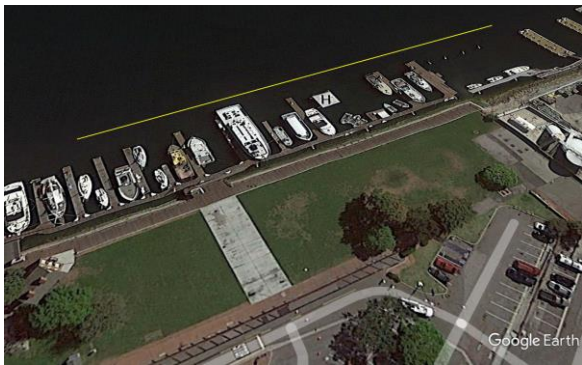
2005 500ft



2011 500ft



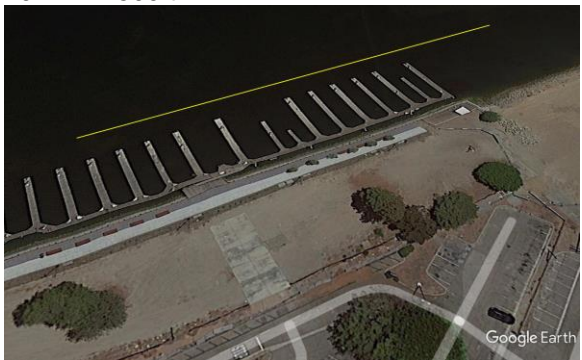
2015 500ft



2020



2021-22 500ft



Project – Part 1. West Harbor development on the L.A. Waterfront.



Provide detailed construction/startup schedule and all needed staging and haul routes for construction employees, materials, and fill/grading for the following:

Provide thorough Project Description including Project Goals/Objective & Purposes and Needs for EIR/EIS preparations for state and federal considerations, along with any changes from those below:

Outdoor amphitheater West Harbor, 2.5-acre site 109,000sf

40-foot-tall, roughly 10,000-square-foot bandshell + fronted by a sloping 23,000-square-foot lawn and 28,000-square-foot terraced seating area. + more than 50,000-square-foot area comprising a sloped and terraced artificial lawn.

35,000-square-foot stage, backstage and box office areas,
22,000-square-foot space for concessions and restrooms.

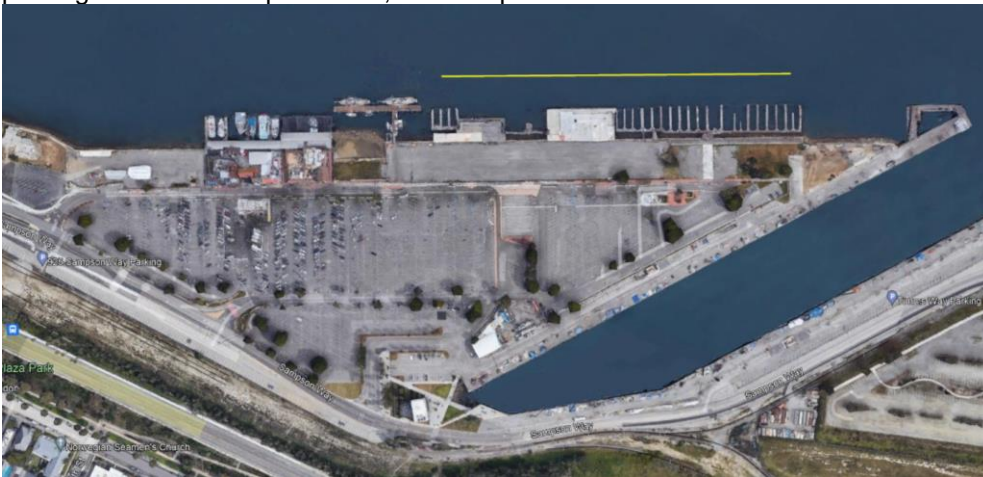
Hardscaped space for restaurants.

Operations - 6,200 spectators, for 100 paid events/concerts / year, April-Nov. 8 mon / 250 day, 100 events – every 2.5d with 15/month.

Provide process and conditions for other smaller community gatherings given the 6-8hr for setup and take downs for main paid events.

Provide maps and figures for all projects and changes for the last 20 years, pre-pandemic records. Given the environmental report also touches on another addition to the West Harbor, include proposed tower feature housing a gondola and concessions, paying allowing visitors to view the Port of Los Angeles from 115 feet in the air.

Provide maps and figures for ALL forecasted, considered project within the Project vicinity, 5280ft of the parking lots for the amphitheater, as exemplified below:



Yellow Line - 1000ft 2021

Compared to one plan showing:



Map of the West Harbor and other waterfront projects, but not the visitors' tower.

From: Nancy Young
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Proposed Ampitheater
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 3:26:04 PM

The proposed Ampitheater at West Harbor (horrible name by the way) is a very bad idea! I live in the upper South Shores area. Every time there has been a music fest of any kind like at berth 46 this past weekend, we have had to suffer from the banging noise of the music. It comes across as a constant drum beat or base guitar sound. Very annoying especially while trying to watch a TV program. This past weekend, I can't remember which night but the sounds continued well past 10 pm. This is no place for an Ampitheater!

Come on up to this area during an event and see for yourself.

Nancy and Gary Young

1916 Marina Dr.

San Pedro, Ca 90732

nancyrn.sp@cox.net

June 10, 2022

Mr. Christopher Cannon
Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Mr. Cannon:

Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club has recently become aware of a proposed entertainment venue and amphitheater project the Port of Los Angeles is considering. This project would be located in Cabrillo West Harbor.

As a long time tenant at Cabrillo Marina, Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club is acutely aware of the increased use of the marina for recreational and commercial boating activities. The issue of increased traffic and on-going parking issues along with noise pollution are a concern.

While CBYC is enthusiastic about the coming changes to the Port, along with increased use of the San Pedro waterfront, we are very concerned about increased traffic and noise issues. As I'm sure you are aware, parking in the area has been a challenge for visitors and businesses in the Marina, especially during busy weekends.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our concerns regarding potential traffic and noise issues. Additionally, we would like to request the draft Supplemental EIR so that the Club Board of Directors has an opportunity to carefully study the impact if increased traffic and noise. The requested EIR can be e-mailed directly to the Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club at office@CBYC.org.

Thank you

Andrea Abernatha
Commodore - 2022
Cabrillo Beach Yacht Club

Cc: Mike Galvin
Eugene Seroka

From: [Kristina Smith](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Cc: [Joe Buscaino](#); [Ryan Ferguson](#); [Alison Becker-CD15](#); amy.gebert@lacity.org; [Robin Rudisill](#); [Doug Epperhart](#)
Subject: NOP for Draft Supplemental EIR to the San Pedro Waterfront Project EIR, for the West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 2:07:33 PM
Attachments: [West Harbor Modification Project Comments - Coastal San Pedro NC 5-17-22.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Mr. Cannon:

Attached is a letter from the Coastal San Pedro NC containing a resolution passed by the board with comments on the Initial Study/NOP for the West Harbor Modification Project.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and the attachment.

Thank you.

Kristina Smith
Neighborhood Council Services
310-918-8650 cell



COASTAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Doug Epperhart

President

Dean Pentcheff

Vice President

Sheryl

Akerblom

Treasurer

1840 S Gaffey St., Box 34 • San Pedro, CA 90731 • (310) 918-8650
cspnclive@gmail.com

May 17, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Sent via Email to: ceqacomment@portla.org

Subject: **Comments on Initial Study/Notice of Preparation for the West Harbor Modification Project on the L.A. Waterfront**

Whereas, the proposed 6,200 seat amphitheater would be generating volume levels far in excess of trains, containers, and sea lions, and

Whereas, the residents have a right to the quiet enjoyment of their dwelling places, and

Whereas, there is a significant concern regarding noise that will impact the surrounding community.

Resolved, Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council is concerned that the new amphitheater project as proposed is inappropriate and insists that the NOP includes a discussion of reasonable alternatives, as required by CEQA, such as the original 2009 plan for a 500-seat amphitheater.

Further Resolved, the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council provides the following comments on the West Harbor Modification Project Notice of Preparation:

Noise:

We strongly recommend sonic testing under a variety of atmospheric conditions to determine the impact on the community of amphitheater concerts to be included in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report and that the applicant consult with the Neighborhood Councils in designing the tests. The tests should include the impacts of temperature inversion on sound transmission.

We suggest that the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report include an analysis of the impacts of people outside of the proposed concert venue gathering on City and Port lands and waters and elsewhere to listen to the proposed concerts.

Transportation:

Provide a plan to ensure adequate security both in the venue and the surrounding areas.

Biological Resources/Water Quality:

Provide a plan to utilize recyclable and biodegradable materials to avoid pollution into Port waters including microplastics.

The project should incorporate the principles of the San Pedro Urban Greening Plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Douglas Epperhart".

Doug Epperhart, President
On behalf of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board

Councilmember.Buscaino@lacity.org

Alison.Becker@lacity.org

Amy.Gebert@lacity.org

From: tim@environmentaljusticeleague.org
To: [Ceqacomment](#); [Russell](#)
Subject: Comment Letter: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:43:27 PM
Attachments: [Comment Letter West Harbor Modification Project.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Good Afternoon:

Please find attached the comment letter of the Environmental Justice League regarding the West Harbor Modification Project.

Tim Cromartie

Executive Director

Environmental Justice League



ENVIRONMENTAL
— JUSTICE LEAGUE —

June 15, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

VIA EMAIL: ceqacomment@portla.org

RE: West Harbor Modification Project – Comments on Notice of Preparation of Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Cannon:

We respectfully submit the following comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) to the San Pedro Waterfront Project Environmental Impact Report (SCH #2005061041) that the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) has prepared and circulated for public comment related to the West Harbor Modification Project (West Harbor Project).

We also request to be added to the notification list for all environmental documents, public notices, public hearings, and notices of determination for the West Harbor Project.

Background

The California Environmental Justice League is a registered non-profit organization committed to raising awareness of environmental impacts on our diverse communities and seeking solutions to ensure that historic injustices borne by people of color are not repeated.

As evidenced by then-California Attorney General Xavier Becerra's establishment of the Bureau of Environmental Justice in 2018, and the Bureau's subsequent expansion in 2021 under current California Attorney General Rob Bonta, environmental justice issues are critical to the future of California. The environmental justice effects of port projects are increasingly of interest to the Attorney General's Office, as evidenced by the Office's June 3, 2022 comments on the San Diego Unified Port District's Port Master Plan Update and Draft Environmental Impact Report.¹ We are therefore not alone in understanding the importance that environmental justice issues play in the

¹ <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/06-03-2022-pmpu-draft%20environmental-impact-report.pdf>

decisionmaking process on projects, and request that the Harbor Department likewise recognize, consider, and analyze these issues when preparing the SEIR for the West Harbor Project.

West Harbor Project and Its Location

As noted in the NOP and its supporting Initial Study (IS), the West Harbor Project is located within the Port of Los Angeles, approximately 20 miles south of downtown Los Angeles. The Port is adjacent to San Pedro to the west, Wilmington to the north, the Port of Long Beach to the east, and the Pacific Ocean to the south. (NOP/IS, p. 2-1.) The West Harbor Project specifically is located between the Los Angeles Harbor's Main Channel and Harbor Blvd., from Berths 73-Z to 83 in the Port. (NOP/IS p. 2-1.)

What is not disclosed in the NOP/IS is information available through the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool, CalEnviroScreen 4.0. CalEnviroScreen helps to identify California communities that are disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution. According to CalEnviroScreen, Census Tract 6037297110, which is located immediately west of the West Harbor Project and is home to approximately 4,649 persons, is in the 90th percentile for pollution burden, with extreme exposure to diesel particulate matter and toxic releases.² As a result, this census tract is in the 97th percentile relative to other census tracts. This census tract is comprised of over 64% residents of Hispanic background, and 11% African American residents.

The census tract immediately north, Census Tract 6037296220, is similar. It is in the 88th percentile for pollution burden and the 92nd percentile overall, relative to other census tracts. As with Census Tract 6037297110, over 65% of the residents in Census Tract 6037296220 are Hispanic, and approximately 12.8% are African American.

West Harbor Project Environmental Issues

The SEIR for the West Harbor Project should address environmental justice issues arising from the Project's location and its proximity to communities that already bear more than their share of adverse environmental impacts based on any criteria. Specifically, we request that the SEIR disclose and analyze impacts in the following areas:

Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The NOP/IS states that the proposed amphitheater will host 100 paid concert and major events per year in an eight-month period (April through November), plus other sponsored events year round. (IS/NOP, p. 2-6.)

