



MORRO BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Summary of Executive Committee E-Vote for Tidelands Dock Repair for Pumpout Replacement Project

On April 10, 2025, Estuary Program staff emailed all Executive Committee (EC) members and alternates on a proposal to provide \$8,400 of Consent Decree funding for the Harbor Department to repair the dock at Tidelands so that a new pumpout unit could be installed.

Request for the E-Vote:

Staff included the following language in the email:

We were recently contacted by the Harbor Department with a request for funding to help a project move forward. They have in hand a \$17,000 grant to replace the pumpout station at Tidelands Park. These units are crucial for protecting our bay waters because boaters use them to clean out their waste holding tanks. There are only a few of these units in the bay, but it's been a struggle to keep this particular unit operational. Replacing the unit is something the Estuary Program strongly supports as it's key to protecting bay uses such as recreation and shellfish farming.

As the Harbor Department was getting ready to proceed with installation of the new unit, they discovered that the dock under the existing pumpout unit was rotten and needed to be replaced. They have an estimate for \$8,400 for the work, but unfortunately their grant does not have funding to cover this. They reached out to see if the Estuary Program could support this additional work. We thought it made sense to utilize Consent Decree funding since there isn't time to include this funding in future 320 or BIL workplans. Attached is a document with more details on this request.

Last night the Bay Foundation board of directors reviewed the request and approved \$8,400 in Consent Decree funding to support the project. The request now goes to the EC for their review and vote. Because the funding is needed before the next EC meeting in May, we will be doing an e-vote via email ballot. All EC members must vote, and the expenditure will not occur if we don't have unanimous approval. EC alternates should not vote unless the EC member is not available to vote.

We are proposing that EC members vote on the following statement:

Estuary Program staff are recommending unanimous written consent of all EC members in support of a Consent Decree expenditure of \$8,400 to the Morro Bay Harbor Department to fund repairs to the dock at Tidelands Park.

*Please send me an email response indicating a 'yes' or 'no' vote on this request. Please respond by COB on **Thu, April 17**.*

We ask that the Harbor Department and Morro Bay City Council EC members refrain from voting or participating in any discussion to avoid a conflict of interest.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out.

Results of the E-Vote:

As the Morro Bay City Council and Harbor Department sit on the EC, those members were asked to recuse themselves from the vote and any discussion, which they did. All the remaining members voted on the item, and all votes were in favor of the proposal. The following members voted: Kate Ballantyne, Bruce Gibson, Lisen Bonnier, Phil Hammer, Marshall Ochylski, Crow White, Ethan Bell, Jason Curtis, John Flaherty, and Trudy O'Brien. No EC alternates were needed for the vote.

The e-vote met the requirements of the EC bylaws, and the proposal passed.