



December 7, 2016

To: San Mateo County Harbor District Commissioners

RE: December 7, 2016 - Agenda Item # 10- Three Captains Hoist-Possible Alternative Location

This letter is to remind the San Mateo County Harbor Commission and staff of the Half Moon Bay Seafood Marketing Association position on infrastructure changes to Johnson Pier.

HMBSMA has consistently and respectfully asked for adequate study and stakeholder input prior to any infrastructure changes on Johnson Pier that could impact the commercial fishing fleet (see text box).

On October 5, 2016, this board approved an infrastructure change for a new hoist location on Johnson Pier contrary to the recommendation provided by the General Manager. This approval process did not include traffic, environmental or safety studies, or a transparent process for stakeholder input.

Agenda item 10 tonight appears to be another request for board approval for an infrastructure change without study or process.

Therefore, yet again, the commercial fishing community must ask the San Mateo County Harbor District to fully consider all safety, traffic and economic impacts, and engage stakeholders prior to making infrastructure decisions that impact our fleet, and others. We feel that the district should be responsible for understanding all of these impacts prior to providing any approval regardless of any anticipated processes that may or may not be required by other permitting agencies.

Sincerely,

Lisa Damrosch
Executive Director
Half Moon Bay Seafood Marketing Association

**QUOTES FROM HMBSMA
CORRESPONDENCE REQUESTING
STUDY AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT
PRIOR TO INFRASTRUCTURE
CHANGES:**

January 2014: *We believe that changes to the infrastructure on which fishermen depend require a great deal of consideration and planning. Therefore, we would like to request that industry members be consulted and allowed to participate in the process prior to any hoist installations or infrastructure changes that affect the fleet.*

April 2014: *We are disappointed that the San Mateo County Harbor District did not keep promises to include stakeholders before making infrastructure changes to Johnson Pier.*

October 2014: *Commercial fishermen are also concerned about public safety, and access for emergency vehicles to Johnson Pier, and believe that this major infrastructure change requires more consideration prior to being approved.*

December 2014: *Commercial fishing operations are very complex, and while HMBSMA members are hopeful for infrastructure changes to improve offloading facilities, the implications of any changes require study and careful consideration.*

January 12, 2015: *We must again respectfully request that the SMCHD refrain from allowing any infrastructure changes to Johnson Pier until all potential implications on the safety and access for the commercial fishing industry and the public can be adequately reviewed.*