- What will be the mobile-source emissions from vehicles traveling to these events?
- How will these emissions affect nearby sensitive receptors, including those that the IS/NOP acknowledges include residences located 1,450 feet west of the site?
- What is the proportionate impact of these emissions on residents in Census Tract 6037296220 and Census Tract 6037297110 compared to other nearby census tracts?

² This information can be obtained at <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40>.

- Given that “[o]ther parking lots within the Port area may be used on certain days when events occur at the amphitheater” (IS/NOP, p. 2-5), what will be the air quality impacts of vehicles traveling and from those parking lots and circling to find parking? How close are these locations to sensitive receptors in the already disproportionately-burdened communities?
- Will there be air quality emissions from the proposed fireworks events? How will these impact nearby sensitive receptors?

Land Use and Planning

We were quite surprised to see that the IS/NOP states that the West Harbor Project categorically will have “no impact” with respect to any conflict with land use plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect, and therefore the EIR does not propose to analyze these issues at all. (IS/NOP, p. 4-34.) We urge you to reconsider this conclusion and to consider the following:

- How is the West Harbor Project consistent with the Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles? This is a Health, Wellness, and Equity Element of the City’s General Plan, and “serves as the primary location of environmental justice goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs in the City’s General Plan.” (Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, Appendix 3, p. 166.)
- How is the West Harbor Project consistent with policies within the Port Master Plan that bear on environmental justice issues, including Policies 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3?
- Will the West Harbor Project require a Level II Coastal Development Permit? If so, has the Coastal Commission’s Environmental Justice Policy (adopted March 8, 2019) been considered?

Noise Impacts

Given the anticipated 100 concert and major events in a roughly eight-month period of time (April through November), this translates into roughly one concert every few days.

- What will noise impacts be on nearby sensitive receptors in Census Tract 6037296220 and Census Tract 6037297110? The SEIR should consider not just overall impacts but impacts from component parts of the amphitheater portion of the West Harbor Project, including the 40-foot tall, 10,000 square foot bandshell; six 30-foot tall speakers; and semi-truck loading docks, among other aspects.
- What are the noise impacts from the fireworks shows? What is the proportionate impact of these noise impacts on residents in Census Tract 6037296220 and Census Tract 6037297110 compared to other nearby census tracts?

Parks and Recreation

The West Harbor Project IS/NOP states that no analysis of potential impacts to Recreation will be considered in the SEIR. (IS/NOP, p. 4-42.) Yet, the West Harbor Project proposes to replace

the approved Discovery Sea Amusement Area, which was proposed as a 6.4-acre amusement area with playground facilities, a Ferris wheel, carousel, and gardens, among other amenities.

- What are the environmental justice impacts of removing the proposed Discovery Sea Amusement Area and replacing it with an amphitheater area that presumably will be restricted to patrons with tickets?
- What portion of the West Harbor Project will be fully open, without tickets or payment required, to the community for recreation activities?
- How does the removal of the Discovery Sea Amusement Area impact parkland ratios for nearby residents in disadvantaged communities?

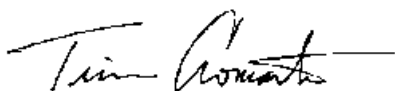
Public Services

The IS/NOP states that the West Harbor Project will create a less than significant impact to public services, including fire protection and police protection. (IS/NOP, pp. 4-39 and 4-40.)

- How will a 6,000-seat amphitheater affect the ability of residents to receive these critical public services during large-scale concerts and events?
- What are the specific effects of the West Harbor Project on emergency response times? How can it be known that the impact is not significant if the issue is not being studied and analyzed?

We hope that you will consider these issues in preparing the SEIR and will recognize the importance of analyzing the West Harbor Project with regard to environmental justice issues. We look forward to reviewing the SEIR when it is available.

Sincerely,



Tim Cromartie
Executive Director

From: [Linda Herman](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Cc: "[Elizabeth Sala](#)"; jmacle43@cox.net
Subject: Comment on Initial Study/Notice of preparation for the West Harbor Modification Project on the L.A. Waterfront
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 2:03:11 PM
Attachments: [West Harbor Modification Project ltr head 6 13 2022 with position support.doc](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Kindly see attached letter with our comments.

Linda Herman
&
Janet MacLeod

Co-Presidents
League of Women Voters of Palos Verdes Peninsula also serving the San Pedro Area



League of Women Voters of Palos Verdes Peninsula
Also serving the San Pedro area
P. O. Box 2933
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274
Website: lwvpalosverdes.org

June 13, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Comments on Initial Study/Notice of Preparation for the West Harbor Modification Project on the L.A. Waterfront

The League of Woman Voters of Palos Verdes Peninsula and San Pedro provide the following comments on the West Harbor Modification Project Notice of Preparation (NOP). The issues of concern include air quality (fireworks, noise), hazardous materials, water pollution and climate change.

These items align with the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC) Action Policies and Positions which are cited at the end of this letter.

Air Quality

The NOP lists that fireworks may be used up to 25 times a year. Fireworks are created by explosions in the air. Fireworks create highly toxic gases and pollutants that poison the air.

NOISE is also a major concern with the fireworks. Loud noises are disruptive, especially since they may occur at times when many people are trying to sleep at night. Exposure to loud noise can also cause high blood pressure, heart disease, sleep disturbances, and stress. These health problems can affect all age groups, especially children.

Hazardous Materials

Many fireworks are made of hazardous materials. Fireworks contain heavy metals, including perchlorate, which leave metal particles, dangerous toxins, harmful chemicals and smoke in the air for hours and days.

Some of the toxins never fully decompose or disintegrate, but rather hang around in the environment, poisoning all they come into contact – air, water, and soil.

Water Quality

These same hazardous elements would enter the water – damaging both the marine life and water quality. The use of pyrotechnics over the water would add plastic pollution to our already over-burdened oceans since many fireworks are made with plastic parts.

Climate Change

The chemical reactions produced during the explosion of the fireworks release smoke and gases such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen. These are some of the primary greenhouse gases responsible for climate change.

League of Women Voters of California supports:

- Measures to establish air quality standards that will protect the public health and welfare.
- Measures to provide maximum protection to human health and the environment from the adverse effects of hazardous materials.
- Measures that promote the management and development of water resources in ways that are beneficial to the environment with emphasis on conservation and high standards of water quality that are appropriate for the intended use.
- Actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change in order to protect our state from the negative physical, economic, and public health effects.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the NOP.

Sincerely,

Linda Herman
Co-President

Janet MacLeod
Co-President

From: [Cannon, Chris](#)
To: [Enciso, Nicole](#)
Subject: Fwd: West Harbor Modification Letter
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 7:26:13 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-o1102uq1.png](#)
[Response to Amphitheater Proposal\(1\).docx.pdf](#)

Sent from wireless

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amber Becerra <ABecerra@marinemammalcare.org>
Date: June 15, 2022 at 7:18:44 PM PDT
To: "Cannon, Chris" <CCannon@portla.org>
Cc: Kylie Clatterbuck <Kylie.Clatterbuck@birdrescue.org>, Lauren Palmer <lpalmer@marinemammalcare.org>
Subject: **West Harbor Modification Letter**

CAUTION: External email.

Hello Chris,

Please see the attached response to the West Harbor Modification.

Thank you,
Amber

Amber Becerra (she/hers)
President/CEO
Cell: (360) 224-6366
Address: 3601 S. Gaffey St., #8 San Pedro, CA, 90731
Web: marinemammalcare.org



Chris Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
City of Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 S. Palos Verdes St.
San Pedro, CA. 90731

Re: West Harbor Modification Comment

Dear Mr. Cannon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the West Harbor Modification. Below are concerns shared by Marine Mammal Care Center and International Bird Rescue regarding the proposed amphitheater's impact on local wildlife and ocean health that require further research and analysis prior to any approval of the existing plans. We are available and interested to provide consult on any of the following areas or alternatives, should the need arise.

Sound/Light Pollution:

We strongly recommend acoustic analysis/monitoring to determine the impact on the marine environment and local wildlife of the proposed amphitheater concerts to be included in the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR").

The impacts of increased light and noise pollution from this development on the local wildlife must be analyzed in depth. In water, sound travels five times faster and much farther than in air. Marine animals depend on sound to hunt for food, find mates & social groups, and detect predators. Noise pollution impact is difficult to measure but can have dramatic impacts on the delicate web of undersea life. Decibel level restrictions should be required as indicated.

It is our opinion that the number of proposed fireworks shows creates an untenable noise pollution situation in an area where wildlife is already significantly impacted by port traffic and high levels of noise and light pollution 24/7/365. We have observed known impacts of fireworks on marine animals and birds and the result is to startle these animals causing them to flee their habitat which can interfere with feeding and reproduction. Adding to the burden on the marine environment is likely to cause irreversible harm to the marine environment and drive local wildlife out of the area. This is disruptive to the ocean ecosystem, already fragile from the effect of significant human and industrial interference. There is a sentiment that the Port area is already a commercial area with significant light and sound activity and therefore "what's the harm in more?" However this is the wrong way to look at it. The amount of existing activity should get us closer to a cap on further sound and light pollution. There should be a "noise pollution budget" for the ocean area, based on assessment of the entire



spectrum of sound pollution from human sources. It's likely that this area is already beyond its maximum threshold and is exceeding a safe and healthy budget for marine life.

Environmental Impacts:

The DEIR should address the impact of additional trash and debris from the increase in visitors and activities on the biological resources and water quality in the area.¹ The DEIR should also include a plan to utilize biodegradable materials primarily and only recyclable materials as a last resort to avoid pollution into Port waters which will result in further damage to the ocean in the form of trash, microplastics, and alteration of the natural marine environment. There should also be a plan to prevent debris from fireworks from going into the harbor. Fireworks create significant air pollution and introduce toxic chemicals into the environment - alternative methods of celebration that have less dramatic impact on the ocean environment should be considered due to the location of this development. Many of our local species of marine animals and birds are already struggling due to challenges in the local ocean environment. Further destruction of their habitat may have devastating impacts that lead to an unmanageable flood of intakes to our centers - as a recent example - the brown pelican crisis.

Thank you for your consideration of our local ocean environment - which we at MMCC and IBR are committed to working hard to protect. We see the impacts of human interaction and degradation of the environment on our wildlife when it is often too late and the animal has lost its life or health because of us. We strive to help our local community find ways to be good stewards of the incredible natural resources we are so lucky to have in our backyard and prevent the harm, before it happens.

¹ The response filed to the West Harbor Modification by Paddle out Plastic with respect to ocean pollution addresses in more depth the significant threat posed to ocean health and local marine life by this proposal. We support the statements contained therein and request further consideration of those issues.



Amber Becerra, MMCC
President/CEO

Dr. Lauren Palmer, MMCC Hospital

Kylie Clatterbuck, IBR Wildlife Center
Manager





NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

April 15, 2022

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Nicole Enciso
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 S. Pablos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Apr 15 2022

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Re: 2005061041, West Harbor Modification Project, Los Angeles County

Dear Ms. Enciso:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has received the Notice of Preparation (NOP), Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) or Early Consultation for the project referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code §21000 et seq.), specifically Public Resources Code §21084.1, states that a project that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code § 21084.1; Cal. Code Regs., tit.14, § 15064.5 (b) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5 (b)). If there is substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before a lead agency, that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) shall be prepared. (Pub. Resources Code §21080 (d); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 5064 subd.(a)(1) (CEQA Guidelines §15064 (a)(1)). In order to determine whether a project will cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, a lead agency will need to determine whether there are historical resources within the area of potential effect (APE).

CEQA was amended significantly in 2014. Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto, Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014) (AB 52) amended CEQA to create a separate category of cultural resources, "tribal cultural resources" (Pub. Resources Code §21074) and provides that a project with an effect that may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource is a project that may have a significant effect on the environment. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.2). Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)). **AB 52 applies to any project for which a notice of preparation, a notice of negative declaration, or a mitigated negative declaration is filed on or after July 1, 2015.** If your project involves the adoption of or amendment to a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation or proposed designation of open space, on or after March 1, 2005, it may also be subject to Senate Bill 18 (Burton, Chapter 905, Statutes of 2004) (SB 18). **Both SB 18 and AB 52 have tribal consultation requirements.** If your project is also subject to the federal National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. § 4321 et seq.) (NEPA), the tribal consultation requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (154 U.S.C. 300101, 36 C.F.R. §800 et seq.) may also apply.

The NAHC recommends consultation with California Native American tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of your proposed project as early as possible in order to avoid inadvertent discoveries of Native American human remains and best protect tribal cultural resources. Below is a brief summary of portions of AB 52 and SB 18 as well as the NAHC's recommendations for conducting cultural resources assessments.

Consult your legal counsel about compliance with AB 52 and SB 18 as well as compliance with any other applicable laws.



CHAIRPERSON
Laura Miranda
Luiseño

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Russell Attebery
Karuk

SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

COMMISSIONER
William Mungary
Paiute/White Mountain
Apache

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

COMMISSIONER
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki

COMMISSIONER
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

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NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov
NAHC.ca.gov

AB 52 has added to CEQA the additional requirements listed below, along with many other requirements:

- 1. Fourteen Day Period to Provide Notice of Completion of an Application/Decision to Undertake a Project:** Within fourteen (14) days of determining that an application for a project is complete or of a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, a lead agency shall provide formal notification to a designated contact of, or tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, to be accomplished by at least one written notice that includes:
 - a.** A brief description of the project.
 - b.** The lead agency contact information.
 - c.** Notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d)).
 - d.** A "California Native American tribe" is defined as a Native American tribe located in California that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC for the purposes of Chapter 905 of Statutes of 2004 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21073).

- 2. Begin Consultation Within 30 Days of Receiving a Tribe's Request for Consultation and Before Releasing a Negative Declaration, Mitigated Negative Declaration, or Environmental Impact Report:** A lead agency shall begin the consultation process within 30 days of receiving a request for consultation from a California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the proposed project. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1, subs. (d) and (e)) and prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration or Environmental Impact Report. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (b)).
 - a.** For purposes of AB 52, "consultation shall have the same meaning as provided in Gov. Code §65352.4 (SB 18). (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.1 (b)).

- 3. Mandatory Topics of Consultation If Requested by a Tribe:** The following topics of consultation, if a tribe requests to discuss them, are mandatory topics of consultation:
 - a.** Alternatives to the project.
 - b.** Recommended mitigation measures.
 - c.** Significant effects. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).

- 4. Discretionary Topics of Consultation:** The following topics are discretionary topics of consultation:
 - a.** Type of environmental review necessary.
 - b.** Significance of the tribal cultural resources.
 - c.** Significance of the project's impacts on tribal cultural resources.
 - d.** If necessary, project alternatives or appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation that the tribe may recommend to the lead agency. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (a)).

- 5. Confidentiality of Information Submitted by a Tribe During the Environmental Review Process:** With some exceptions, any information, including but not limited to, the location, description, and use of tribal cultural resources submitted by a California Native American tribe during the environmental review process shall not be included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed by the lead agency or any other public agency to the public, consistent with Government Code §6254 (r) and §6254.10. Any information submitted by a California Native American tribe during the consultation or environmental review process shall be published in a confidential appendix to the environmental document unless the tribe that provided the information consents, in writing, to the disclosure of some or all of the information to the public. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (c)(1)).

- 6. Discussion of Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources in the Environmental Document:** If a project may have a significant impact on a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency's environmental document shall discuss both of the following:
 - a.** Whether the proposed project has a significant impact on an identified tribal cultural resource.
 - b.** Whether feasible alternatives or mitigation measures, including those measures that may be agreed to pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (a), avoid or substantially lessen the impact on the identified tribal cultural resource. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (b)).

- 7. Conclusion of Consultation:** Consultation with a tribe shall be considered concluded when either of the following occurs:
- a.** The parties agree to measures to mitigate or avoid a significant effect, if a significant effect exists, on a tribal cultural resource; or
 - b.** A party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached. (Pub. Resources Code §21080.3.2 (b)).
- 8. Recommending Mitigation Measures Agreed Upon in Consultation in the Environmental Document:** Any mitigation measures agreed upon in the consultation conducted pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2 shall be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document and in an adopted mitigation monitoring and reporting program, if determined to avoid or lessen the impact pursuant to Public Resources Code §21082.3, subdivision (b), paragraph 2, and shall be fully enforceable. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (a)).
- 9. Required Consideration of Feasible Mitigation:** If mitigation measures recommended by the staff of the lead agency as a result of the consultation process are not included in the environmental document or if there are no agreed upon mitigation measures at the conclusion of consultation, or if consultation does not occur, and if substantial evidence demonstrates that a project will cause a significant effect to a tribal cultural resource, the lead agency shall consider feasible mitigation pursuant to Public Resources Code §21084.3 (b). (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (e)).
- 10. Examples of Mitigation Measures That, If Feasible, May Be Considered to Avoid or Minimize Significant Adverse Impacts to Tribal Cultural Resources:**
- a.** Avoidance and preservation of the resources in place, including, but not limited to:
 - i.** Planning and construction to avoid the resources and protect the cultural and natural context.
 - ii.** Planning greenspace, parks, or other open space, to incorporate the resources with culturally appropriate protection and management criteria.
 - b.** Treating the resource with culturally appropriate dignity, taking into account the tribal cultural values and meaning of the resource, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i.** Protecting the cultural character and integrity of the resource.
 - ii.** Protecting the traditional use of the resource.
 - iii.** Protecting the confidentiality of the resource.
 - c.** Permanent conservation easements or other interests in real property, with culturally appropriate management criteria for the purposes of preserving or utilizing the resources or places.
 - d.** Protecting the resource. (Pub. Resource Code §21084.3 (b)).
 - e.** Please note that a federally recognized California Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the NAHC to protect a California prehistoric, archaeological, cultural, spiritual, or ceremonial place may acquire and hold conservation easements if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed. (Civ. Code §815.3 (c)).
 - f.** Please note that it is the policy of the state that Native American remains and associated grave artifacts shall be repatriated. (Pub. Resources Code §5097.991).
- 11. Prerequisites for Certifying an Environmental Impact Report or Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration or Negative Declaration with a Significant Impact on an Identified Tribal Cultural Resource:** An Environmental Impact Report may not be certified, nor may a mitigated negative declaration or a negative declaration be adopted unless one of the following occurs:
- a.** The consultation process between the tribes and the lead agency has occurred as provided in Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 and §21080.3.2 and concluded pursuant to Public Resources Code §21080.3.2.
 - b.** The tribe that requested consultation failed to provide comments to the lead agency or otherwise failed to engage in the consultation process.
 - c.** The lead agency provided notice of the project to the tribe in compliance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1 (d) and the tribe failed to request consultation within 30 days. (Pub. Resources Code §21082.3 (d)).

The NAHC's PowerPoint presentation titled, "Tribal Consultation Under AB 52: Requirements and Best Practices" may be found online at: http://nahc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AB52TribalConsultation_CalEPAPDF.pdf

SB 18

SB 18 applies to local governments and requires local governments to contact, provide notice to, refer plans to, and consult with tribes prior to the adoption or amendment of a general plan or a specific plan, or the designation of open space. (Gov. Code §65352.3). Local governments should consult the Governor's Office of Planning and Research's "Tribal Consultation Guidelines," which can be found online at: https://www.opr.ca.gov/docs/09_14_05_Updated_Guidelines_922.pdf.

Some of SB 18's provisions include:

1. **Tribal Consultation:** If a local government considers a proposal to adopt or amend a general plan or a specific plan, or to designate open space it is required to contact the appropriate tribes identified by the NAHC by requesting a "Tribal Consultation List." If a tribe, once contacted, requests consultation the local government must consult with the tribe on the plan proposal. **A tribe has 90 days from the date of receipt of notification to request consultation unless a shorter timeframe has been agreed to by the tribe.** (Gov. Code §65352.3 (a)(2)).
2. **No Statutory Time Limit on SB 18 Tribal Consultation.** There is no statutory time limit on SB 18 tribal consultation.
3. **Confidentiality:** Consistent with the guidelines developed and adopted by the Office of Planning and Research pursuant to Gov. Code §65040.2, the city or county shall protect the confidentiality of the information concerning the specific identity, location, character, and use of places, features and objects described in Public Resources Code §5097.9 and §5097.993 that are within the city's or county's jurisdiction. (Gov. Code §65352.3 (b)).
4. **Conclusion of SB 18 Tribal Consultation:** Consultation should be concluded at the point in which:
 - a. The parties to the consultation come to a mutual agreement concerning the appropriate measures for preservation or mitigation; or
 - b. Either the local government or the tribe, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached concerning the appropriate measures of preservation or mitigation. (Tribal Consultation Guidelines, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (2005) at p. 18).

Agencies should be aware that neither AB 52 nor SB 18 precludes agencies from initiating tribal consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with their jurisdictions before the timeframes provided in AB 52 and SB 18. For that reason, we urge you to continue to request Native American Tribal Contact Lists and "Sacred Lands File" searches from the NAHC. The request forms can be found online at: <http://nahc.ca.gov/resources/forms/>.

NAHC Recommendations for Cultural Resources Assessments

To adequately assess the existence and significance of tribal cultural resources and plan for avoidance, preservation in place, or barring both, mitigation of project-related impacts to tribal cultural resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

1. Contact the appropriate regional California Historical Research Information System (CHRIS) Center (http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=1068) for an archaeological records search. The records search will determine:
 - a. If part or all of the APE has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
 - b. If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
 - c. If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
 - d. If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
2. If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
 - a. The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum and not be made available for public disclosure.
 - b. The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional CHRIS center.

3. Contact the NAHC for:
 - a. A Sacred Lands File search. Remember that tribes do not always record their sacred sites in the Sacred Lands File, nor are they required to do so. A Sacred Lands File search is not a substitute for consultation with tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the project's APE.
 - b. A Native American Tribal Consultation List of appropriate tribes for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in planning for avoidance, preservation in place, or, failing both, mitigation measures.

4. Remember that the lack of surface evidence of archaeological resources (including tribal cultural resources) does not preclude their subsurface existence.
 - a. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of inadvertently discovered archaeological resources per Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15064.5(f) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5(f)). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American with knowledge of cultural resources should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
 - b. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the disposition of recovered cultural items that are not burial associated in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.
 - c. Lead agencies should include in their mitigation and monitoring reporting program plans provisions for the treatment and disposition of inadvertently discovered Native American human remains. Health and Safety Code §7050.5, Public Resources Code §5097.98, and Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15064.5, subdivisions (d) and (e) (CEQA Guidelines §15064.5, subds. (d) and (e)) address the processes to be followed in the event of an inadvertent discovery of any Native American human remains and associated grave goods in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address:
Andrew.Green@nahc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Andrew Green
Cultural Resources Analyst

cc: State Clearinghouse

From: [Kristina Smith](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#); [Cannon, Chris](#)
Cc: [Joe Buscaino](#); [Ryan Ferguson](#); [Bezmalinovich, Augie](#); [Pat Nave](#); [Gwendolyn Henry](#); [Raymond Regalado](#); [Victor Christensen-NWSPNC](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Comments from the Northwest San Pedro NC
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 6:37:40 PM
Attachments: [Letter to Chris Cannon Re Comments on West Harbor Modification.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Dear Mr. Cannon:

Attached is a letter from the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council containing comments on the West Harbor Modification Project.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and the attachment.

Thank you.

Kristina Smith
Neighborhood Council Services
310-918-8650 cell

Ray Regalado, President
Chris Valle, Vice President
Melanie Labrecque, Treasurer
Victor Christensen, Secretary



Certified Neighborhood Council
Certification Date 02-12-02
NW San Pedro Neighborhood Council
638 S. Beacon Street, Box 688
San Pedro, CA 90731

TELEPHONE: (310) 918-8650 • WEBSITE: NWSanPedro.org • E-MAIL: BOARD@NWSanPedro.org

June 15, 2022

Chris Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
City of Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 S. Palos Verdes St.
San Pedro, CA. 90731

Sent Via Email: ceqacomment@portla.org; CCannon@portla.org

Re: West Harbor Modification

Dear Mr. Cannon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the West Harbor Modification. Below are recommendations for areas to research prior to any decisions.

Noise and Lighting:

We strongly recommend sonic testing under a variety of atmospheric conditions to determine the impact on the community of amphitheater concerts to be included the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report and that the applicant consult with the Neighborhood Councils in designing the tests.¹ The tests should include the impacts of temperature inversion on sound transmission.

It is anticipated that the increased light and noise pollution from this development may impact local wildlife, pets and residents. There is a special concern about the negative impact on marine life, nesting animals in the inner and outer harbor habitats, surrounding natural areas, wildlife facilities.² We recommend feasibility and impact analysis of firework alternatives: “low-noise” fireworks, choreographed LED drones, laser, fog, light shows.

¹ The local Neighborhood Councils all have stakeholders trained and experienced in sound engineering and are available to provide input on where sound test equipment could be placed.

² nps.history.com/publications/blm/california-coastal/seabird-mammal-mon-gpi-2007.pdf
www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3199162/ CCC approves SeaWorld drone show Feb 2020
<https://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2019/11/Th20d/Th20d-11-2019-exhibits.pdf>
<https://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2019/11/Th20d/Th20d-11-2019-report.pdf>

Venue:

Seek options to artificial turf in the open seating area. Turf surfaces have been connected to increased instances of heatstroke. High traffic decreases turf longevity and may include “forever chemicals” PFAS, and carcinogens.

Alternatives to decrease sun exposure, heat, in open seating sections:

- retractable / semi-permanent shade sail canopies.
- break up audience seating perimeter with open canopy trees, raised hardscape planters with built in seating.
- a back section esplanade which provides more natural cover (open canopy trees, shade sail canopies, hardscape raised planters which possibly double as seating) where reserved seating audience members can take young children for a stroll, or audience members can otherwise take a partially shaded, cool break from the structured seating area.
- water misting stations.

Transportation & Attendance:

Analyze the impact of additional traffic and needs for parking for the events and activities. The SEIR should describe how adequate security will be ensured both in the venue and the surrounding areas.

Biological Resources/Air & Water Quality:

The SEIR should address the additional trash and debris from the increase in visitors and activities and the impact on the biological resources and water quality. The SEIR should also include a plan to utilize recyclable and biodegradable materials to avoid pollution into Port waters including microplastics. There should be a plan to prevent debris from fireworks from going into the harbor.³ Fireworks create significant air pollution and introduce toxic chemicals into the environment.

The project should incorporate the principles of the “San Pedro Urban Greening Plan.”

³ information on environmental impact of coastal fireworks displays:
SAN FRANCISCO - <https://baykeeper.org/blog/do-fireworks-pollute-bay>
www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2019/12/31/festive-fireworks-create-harmful-pall-of-pollution

Additional Activity:

We suggest the Draft SEIR include an analysis of the impacts of people, vehicles, and vessels outside of the proposed concert venue gathering on City and Port lands and waters, and elsewhere, to listen to the proposed concerts. Concert attendance and tailgate parties will lead to additional trash, noise, potentially encourage unauthorized fireworks and cooking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Regalado". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R".

Ray Regalado, President
On Behalf of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council

cc: Councilman Joe Buscaino

This letter approved by the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board on 06/13/22.

From: [POP PaddleOutPlastic](#)
To: [Ceqacomments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:25:30 PM
Attachments: [Paddle Out Plastic Letter re scope and content of the information to be included in the SEIR for the West Harbor Modification Project.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Please find attached our comments on the scope and content of information to be included in the SEIR for the West Harbor Modification Project.

If you would, please be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of this email and the attached comment letter.

Eva Cicoria

Founder





PADDLE OUT

PLASTIC

PaddleOutPlastic@gmail.com

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Via email to: ceqacomments@portla.org

Re: West Harbor Modification Project

Mr. Cannon,

After more than a decade of finding and retrieving increasingly large amounts of plastic pollution while paddling in LA Harbor, and learning about its horrible impacts to birds, fish, turtles, and marine mammals, in 2019 we launched Paddle Out Plastic, a campaign to reduce plastic litter. We are paddling against a constant stream that, instead of abating, has been increasing, bringing more potential harm to wildlife, more to clean up later, and more that will never be cleaned up.



In 2021, by kayak and standup paddle board, Paddle Out Plastic paddlers retrieved over 70,000 pieces of plastic—much of it single-use foodware and food packaging—from LA Harbor waters, including in the main channel adjacent to the site of the West Harbor Project.

From our awareness of the abundant wildlife in the LA Harbor environs, we have concerns about the West Harbor Modification Project, the location of the planned 6,200 seat amphitheater straddling two water channels, and the winds that frequent the area. At 100 planned events per year, that makes more than 600,000 people using this space. With potentially another 100 or more leased events per year and public use as open park space, it is plausible that more than 1,000,000 people every year will be eating, drinking, celebrating, partying and more in this unique space wedged between two waterways that feed beaches, marinas, fishing piers, and other areas of public recreation, and that support dozens of species of aquatic mammals, birds, fish, and crustaceans, to name only a few. We have no doubt that, without significant efforts from the construction through operational phases of the Project to minimize the materials that frequently become litter, we will see a significant increase in the litter reaching Harbor waters as a result of the Project. We have no doubt that without attention to and limitations on other design elements of the Project, other water pollution from trash and runoff, as well as air, light and noise pollution will increase in LA Harbor as a result of the Project, all of which could reasonably be expected to adversely impact people and wildlife through the type of pollution and the sheer volume.

We believe that the Project has positive potential for the community. Not only can it be designed to minimize the adverse environmental impacts, but it can educate by example the ways we can enjoy the outdoors around us while being good stewards. Generally, our design recommendations are:

- Reuse and waste-free systems required across the board (concerts, conferences, conventions, other events, restaurants, concessionaires, food trucks, operations and maintenance contractors and suppliers, and related businesses) to reduce waste in general, and reduce waste reaching the water.
 - Reusable container systems paired with drink and snack food dispensers in lieu of selling single-use bottled beverages and chips, cookies, candies, and condiments in single-use food wrappers.
 - Water refill stations.
- Restrictions on the types of businesses operating in the Project area to minimize cheap, single-use, short-term enjoyment, quick disposal items.
- Prohibition on single-use products, including single-use plastic foodware and other items likely to become use-and-toss items.
- Prohibition on expanded polystyrene as foodware or otherwise.
- Prohibition on balloons, confetti, cigarettes, or other uses intended or likely to release foreign material into air and/or water.
- Prohibition on pyrotechnics.

- Prohibition on synthetic turf.
- Restrooms with hand dryers, not paper towels.
- Decibel level limits on all activity and use of sound absorbent materials.
- Lighting limitations, such as directional and shielded lighting, to limit light pollution outside of the Project area.

The Initial Study/Notice of Preparation acknowledges a number of aspects of the Project that will likely create significant impacts. The Project would occupy a unique site for the type of venue and the size of the venue proposed, yet by and large the design doesn't appear to take that into account. The SEIR should evaluate each and every aspect of the proposed Project's potentially significant environmental impacts on a direct, indirect, and cumulative basis, with specific attention to the unique location straddling LA Harbor waters, an area characterized by frequent high winds, an area already suffering from poor air and water quality, and an area rich with avian and marine life which the Port of LA, by its own admission, is charged with protecting. The scale of the Project introduces another layer of concern, since impacts will be many multiples of a smaller amphitheater. And, of course, the SEIR should also identify alternatives, such as those identified above, that may lessen one or more potentially significant impacts associated with the proposed Project.

In addition to the foregoing, some comments on specific aspects of the NOP that should be addressed in the SEIR are:

Aesthetics: The NOP acknowledges that the Project will create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area, but there is no mention of the new source of trash that will adversely impact views of the water. The NOP mentions that trash will be collected, but we have seen that trash collection is not adequate to protect the water from the flood of trash now, so there's no reason to believe that will be sufficient to address the problem when 1,000,000 people a year are generating waste on site. Increases in trash, of course affect aesthetics and thereby the recreational experience directly, but in addition, to the extent that wildlife flee the area as a result of the Project's impacts, the public's recreational experiences in the vicinity will be significantly less rich.

Biological Resources: The SEIR should evaluate each and every aspect of the proposed project with attention to the whole host of species potentially impacted, not just on the site itself, but anywhere in the vicinity where science tells us the impacts could be adverse to the particular species. These impacts include sound, light, air pollutants, and water pollutants.

Among other concerns, in the area immediately across the Main Channel from the Project site, between the shuttered Southwest Marine site and the Coast Guard station, our paddlers routinely see sea lions, including mothers and pups, climbing over the riprap.



Photo courtesy of Laura Raab

Noise: The NOP indicates that noise from the sound system, audiences attending the events, and fireworks could propagate into the surrounding community and be audible to nearby species, such as marine mammals in the channel and endangered California least terns (*Sternula antillarum*) at the Pier 400 Nesting site. Depending upon decibel levels, the sound from concerts may have impacts beyond the area described. Pyrotechnics certainly would. The sound from the Port carries all the way up the east side of the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The Love Boat horn can be heard from miles away when the cruise ships are in port.

Noise levels from all sources, including the amplified sound system and pyrotechnics, should be evaluated on a species-specific basis. The amphitheater plans position it to direct sound out over the water instead of toward people on land, but at the expense of potential wildlife impacts.

It is established fact that noise disrupts wildlife behavior, covering up natural sounds, impeding communication, and possibly elevating stress levels. What does science tell us are the appropriate decibel levels for music played in the vicinity of these species, directed straight at them? What are the potential impacts to gray whales migrating through? What are the potential impacts to the sea lions that live here? What are the potential impacts to the herons that nest nearby?

Light: The SEIR should evaluate the potential impacts of pyrotechnics lighting up the sky as well as lighting generally on species, particularly birds, nearby, and not just the impacts of the Tower Attraction and the potential for perching and nesting there.

Air: The SEIR must evaluate the air and water pollution impacts from pyrotechnics on the various species in LA Harbor. Pyrotechnics release toxic gases and particles, including heavy metals, that can be inhaled by wildlife and people.

The NOP indicates there are no known wildlife migration corridors at the Project site, but what about the surrounding area? What does science tell us about the distance these various factors could be adversely impactful? And are we only going to be concerned with endangered species, rather than the well-being of the wildlife generally whose habitat is proximal enough to be impacted?

The NOP indicates that if construction is to occur between February 15 and September 1, a qualified biologist will conduct surveys for the presence of species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, such as black-crowned night herons, and blue herons within Berth 78-Ports O'Call or other appropriate and known locations within the study area that contain potential nesting bird habitat, but what about post-construction?

Hydrology/Water Quality: As mentioned above, pyrotechnics are likely to create water pollution. Moreover, the huge amounts of trash that would be generated without severe restrictions will lead to a significant increase in the litter load hitting the water.

Per the NOP, Port permit conditions would require the provision of “adequate” onsite waste collection, contained trash enclosures, cleanup after each event, and minimization of waste from concessions through compliance with city ordinances for single-use items and food recycling. Apparently, the Port of LA currently operates under conditions of what is believed to be “adequate” onsite waste collection. We take issue with that standard. Here are a few photos from this past weekend, June 11, 2022, in areas along the Main Channel, near where the Project would be sited.





How much will the Project add? What about the wind, which is and will continue to be an everyday event in the Harbor, sending bags, food wrappers, cups, lids, souvenir wrappers, and other packaging flying, including during amphitheater events? What about broken shards and fragments that remain behind to be blown or washed off by weather or cleaning methods?

The NOP indicates that operation of the Project would comply with LA's Green New Deal Sustainable City pLAN, which includes the phase out of certain single-use plastics by 2028. What will be substituted?

As mentioned above, why not make this area a model of sustainability with fully-reusable food service ware, and snack and drink services that rely on reusable containers and associated dispensing systems? We are aware of several companies operating in the reuse space that would have the capacity to service a venue such as that imagined at West Harbor. Companies like Re:Dish and r.Cup/r.Ware, supply inventory which is used in lieu of packaged, single-use foodware, then they pick it up, wash and sanitize it, and return it for reuse. Short of such a plan for across-the-board reusables, we would expect to see a significant increase in litter hitting LA Harbor and we expect the site to be a substantial source of polluting runoff.

Expanded polystyrene and other single-use plastic, including plastic bags (even if dubbed "reusable"), plastic bottles, foam foodware, plastic cups, lids, straws, cutlery and plastic wrappers for same, clamshells, bowls, plates, condiment containers and packets, and chip and other snack wrappers are all concerns, because we find so much of them littering the water. Plastic trash can liners and large sheets of flimsy plastic packaging also make their way into Harbor waters regularly. In 2021 alone, Paddle Out Plastic paddlers retrieved from LA Harbor waters

- Over 70,000 pieces of plastic. This included 10,444 food wrappers. LA's Green New Deal does not address these items. The Project must.
- 23,140 pieces of polystyrene foam. There should be an absolute prohibition on the sale and use of foam foodware, packaging, coolers, and the like.
- 5,049 plastic lids, including 3,488 plastic bottle caps.
- 2,460 plastic straws, 2,563 plastic bags, 2,920 plastic bottles and containers, 4,705 plastic non-food product wrappers (which includes things like cigarillo wrappers and cutlery wrappers) and 188 balloons.
- 8,124 unidentifiable soft plastic/film pieces and 5,665 unidentifiable hard plastic pieces.

Many of these items may not be addressed in LA City's future ordinances, but again, the location of this venue directly over the water necessitates greater restrictions on plastic use and sale in all these categories.

Hazardous Materials: The NOP indicates that there will be no release of hazardous materials into the environment, yet the items above, including pyrotechnics, artificial turf, and plastic pieces, become hazardous to marine life.

The choice of artificial turf should be evaluated for its hazardous impacts to people in the form of fumes. In addition, the artificial turf will continually slough off microplastics, including as a consequence of installing and uninstalling seating atop it, and power washing will send microplastics to the sea, potentially impacting wildlife. We would also expect the artificial turf to have a short lifespan, continually needing to be replaced, creating tons of plastic waste repeatedly. The SEIR should also consider whether hosing down the plastic turf is 1) any less water intensive than watering grass, and 2) permissible under drought-condition water restrictions.

Mitigation: We refer you to our list of design recommendations set forth at the beginning of these comments.

This could be a dream of a project: both an opportunity for the community to enjoy music in a special setting on the water and an opportunity to model methods and use of materials that minimize harm to air, land, water, and wildlife, not to mention people. There is no more effective educational tool than modeling the desired behavior. Or, it could be a nightmare for the community and the wildlife in the vicinity due to anticipated noise, litter and other issues raised above, if these topics aren't properly addressed and the potential impacts properly mitigated.

Respectfully,
Eva Cicoria and Ken Swenson
Founders



Others who wish to express support for the foregoing comments:



Amber Becerra, President/CEO Marine Mammal Care Center

Cheryl Auger, President, Ban SUP (Single Use Plastic)

Laura Raab, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Jennifer Marquez, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

James Kao, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Gina Lumbruno, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Kathryn Chen, MD, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Elizabeth Sala, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Debbie Letwin, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Heather White, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Bree Swenson, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Dani Swenson, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Gwen Severace, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Kim Kromas, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Nanci Morris, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Frank Atkin, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Darleen Stoker, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

John Royce, Paddle Out Plastic paddler

Shera Dolmatz

Judy Herman

Emma Rault

Kevin Sala

Peter Morris

Pamela Streeter

Steven Unger

From: [Ginetta Giovinco](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Comments on NOP/IS for West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:54:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Save our Open Space -- Comments on West Harbor Project NOP IS.PDF](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Please find attached comments on the Notice of Preparation and Initial Study for the West Harbor Modification Project.

Please confirm receipt of the comments.

Thank you.

Ginetta L. Giovinco

Attorney



RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON

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June 15, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL (CEQACOMMENTS@PORTLA.ORG)

Christopher Cannon, Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Re: **West Harbor Modification Project – Comments on Initial Study/Notice of Preparation of Supplemental Environmental Impact Report**

Dear Mr. Cannon:

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), Public Resources Code section 21000 *et seq.*, and in response to the Notice of Preparation (“NOP”) of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (“SEIR”) to the San Pedro Waterfront Project Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) for the West Harbor Modification Project (“Project”) that the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (“Harbor Department”) issued on April 14, 2022¹, we provide the following scoping comments on behalf of our client, Save Our Open Space, an unincorporated association.

As stated in the Initial Study (“IS”) accompanying the NOP, the Project would include a 6,200-seat outdoor amphitheater (in place of the 500-seat outdoor amphitheater previously analyzed and approved) on approximately 108,000 square feet. (IS, pp. 2-3 through 2-4.) The amphitheater would include an approximately 35,000-square foot stage, backstage, and box office area; an approximately 22,000-square foot space for concessions and restrooms; a 40-foot tall, 10,000-square foot bandshell; six, 30-foot tall speaker and stage lighting pylon structures, and 35-foot high video screens flanking both sides of the stage. (IS, pp. 2-5 through 2.6.) The amphitheater would host approximately 100 paid concert and major events per year, generally from April through November. (IS, p. 2-6.) Concerts would typically start between 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. and would last approximately three hours (thus, potentially to 11:00 p.m.). (IS, p. 2-12.) Fireworks would be launched from a barge at approximately 25 events per year, lasting up to 10 minutes each time. (IS, p. 2-12.) The amphitheater and entertainment lawn also would host an unspecified number of smaller, local community, and sponsored events year-round. (IS, p. 2-6.)

¹ On or about May 2, 2022, the Harbor Department extended the comment period on the NOP from May 16, 2022, through and including June 15, 2022. Save Our Open Space’s comments are therefore timely.

In addition, the Project would replace a 100-foot diameter Ferris wheel with a tower attraction/observation deck approximately 150-feet tall and 50-feet wide. (IS, p. 2-4.) This would occur in the area previously described as the Discovery Sea Amusement Area. (IS, p. 2-5.)

I. The Draft SEIR Must Contain a Complete and Accurate Project Description

For 45 years, it has been well-established that “[a]n accurate, stable and finite project description is the *sine qua non* of an informative and legally sufficient EIR.” *County of Inyo v. City of Los Angeles* (1977) 71 Cal.App.3d 185.

The IS specifies that the Project site would host approximately 100 paid events annually, but then states that the location “also could be used for community, charity, and sponsored events, which could be held year-round.” (IS, p. 2-12.) How many additional events will this be, and up to what capacity? Absent this information, it is impossible to know if the Project site will host 10 events of up to 50 people or an additional 100 events with 5,000 people each. Additional information about the number, size, and expected duration of these additional events is critical to an accurate assessment of the Project’s potential environmental impacts in all respects.

Next, the IS states that to accommodate the 6,200-seat amphitheater, the Project would use parking previously designated for the San Pedro Public Market project and that “[o]ther parking lots within the Port area may be used on certain days when events occur at the amphitheater.” (IS, p. 2-5.) The Draft SEIR should disclose where those parking lots are located, their current use and availability to meet the Project’s anticipated demand, and the proposed routes to access them. Absent this information, it will not be possible for the Draft SEIR to fully analyze, as is required, potential secondary environmental impacts from the significant number of vehicles anticipated to travel to the Project site for events. Given that the 2016 and 2019 Addenda to the EIR anticipated a need for only 1,909 parking spaces (IS, p. 2-5), it appears that a significant number of additional, off-site parking spaces will be required, thus raising the potential for adverse secondary environmental impacts.

The Project Description section also states that fireworks may be launched from a barge in the channel, with approximately 25 events per year and that “[e]ach event would undergo appropriate permitting from the U.S. Coast Guard, as necessary.” (IS, p. 2-12.) What permits would be required? Are permits for these fireworks required from other government agencies as well, such as the South Coast Air Quality Management District or the Regional Water Quality Control Board? The Draft SEIR must list all discretionary project approvals needed for the Project. Critically, the IS does not even list the U.S. Coast Guard on the list of anticipated project approvals and permits, thus calling into question the accuracy of the Project description and its necessary entitlements. (IS, pp. 3-1; 4-2.)

Similarly, the IS states that a Harbor Engineer Permit, Coastal Development Permit, or Coastal Development Permit amendment could be required “(as necessary).” (IS, pp. 3-1; 4-2.) What will

this depend on, and when will it be determined? It is obviously concerning if it is not yet clear what discretionary entitlements are necessary for the Project, suggesting that the Project is neither stable or finite.

With respect to construction, will construction of the tower attraction, which is expected to take two to six months, occur concurrently with other construction? If so, combined construction impacts must be analyzed.

II. The Project Has Been Piecemealed

Under CEQA, a “project” means “the whole of an action, which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.” (CEQA Guidelines § 15378(a).) An entire project includes all interdependent components and facilities related to the proposed development. (*Communities for a Better Env’t v. City of Richmond* (2010) 184 Cal.App.4th 70, 101.) Piecemealing or segmentation of a project by splitting it into smaller pieces to avoid review is not permitted under CEQA. (See, e.g., *Laurel Heights Improvement Association v Regents of University of California* (1988) 47 Cal. 3d 376.)

Recent news articles² have disclosed that a portion of the Project is proceeding now, with construction anticipated to begin shortly. This is clearly connected both geographically and in purpose to the overall Project, and in fact the amphitheater portion of the Project is expressly mentioned in articles. Yet, it appears that the Draft SEIR does not intend to analyze impacts of the entirety of the Project, including construction-related impacts and vehicle trips. The Draft EIR must include this analysis in order to avoid the potential of significant environmental impacts escaping review and scrutiny.

III. The Draft SEIR Must Analyze the Following Project Impacts

The IS must analyze impacts in the following areas and potential impacts, several of which are not currently proposed in the IS to be studied.

A. Impacts to Aesthetics

The IS states that the Project will comply with San Pedro Waterfront and Promenade Design Guidelines (Port of Los Angeles 2014), which provide that the maximum building height should comply with the City of Los Angeles Zoning Ordinance but if approved by the Port, buildings can exceed this height through a variance. (IS, p. 4-6.) What is the applicable maximum building height and does the Project comply with it, or will the Project be seeking a variance? The Draft SEIR should include additional information to support the conclusion of a less than significant impact regarding Section I.c.

² <https://abc7.com/san-pedro-la-waterfront-south-bay-stores/11870082/>

Section I.d, regarding new sources of light and glare, states that the Project could create a new source of substantial light or glare due to lighting and screens being used during concert events. (IS, p. 4-7.) This fails to take into consideration a potential new source of light and glare from the tower feature, which includes a “balloon-like lit feature” that would “remain visible throughout the duration of the attraction’s ascent and descent” and “would have integrated light-emitting diode (LED) lighting.” (IS, p. 2-12.) The Draft SEIR should analyze the potential light and glare impacts caused by the tower feature as well.

B. Impacts to Air Quality

The IS discloses that the Project could result in increased emissions of criteria air pollutants, could result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in a criteria pollutant for which the region is a nonattainment area under federal or state standards, and could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, all due to possible higher trip generation and additional vehicle traffic during concert events. (IS, p. 4-11.) While true, this entirely fails to address the potential air quality impacts caused by the proposed fireworks displays. As the South Coast Air Quality Management District found in 2020:

Fireworks are known to emit high levels of particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) as well as metal air pollutants, all of which can contribute to negative health effects. Breathing fine particulate matter can lead to a wide variety of cardiovascular and respiratory health effects such as heart attacks, asthma aggravation, decreased lung function, coughing, or difficulty breathing and may lead to premature death in people with heart or lung disease.³

And, at least one study has determined that fireworks shows can produce significant negative effects that last for quite some time, finding in the area studied that peak levels of particulate matter were substantially higher after the fireworks display than before; there was a large spike in potassium levels from the black powder used as a propellant in fireworks, which lingered until the next morning; and there was an increase in other substances including organics, nitrate, and sulfate in the hours following the display.⁴ On the whole, it was estimated that emissions during that fireworks show were about 10 times higher than the hourly emissions rate from vehicles in the area.⁵

The Draft SEIR must consider the air quality and health risk impacts of the fireworks shows not only on the approximately 6,200 attendees at the amphitheater but on nearby sensitive receptors. This is particularly critical given that the IS acknowledges that steep bluffs are present

³ <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/publications/aug-sept-2020/4th-of-july-fireworks>

⁴ <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/acsearthspacechem.9b00046>

⁵ *Ibid.*

to the northwest of the Project site, and residences are located only 1,450 feet west of the Project site. (IS, p. 2-1.)

Furthermore, the IS fails to discuss any potential air quality impacts resulting from the “terraced artificial lawn” that will be installed in the amphitheater area. (IS, p. 2-3.) Will there be off-gassing from the artificial lawn, and what will those air quality and health risk impacts be?

C. Impacts to Biological Resources

The IS states that the Draft SEIR will consider impacts to marine mammals in the channel and to endangered least terns at the Pier 400 Nesting site, all of which could be adversely impacted by loud noises created by the Project. (IS, p. 4-14.) This fails to account for potential adverse impacts to these species from trash and debris entering into the water, be it debris from event attendees (food, plastic, trash), confetti blown into the water, or remnants from the 25-annual fireworks displays that will take place from a barge located in the channel. As stated (page ES-25) in the 2018 Biological Survey that the Port of Los Angeles produced, “For the second survey in a row, a pollution-sensitive infaunal species was the most abundant species collected in sediments within the Port Complex, an indication of good sediment quality.”⁶ How will the Project affect this? The Draft SEIR should analyze these potential adverse impacts to biological resources in this regard.

In addition, are there additional sensitive biological resources under the channel that will be impacted by the Project as well? The Draft SEIR should address the interplay between the Project and the conclusions of the Port’s comprehensive biological surveys.

D. Energy Impacts

The IS states that the Project will have a less than significant impact related to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. (IS, p. 4-17.) The IS further states that the Project would annually consume an estimated 393,879 gallons of fuel. (IS, p. 4-17.) Does this account for vehicle trips generated not only by the Project’s 100 annual concerts and events but all of the smaller events during the year as well? What is the source of the annual fuel gallons estimate? And, what threshold of significance was used to conclude that this would result in a less than significant impact? It is not clear why “overall sales [of fuels] in the county” (IS, p. 4-18) was the point of comparison. The Draft EIR should further analyze this issue.

⁶ <https://www.portoflosangeles.org/getmedia/7f280e7a-f6cc-44f4-bfe5-2191961be20a/2018-Biological-Surveys-POLA-POLB>

E. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impacts

It is unclear how the IS can conclude that the Project will result in a less than significant impact with respect to conflicts with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing emissions of greenhouse gases while simultaneously concluding that the Project has the potential to generate greenhouse gas emissions that may have a significant effect on the environment. (IS, p. 4-23.)

To the extent that the Project's anticipated greenhouse gas emissions will be generated in large part by mobile sources, the Draft SEIR should analyze the Project's consistency with the 2020–2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments as well as the City's own plans (noted on page 4-24 of the IS). It is not enough for the IS to discuss unknowns related to the overall *Port's* generation of greenhouse gases (including fuel types for ships and advances in cargo movement efficiencies, both on page 4-25 of the IS) and claim that information is too speculative to support further analysis, because these factors are simply irrelevant to the *Project's* generation of greenhouse gases. The Project's largest source of greenhouse gases is likely known – vehicle trips – and consistency, or lack of consistency, with applicable plans must be analyzed in the Draft SEIR.

F. Impacts to Hydrology and Water Quality

While the IS states that “care would be taken to direct the spray away from the main channel” and “debris would be cleaned up after each event to prevent debris from entering the storm drain system and ocean” (IS, p. 2-12), this does not take into account the effect of wind blowing the debris into the channel before events end and clean-up occurs. If concerts are anticipated to last three hours (IS, p. 2-12), how will debris (including food wrappers, plastic, and paper) be contained so that it does not enter into the channel and affect water quality during that time? The IS fails to answer these questions, simply asserting that standard best management practices would “ensure trash is picked up and the entire site would be cleaned after each event to minimize mobilization of pollutants from concert events” and concluding that impacts to water quality standards would be less than significant. (IS, p. 4-30.) The Draft SEIR should include an analysis of the potential adverse impacts to water quality caused by the Project.

The IS also discloses that *where possible*, the Project will use biodegradable confetti during events. (IS, p. 2-12.) Is this anticipated to occur during all concerts and events, such that confetti will be dispersed at least 100 times per year?

G. Land Use and Planning Impacts

The IS does not propose to analyze any potential conflicts with land use plans, policies, or regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect, concluding that the Project will have “no impact” at all in this regard. (IS, p. 4-34.) As explained

earlier in the IS, a “‘No Impact’ answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved....” (IS, p. 4-4.) That is not the case here. It is insufficient for the IS to conclude that the Project does not have even the possibility to conflict with relevant land use plans or policies simply because the Port Master Plan has a designation of Visitor-Serving Commercial and the Project will include those uses. (IS, p. 4-34.)

The Port Master Plan includes several policies plainly designed to avoid or mitigate environmental effects, including Policies 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4 (all related to land use and consistency with California Coastal Act sections 30250, 30255, 30701, and 30220) and Policies 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 (all related to development and consistency with Coastal Act sections 30707, 30708, 30211, 30212, 30212.5, and 30223). The Draft SEIR must include an analysis of the Project’s consistency with these Policies, including because the IS has disclosed that the Project may require a Coastal Development Permit.

Furthermore, the fact that the Project is consistent with the General Plan’s land use designation does not mean that the Project necessarily is consistent with policies, goals, and objectives within the General Plan adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental impact. The Draft SEIR should include a detailed analysis of these issues.

Finally, as we noted in a February 15, 2022 letter to the Port, by way of a November 18, 2021 letter addressed to State Lands Commission staff from Michael Galvin, Director of Waterfront and Commercial Real Estate for the Port (and produced to us in response to a Public Records Act request), the Port has requested that SLC “confirm consistency of Phase 1 of the West Harbor Project with the California Public Trust Doctrine.” If confirmation of consistency with the California Public Trust Doctrine was important enough to make this request regarding Phase 1 of the Project, how is it so inconsequential as to now be entirely ignored for purposes of environmental review for the amphitheater and the remainder of the Project? The Draft SEIR should consider whether and how the Project is consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine and the environmental concerns underpinning the Doctrine.

H. Noise Impacts

Fireworks are anticipated to occur at 25 events per year. (IS, p. 2-12.) Would fireworks be launched at the end of events, and therefore at approximately 11:00 p.m.? What will the noise impacts be on nearby sensitive receptors from a 10-minute fireworks show occurring late in the evening? The IS does not state that the SEIR will consider noise from fireworks in any respect, asserting only that it will analyze noise impacts from the Project’s amplified sound system and audience noise. (IS, p. 4-36.) The Draft SEIR should provide a detailed analysis of noise impacts related to the fireworks events.

The Project Description section of the IS states that clean-up of trash will occur after each event. (IS, p. 2-12.) Given that the 100 paid events are anticipated to start as late as 8:00 p.m. and last approximately three hours (IS, p. 2-12), that means clean-up activities will not start until at least 11:00 p.m. What will the noise impacts of these clean-up activities be on nearby sensitive receptors, including the residences located approximately 1,450 feet away and those on the bluffs up above?

I. Impacts to Water Supplies

The IS states, in summary fashion, that the Project will not result in a significant water demand in comparison to overall water use in the City of Los Angeles as a whole. (IS, pp. 4-47 and 4-48.) This basis of comparison is unsupported, particularly where the amount of water used will be required to serve patrons of a 6,200 seat amphitheater, and in light of the drought-related restrictions recently imposed in Southern California.⁷ The Draft SEIR should include a proper analysis of water supply impacts rather than resting on a cursory conclusion that “[c]urrent water supplies are expected to be sufficient even in dry years” (IS, p. 4-48), offered without any supporting data.

III. Request for Notices Regarding Project and SEIR

We request to be placed on the Harbor Department’s public notification list for all notices, documents, and public hearings related to the Project.

We look forward to the opportunity to review the Draft SEIR and to provide further comments at that time.

Very truly yours,



Ginetta L. Giovinco

⁷ <https://www.mwdh2o.com/press-releases/metropolitan-cuts-outdoor-watering-to-one-day-a-week-for-six-million-southern-californians/>



Palos Verdes- South Bay Group / Angeles Chapter

June 9, 2022

Sierra Club Angeles Chapter, Palos Verdes-South Bay Regional Group
WEST HARBOR MODIFICATION PROJECT COMMENT LETTER
Via Email to ceqacomment@portla.org

Christopher Cannon, Director of Environmental Management
Los Angeles Harbor Department
425 South Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Re.: West Harbor Modification Project
APP#190529-080
SCH No: 2005061041

The Palos Verdes-South Bay Group of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter has comments as follows on LAHD's "West Harbor Modification Project Initial Study/Notice of Preparation" dated April 2022:

The Sierra Club agrees with LAHD's determination that a Supplemental EIR (SEIR) should be prepared to address the potentially significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed changes to the San Pedro Waterfront and Public Market projects. While several aspects of the proposed changes appear problematic, it is the Club's hope that appropriate environmental review will result in the incorporation of needed design and use changes by which these projects can serve as exemplary public waterfront developments.

Several aspects of the projects give rise to serious concerns which will hopefully be addressed by the SEIR, and which will result in significant changes to the overall design. These concerns are addressed in turn below.

1. First, the Sierra Club opposes the use of synthetic turf in the proposed amphitheater seating and other areas. The numerous environmental harms associated with such surfaces have grown increasingly evident in recent years, and an exhaustive review of them will not be included in this letter.

However, we must mention that such surfaces are typically made of polyethylene compounds which will with time leach significant amounts of microplastics into surrounding waterways, an environmental harm that should be analyzed at length in the SEIR.

We must also mention the growing body of evidence demonstrating the creation of heat islands, decreases in avian wildlife populations, maintenance problems, and the release of toxic substances (including PFAS, toxic metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and phthalates), all resulting from the use of artificial turf facilities. The extreme difficulty of recycling mixed-plastic things like artificial turf means that it would almost certainly be disposed of in a landfill when it is worn out.

The Sierra Club hopes that your anticipated evaluations of the environmental impacts (Biological Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Air Quality) associated with these projects will result in a thorough review of the harmful effects posed by the use of artificial turf. We further hope that such evaluations will result in the elimination of such turf from the project design at the outset.

2. The biological and other effects of balloons and confetti need to be analyzed. We suggest a few:

Balloons will inevitably blow away. If they fall into the water, they can entangle or be ingested by birds and mammals. If they drift beyond the harbor, they will still be plastic waste on the ground, likely to be washed into storm drains and into the ocean. Metallized balloons are also a danger to power lines, with risk of fires and power outages. Lastly, there is a shortage of helium, so it is a waste of a scarce resource to be filling balloons with it. Hydrogen is another lighter-than-air gas which is used in some weather balloons, but is so flammable that it would be too dangerous to use in an urban area.

Inevitably, some confetti will end up in the water.

If ingested by animals, it would probably cause digestion problems. If biodegradable confetti fell into the water, the biodegradation would consume dissolved oxygen in the water, potentially leading to anaerobic zones in the harbor.

The only certain way to eliminate these environmental effects of balloons and confetti is not to allow their use.

3. The use of the facility as an entertainment and recreation venue will inevitably lead to the sales and use of large amounts of "fast food" and beverages, as well as souvenirs and other memorabilia. Such consumption could lead to disposal of large amounts of plastic and polystyrene waste, including containers, bags, bottles, plates, bowls, clamshells, cups, cutlery, straws, wrappers and other single-use packages.

While it may be assumed that such waste would be collected and disposed of by regular garbage haulers, the Sierra Club submits that common sense experience tells us that, despite best efforts, large amounts of this waste will inevitably end up in the waterways adjoining most of the projects' area. This is especially the case in windy areas such as at hand.

Thus the Sierra Club urges that LAHD take an enlightened and forward-looking approach to the development of these projects by requiring that all food containers and other product packaging be reusable and free of plastics. In particular, no polystyrene foam should be allowed.

4. The SEIR should evaluate the benefit of installing water bottle refill stations. As well as reducing unnecessary waste and cleaning of beverage containers, this is an equity issue that would allow all people to stay hydrated at the outdoor venue without the stress of paying for expensive beverages.

5. Los Angeles City departments are now developing an ordinance (after a vote of the City Council) requiring that all new buildings be all-electric. Meeting that requirement would reduce the GHG impact of this project.

Public transit with electric vehicles would reduce traffic, noise, air pollution, and GHG emissions, as well as making the facility accessible for those without cars.

The SEIR should evaluate the environmental benefit of having chargers for electric vehicles parking lots. In particular, it should evaluate the environmental benefit of charging during the day when solar power reduces the greenhouse gas intensity of electric power to a minimum.

6. The Sierra Club is also concerned that the projects' amplified sound system, pyrotechnics, and lighting displays could each or all have a substantial adverse impact on local wildlife populations, and we ask that your evaluation include a strong focus on such impacts.

As your checklist indicates, the projects pose potentially significant impacts on all relevant air quality criteria; they further pose a significant risk of "substantial adverse impact" on the habitats of nearby species, including birds and marine mammals. We would hope that your evaluation of these adverse impacts will result in very sharp limitations on allowable noise from the amplification system.

7. Also, and as we believe you are aware, the use of pyrotechnics creates a toxic fog of fine particles, poisonous aerosols and heavy metals which accumulate in the environment. Moreover, the noise and light generated by such displays can lead to life-threatening injuries to pets and wildlife. For these reasons, we urge that your evaluation consider prohibiting the use of pyrotechnics.

8. Planting trees would not just provide shade, but also help reach the carbon negative goal you mentioned during the scoping meeting.

9. The SEIR should evaluate the environmental benefit of landscape maintenance without using pesticides, which pollute the water, and harm insects including bees and butterflies.

10. Another action we recommend is placing microfiber filtration on all laundry machines used on premises. Any materials made with polyester can leach microplastics into the ocean with every wash and these filters are an easy fix to catch and prevent pollution in our waterways.

11. Because of the project area's proximity to the water, like LA County beaches which are smoke-free, for public health and to reduce plastic pollution, smoking and vaping should be banned in the project area. More cigarette butts have been counted in beach cleanups than any other litter item. They are single-use plastics that contain chemicals that can kill wildlife. Unfortunately, plastic disposable liquid cartridges of e-cigarettes have made the plastic problem much worse.

The Sierra Club applauds LAHD's apparent willingness to review the various factors enumerated in the April 2022 NOP, and looks forward to a candid analysis in the SEIR of the significant impacts posed by the projects. The Club respectfully submits that a fair evaluation of the impacts will result in the implementation of such changes as are enumerated above.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

/s
Alfred Sattler
Chair, Executive Committee
Palos Verdes-South Bay Group, Angeles Chapter
Sierra Club

From: [Anna Christensen](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: Consequences of proposed fireworks shows at West Harbor
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 9:53:32 PM

CAUTION: External email.

To Port of LA

Re: EIR for West Harbor

From: LCWTF, Co-Chair, Anna Christensen

Sierra Club's Los Cerritos Wetlands Task Force opposes fireworks shows, especially over or near coastal waters and/or in areas where coastal birds are known to roost and nest. We have found a decline in coastal bird population where fireworks shows and/or other loud events regularly occur. We recommend that the West Harbor project not allow fireworks shows but consider drone light shows instead. These produce great visual effects without explosions, polluting chemicals, or trash.

When completing the draft EIR for the West Harbor project/Amphitheater, the Port of LA must consider the significant impacts of the proposed (nightly???) fireworks shows on air and water quality, the marine ecosystem, coastal birds, and public health. CA Regional Water Quality Control Boards are increasingly concerned about the impact of fireworks on coastal waters. San Francisco and San Diego Area Boards are requiring NPDES permits for fireworks shows due to the amount of toxic chemicals and debris released. The LA Regional Water Board is currently investigating the impacts of fireworks on waters under its jurisdiction. Because the Big Bang on the Bay Fireworks show is suspected of discharging pollutants the following order has been issued. The Port should consider the probability that fireworks shows in San Pedro harbor will also be scrutinized by the LA Regional Water Board.

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

June 13, 2022

CALIFORNIA WATER CODE § 13267 ORDER NO. R4-2022-0213 TO PROVIDE RELEVANT INFORMATION ON WATER QUALITY IMPACTS OF FIREWORKS OPERATION FOR THE BOATHOUSE ON THE BAY, BIG BANG ON THE BAY, ALAMITOS BAY, LONG BEACH, CA.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) is the public agency with primary responsibility for the protection of surface water quality within major portions of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including the referenced site.

As part of our effort to protect water quality, pursuant to California Water Code (CWC) § 13267, the Los Angeles Water Board is investigating potential water quality impacts from the Bing Bang on the Bay fireworks display in the City of Long Beach. The Los Angeles Water Board requires the information as set forth in the attached order to evaluate any potential water quality impacts. A Water Sampling Plan and Best Management Practices Plan are due to the Los Angeles Water Board no later than June 22, 2022, and the Alternative Study Report is due no later than December 1, 2022.

ORDER NO. R4-2022-0213 TO PROVIDE A TECHNICAL OR MONITORING REPORT ON "BIG BANG ON THE BAY" FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT ALAMITOS BAY AND

THE PACIFIC OCEAN CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13267
DIRECTED TO THE BOATHOUSE ON THE BAY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) makes the following findings and issues this Order pursuant to California Water Code section 13267.

1. The Boathouse on the Bay (BHOTB) operates a restaurant located at 190 North Marina Drive in the City of Long Beach. The BHOTB's property is located on a portion of Alamitos Bay Landing, which is bordered by Alamitos Bay at its

western side and the Pacific Ocean at its southern side. Alamitos Bay and the Pacific Ocean are surface waters of the United States. BHOTB organizes an annual "Big Bang on the Bay!" fireworks display over Alamitos Bay to celebrate Independence Day. This year, the fireworks display is scheduled to occur on July 3, 2022, starting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

2. California Water Code section 13267 specifies, in part:

(a) A regional board, in establishing or reviewing any water quality control plan or waste discharge requirements, or in connection with any action relating to any plan or requirements authorized by this division, may investigate the quality of any waters of the state within its region.

(b) In conducting an investigation specified in subdivision (a), the regional board may require that any person who has discharged, discharges, or is suspected of having discharged or discharging, or who proposes to discharge waste within its region....shall furnish, under penalty of perjury, technical or monitoring program reports which the regional board requires. The burden, including costs, of these reports shall bear a reasonable relationship to the need for the report and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. In requiring those reports, the regional board shall provide the person with a written explanation with regard to the need for the reports and shall identify the evidence that supports requiring that person to provide the reports.

3. The Los Angeles Water Board is investigating the impacts of public fireworks displays on surface waters of the United States in the Los Angeles Region. This is a follow-up to previous investigations regarding these impacts and may form the basis of future permitting actions, as described in more detail below.

4. BHOTB proposes to put on the "Big Bang on the Bay" fireworks display on July 3, 2022. BHOTB's website advertises the "Big Bang on the Bay" fireworks display as an annual event.

5. The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Diego Water Board) adopted a General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit For Residual Firework Pollutant Waste Discharges to Waters of the United States in the San Diego Region from the Public Display of Fireworks (NPDES No. CAG999002, initially adopted on May 11, 2011, by Order No. R9-2011-0022 and renewed on February 9, 2022, by Order R9-2022-0002). The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Francisco Bay Water Board) adopted its Fireworks General Permit on June 10, 2020 (NPDES No. CAG992001, Order No. R2-2020-0021). These permits regulate discharges from fireworks displays. In issuing the general permits, the San Diego Water Board and San Francisco Bay Water Board evaluated the potential impact of fireworks-related activities on the water quality of receiving waters.

6. The general permits identified typical firework pollutants to include, but not be

limited to, aluminum, antimony, barium, carbon, calcium, chlorine, cesium, copper, iron, potassium, lithium, magnesium, oxidizers including nitrates, chlorates and perchlorates, phosphorus, sodium sulfur, strontium, titanium, and zinc. These chemicals burn at high temperatures when the firework is detonated, which promotes incineration. The chemicals within the fireworks are scattered by the burst charge, which separates them from the fireworks casing and internal shell components. Combustion residuals are produced in the form of smoke, airborne particulates, chemical pollutants, and debris including paper, cardboard, wires, and fuses. This combustion residue can fall into surface waters. In addition, un-ignited pyrotechnic material, including duds and misfires, can also fall into surface waters. The general permits found that the receiving water fallout area affected by the fireworks residue can vary depending on wind speed and direction, size of the shells, the angle of mortar placement, the type and height of firework explosions and other environmental factors. Once the fireworks residue enters a waterbody, it can be transported to waters and shorelines outside the fallout area due to wind shear and tidal effects.

7. This Order identifies BHOTB as a suspected discharger, as that term is used in Water Code section 13267, because it is the organizer of the “Big Bang on the Bay” fireworks display.

8. This Order requires BHOTB to prepare and submit technical and/or monitoring reports providing the information described below. The Los Angeles Water Board requires this information as part of its investigation of potential impacts associated with public displays of fireworks in the Los Angeles Region. The burden, including costs, of the reports required by this Order bears a reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports. Specifically, the information is needed to determine possible impacts to water quality and beneficial uses of receiving waters and to determine the effectiveness of best management practices (BMPs). The Los Angeles Water Board will also utilize the information received from its investigation in its consideration of preparing a general NPDES permit for the Los Angeles Region to regulate discharges of wastes to surface waters associated with public fireworks displays. The estimated costs of compliance would be no more than \$20,000 based on the anticipated number of samples and sampling locations, and the planning and reporting requirements.

9. The issuance of this Order requires information collection and is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, section 15306.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that The Boathouse on the Bay (BHOTB), pursuant to section 13267, subdivision (b), of the California Water Code, is required to do the following for the “Big Bang on the Bay” fireworks display:

A. Conduct an Alternative Study:

The Alternative Study should report on the feasibility of using alternative fireworks materials or selecting alternative debris fallout locations to avoid and/or mitigate potential impacts to water quality from the fireworks display. Actions to be considered in the plan include but are not limited to:

- i. Using non-perchlorate fireworks;
- ii. Using fireworks that do not contain plastic outer casings or have non-biodegradable inner components;
- iii. Using fireworks with alternative propellants that burn cleaner, produce less

smoke, and reduce pollutant loading to surface waters; and
iv. Assessing alternative onshore firing ranges to eliminate or reduce residual firework pollutant waste discharges to waters of the United States.

The Alternative Study Report is due to the Los Angeles Water Board no later than December 1, 2022.

B. Prepare Best Management Practices Report:

BHOTB shall prepare a Best Management Practices Plan (BMPs Plan) for implementation and display at the fireworks site that describes steps to ensure that residual firework debris and pollutants will not adversely affect receiving water quality. The BMPs Plan is due no later than June 22, 2022. The BMPs Plan will be kept onsite and used by BHOTB to provide training to staff who will be conducting the fireworks display and implementing the requirements in this Order. The BMPs Plan shall include the following BMPs:

1. Discharge Characterization

Describe activities conducted within the firing range, potential pollutant sources associated with each activity, and the nature of the pollutants that could be discharged.

2. BMP Identification

Describe the BMPs to be implemented to control pollutant discharges, including BMPs for each potential pollutant source that represent the best available technology that is economically achievable. Describe the anticipated effectiveness of each BMP. Consider, and include as appropriate, the following:

Preventative BMPs

Measures to reduce or eliminate the generation of pollutants and waste.

Control BMPs

Measures to control or manage pollutants and waste after they are generated and before they come into contact with water.

Response BMPs

Measures to respond to discharges with containment control, or cleanup measures to minimize the potential adverse effects of pollutant discharge.

Additional BMPs to consider include:

- a) Use alternative fireworks that replace perchlorate with other oxidizers and contain biodegradable components.
- b) Use propellants that burn cleaner, produce less smoke, and reduce residual firework pollutant loading to surface waters.
- c) Select firing range locations and designs that reduce residual firework pollutant discharges.
- d) Secure all pyrotechnic equipment and fireworks in a manner that minimizes the risk of such materials and objects entering receiving waters before, during, and after fireworks displays.
- e) Inspect each firework launch area for potential safety issues on an ongoing basis.
- f) Perform visual observations and monitoring activities to assess BMP performance.
- g) Prior to fireworks displays, deploy containment measures to collect and control the mobility of fireworks debris, particulate matter, and waste from within the design firing ranges for all fireworks launch areas.
- h) As soon as practicable and no later than 24 hours after fireworks displays, collect, remove, and manage fireworks debris, particulate matter, and waste from within the design firing ranges for all fireworks launch areas.
- i) As soon as practicable, properly dispose of fireworks debris, particulate matter, and waste collected from within the design firing ranges for all fireworks launch areas.
- j) As soon as practicable after fireworks displays, conduct BMP effectiveness

evaluations.

k) Remove all plastic and aluminum labels and wrappings from aerial shells and special effect pyrotechnic devices prior to use and before they are launched or detonated.

l) As soon as practicable, and no later than 24 hours following a public display of fireworks, to the extent practical, collect, remove, and manage particulate matter and debris from ignited and un-ignited pyrotechnic material including aerial shells, stars (small pellets of composition that produce color pyrotechnic effects), paper, cardboard, wires and fuses found during inspection of the entire firing range and adjacent affected surface water(s) in addition to complying with title 19 of the California Code of Regulations, section 1003.

m) Setup, discharge, and take down the fireworks and fireworks equipment in accordance with the laws and regulations applying to that display by a public display operator licensed by the State of California. Obtain all required permits, licenses and approvals from the authorities having jurisdiction over the fireworks display and comply with the requirements and conditions of those permits and licenses. Properly secure all equipment used to hold and launch the fireworks in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and in such a way as to minimize the risk that the equipment and fireworks would fall into the water. Inspect barges and floating platforms for leaks and other potential safety issues. Other than system firing cables and common or grounding wires intended to be recovered after the display, secure electric igniter wires used to trigger the fireworks to minimize the risk that the wires fall into the water during or after the discharge. As soon as practicable, and no later than 24 hours following a public display of fireworks, rake or sweep the decks of each barge or floating platform that contained fireworks to gather fireworks debris and prevent it from being deposited into the water.

n) Immediately following the public display of fireworks, handle and manage all hazardous fireworks waste, including duds, resulting from the set-up, firing, and strike of the public display, including live pyrotechnics waste, in accordance with applicable fireworks and hazardous waste laws and regulations.

o) Collect all non-hazardous solid waste resulting from the set-up, firing, and strike of the public display, including wires, boxes, and packaging, to the extent practicable and properly disposed of the solid waste.

p) Package, transport, store, set-up, and handle firework in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 6, Fireworks and Title 22, Chapter 33, Best Management Practices for Perchlorate Materials to prevent or minimize firework pollutant wastes from entering surface waters.

C. Monitoring and Reporting Program

BHOTB shall develop and implement a monitoring and reporting program containing the following elements.

1. Visual Monitoring:

a. Video and photographic monitoring. BHOTB or its pyrotechnics company shall:

i. Collect video footage of the event, with filming taking place on the barge to capture the extent of debris and potential fallout zone in the immediate vicinity of the barge

A. The intent is to monitor any discharge of fireworks into the water, (i.e., the base-level explosive material discharges), not the display itself;

B. More than one video could be mounted to capture any discharge in the water adjacent to the barge and the potential discharge from the barge itself.

ii. Take photos of the barge before and after the show to capture debris fallout.

iii. Take photos of the debris collected from the barge cleanup/sweeping efforts.

b. Dive Team/Equivalent Monitoring Device. Take photographs of the bay floor prior to the fireworks display events and as soon thereafter as possible to capture visual evidence of debris deposition within the fallout zone.

2. Surface and Water Column Sampling Plan (Water Sampling Plan)

Develop a surface and water column Sampling and Analysis Plan with a focus on the potential water quality impact from the fireworks display based on methods described in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 136 (Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants under the Clean Water Act). The Water Sampling Plan is due to the Los Angeles Water Board no later than June 22, 2022. Sampling shall be conducted once before the fireworks display to determine baseline conditions and once after the fireworks display to determine any changes in water quality. Monitoring locations shall be established within the fallout zone and adjacent affected surface waters. The proposed sampling locations must be based upon results on the fate and transport of pollutants from the Conceptual Model¹. At a minimum, the monitoring shall include collection and weighing of fireworks debris, particulate matter, and any other solid wastes after the fireworks display, and sampling and analysis of the water quality for Arsenic, Barium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Lead, Mercury, Molybdenum, Nickel, Potassium, Selenium, Silver, Thallium, Tin, Titanium, Vanadium, Zinc, bis-phthalate, Total Phosphorous, and Perchlorate. Laboratory analytical methods must have sufficiently low detection limits in order to evaluate any exceedances of water quality objectives. The Water Sampling Plan shall be consistent with the 2017 Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Quality Assurance Program Plan. BHOTB shall implement the submitted Water Sampling Plan for the July 4, 2022, fireworks display.

3. Reporting Program

Within 60 days after the fireworks event, BHOTB shall submit a Monitoring Report to the Los Angeles Water Board. The electronic copy of the report should be sent to losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov Attention General Permitting Unit. The Report shall include the following:

- a. An evaluation of the BMPs' effectiveness.
- b. A summary of the sampling activities conducted in accordance with the submitted Surface and Water Column Sampling Plan.
- c. A summary of the analytical results from the sampling activities conducted before and after the fireworks display, as required above.
- d. Original lab reports for the sampling and analytical activities shall be included with the Monitoring Report.
- e. A completed Fireworks Display Report Form (Attachment A).
- f. Photographs and video recordings of the firework related activities.

¹ Develop a Conceptual Model to identify the physical and chemical factors that control the fate and transport of pollutants and receptors that could be exposed to pollutants in the water. The Conceptual Model will serve as the basis for assessing the appropriateness of the Plan design. The Conceptual Model shall consider:

- Points of discharge into the segment of the water body or region of interest;
- Tidal flow and/or direction of predominant currents;
- Historic or legacy conditions in the vicinity;
- Nearby land and marine uses or actions;
- Beneficial Uses;
- Potential receptors of concern;

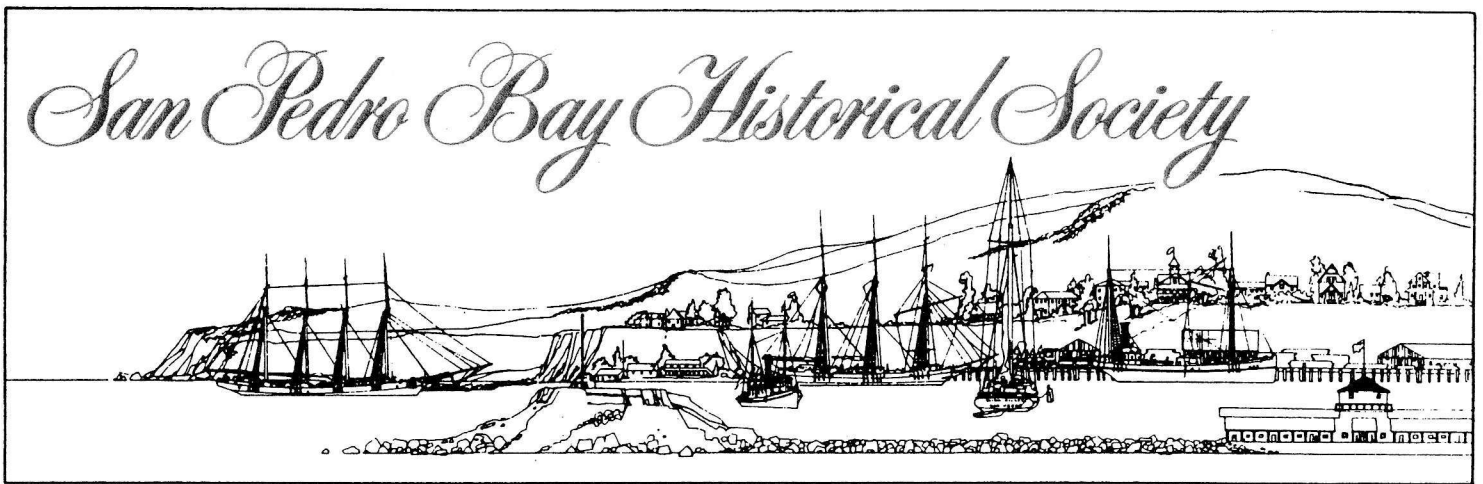
- Other sources or discharges in the immediate vicinity.

From: [Mona Dallas Reddick](#)
To: [Ceqacomment](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 12:47:35 PM
Attachments: [SPBHS Response - West Harbor Modification.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

A signed copy on letterhead of the San Pedro Bay Historical Society's response to The West Harbor Modification Project is attached.

Mona Dallas Reddick
President, SPBHS



P.O. BOX 1568, SAN PEDRO, CALIFORNIA 90733

June 14, 2022

Christopher Cannon, Director
Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Re: West Harbor Modification Project
Amphitheater and Entertainment Venue

Dear Mr. Cannon:

As officers of the San Pedro Bay Historical Society (SPBHS), we are addressing the negative impacts of the West Harbor Modification Project, specifically the proposed amphitheater and the structures associated with it. The project will have significant adverse impacts on the Society's operation of the Muller House Museum, which sits on a bluff overlooking Miner Street and the site of the proposed amphitheater. Note that the maps provided in the West Harbor Modification Project Initial Study/Notice of Preparation conveniently stop short of showing the museum location, which is just west of Bloch Field. The maps thus present a misleading impression of who and what will be affected.

Local visitors and those from out of town come to the Muller House Museum to learn about San Pedro history and the contributions of the pioneer shipbuilder William Muller and his family. Built in 1899, the house served as their family home until it was deeded to the SPBHS in 1985. Docent-led tours are provided on the weekends and at other times during the week. The museum site also serves as a venue for SPBHS talks and programs, principally during the months of March through early December.

The size, design, and frequency of use planned for the amphitheater and the accompanying supporting structures will create multiple adverse impacts. Most importantly for operations at the Muller House Museum will be the disruptive level of noise. The design of the amphitheater

and its placement miss the fact that most of San Pedro faces east, and its position on the slope of the Palos Verdes Peninsula is already a natural amphitheater! The noise of cargo operations as well as its odors and pollution waft uphill. Residents attest to the fact that blocks and blocks away from the main channel, truck horns, crane operations, the clanging of containers are all audible. Now, add to that mix 100 entertainment events per year, mega-watt amplification from the amphitheater stage and from the six 30-foot pylons, a bad situation will be made intolerable.

San Pedro residents have already voiced other considerations – the risk of water pollution, the impact on local wildlife, light pollution, an increase in air pollution, and snarled traffic. We also share these concerns but are here strongly urging the Port of Los Angeles and the West Harbor designers to scale down the size of the project, reduce the number of permitted events, and re-orient the amphitheater's speakers and pylons so that no sound is directed towards the west, southwest, and northwest—essentially completely away from residences and the Muller House Museum.

Sincerely,



Mona Dallas Reddick, PhD
President, San Pedro Bay Historical Society



Frank B. Anderson
Secretary, San Pedro Bay Historical Society
Chair, SPBHS Landmarks Committee

From: [Juan Muñoz](#)
To: [Ceqacommments](#)
Subject: West Harbor Modification Project/ Amphitheater Proposal
Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 12:12:58 PM
Attachments: [SP Amphitheater Comments.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email.

Hello,

Please see the attached comments from UNITE HERE Local 11 regarding the West Harbor Modification Project/ Amphitheater Proposal. Thank you.

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In solidarity,

Juan A. Muñoz

Researcher| **UNITEHERE! Local 11**

jmunoz@unitehere11.org | 310.714.3813

UNITEHERE! Local 11

June 15, 2022

Via Email

Port of Los Angeles
425 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA, 90731

Re: West Harbor Modification Project/Amphitheater Proposal

To Whom It May Concern:

UNITE HERE Local 11 is the hospitality workers union in Southern California, representing over 32,000 workers in entertainment venues, stadiums, airports, and hotels. We have recently become aware of the Port of LA's plan to pursue a supplemental EIR to determine the environmental impacts of the West Harbor Amphitheater. The proposed project would have 6,200 seats and host approximately 100 paid concert and major events per year in addition to smaller, local community, and sponsored events year-round. On behalf of our members who live in San Pedro and the surrounding communities, we would like to communicate some concerns we have with the project that the Port of LA should consider as part of its' environmental review process.

1. **Waste & Single-Use Plastics:** Given that the amphitheater proposes to host approximately 100-paid concert and major events per year, we can expect a considerable amount of waste to be generated. We are concerned about foam products, wrappers, cutlery, bowls, plates, chip and other snack wrappers and especially single use plastics. In particular, the use of single-use plastic cups posits a serious problem. While not a direct comparison to this proposed project, a report by Upstream, estimated that for an average stadium that hosts 300 events annually 5.4 million single-use cups are used, creating 63.75 tons of plastic waste. By this event-based measure, as much as 1.8 million single-use cups, creating as much as 21.25 tons of plastic waster could be generated by this proposed project. Live Nation Entertainment, which is one of the largest venue operators, announced back in 2019 that were ending the sale of single-use plastics at all owned and operated venues and festivals by last year. There is opportunity to ensure that this proposed project addresses this issue.
2. **Artificial Turf:** The environmental community has long communicated concerns with the usage of artificial turf given that research has demonstrated that such turf generates microplastics and has several concerning chemicals present. An EHFI study done at Yale University found 96 chemicals in synthetic turf and rubber tire mulch, used in their study as surfacing for toddler playgrounds. In addition, the study found that 20% of the 96 chemicals are probable

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carcinogens. The second concern with artificial turf is around the infill used in its installation, which generate microplastics. A European study states that polymeric infill “may enter drains, soil, or surface water, or be removed as part of waste collection”. According to project renderings, the proposed project will be surrounded by water on two sides, potentially increasing the chance that such microplastics may enter the surrounding environment.

Our organization strongly believes that we must address these two concerns in the Draft SEIR. We also support many of the public comments shared at the May 3rd scoping meeting from members of Sierra Club and the American Cancer Society. Please do not hesitate to contact me at jmunoz@unitehere11.org for any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Juan Muñoz
Research Analyst
UNITE HERE Local 11