



**HARBOUR COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 22, 2026  
Meeting Room B-8  
2000 Main Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

CHRIS NIELSEN, Chair  
VAN VU, Vice Chair  
WILLIAM LARKIN, Board Member  
KIMBERLEY MILLIGAN, Board Member  
CRAIG SCHAUPPNER, Board Member  
MEL WILLIAMS, Board Member  
DIANE WOOD, Board Member

**COUNCIL LIAISONS**

PAT BURNS, Councilmember Liaison  
GRACEY VAN DER MARK, Councilwoman Liaison

**STAFF**

ERIC MCCOY, Fire Chief  
TREVOR MCDONALD, Marine Safety Division Chief  
KEVIN JUSTEN, Senior Management Analyst

**CALLED TO ORDER**

Vu called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Justen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Larkin, Milligan, Schauppner, Vu, Williams, Wood

Commissioner Absent: Nielsen

Staff Present: Fuentes, Justen, McDonald, Villa

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was one public comment: Amory Hanson reiterated his support for the Harbour Commission's proposed revisions to *Municipal Code Chapters 13.32, 13.36, 13.40, 13.44* as currently written.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2025

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Schauppner, seconded by Larkin, to approve the December 4, 2025, meeting minutes.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Larkin, Milligan, Schauppner, Vu, Williams, Wood

NOES: None

### SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Harbor Infrastructure, Joe Fuentes, Acting Deputy Director of Public Works

Fuentes provided a presentation on Harbour infrastructure, including tide check valves and Harbour bridges. He will be providing additional information to Justen, who will be forwarding it with the PowerPoint presentation to Commissioners.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### 1. *Infrastructure Ad Hoc Committee*

Williams provided a report from the Infrastructure Ad Hoc Committee.

#### 2. *Vessels and Watercraft Ad Hoc Committee*

Williams said that this ad hoc committee has not met but will be doing so when the weather warms up and committee members can view what is going on with paddleboard and kayak rental companies. Schauppner asked about the status of the lawsuit against the City of Newport Beach by a surf instructor vendor who claimed that his civil rights were being violated by not being allowed to use City beaches for instruction. This case could impact Huntington Beach kayak and paddle board rental vendors and the City's evaluation of requirements is on hold until this suit is resolved. Justen said that it is a federal case and is still pending.

#### 3. *Water Quality Ad Hoc Committee*

Schauppner reported that the Ad Hoc Committee met and thought that it would be good for someone from County Public Works to speak to the Commission about their measures to mitigate debris flow into the Harbour. He also said that Long Beach does a biodiversity survey of their harbor and asked if someone could contact Orange County Public Works Department to see if they have this type of survey for Huntington Harbour. Justen said that he would follow-up on this. Schauppner requested an update on the County's plans for Harbour dredging, including the proposed timeframe. Wood reported that in the spring another oyster restoration project will be initiated.

### STAFF COMMENTS

McDonald reported that during Friday to Monday of the Martin Luther King Holiday weekend Marine Safety Division staff treated 226 stingray stings. They made over 3,000 public contacts during the holiday to warn about this. Over the past five (5) years they have treated over 9,000 stings. Villa announced that he was just began his new assignment to Huntington Harbour and he is looking forward to it. Justen said that the Harbour infrastructure tour was attended by six (6) Harbour Commissioners and thanked Marine Safety staff and Jim Merid for their assistance in conducting the tour. He informed the Commission that their recommendations for revisions to Chapter 13 of the Municipal Code were reviewed by the Fire Chief and the City Attorney's Office has been requested to prepare the ordinance for City Council consideration. The Fire Chief will meet with them ahead of time to go over the recommended changes. Justen reminded everyone that the Mayor's Spotlight Award ceremony for Sergeant West will be at 3:30 p.m. on January 27, 2026 in the City Council Chambers. He thanked Commissioner Schauppner for preparing the award narrative.

**MEMBER COMMENTS**

Milligan stated that over the past seven (7) years she has not observed any reduction in the amount of debris flowing into the Harbour following storms. Wood and Williams complimented staff on the Harbour infrastructure tour. Larkin said that the City of Newport Beach has worked with upstream cities to reduce debris flow and has made some progress.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Schauppner, seconded by Wood, at 6:10 p.m. to adjourn to the regular meeting on February 26, 2026.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Larkin, Milligan, Schauppner, Vu, Williams, Wood  
NOES: None

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Harbour Commission will be on February 26, 2026, at a time and location to be announced.



# Tide Check Valves within Huntington Harbour Project

January 22, 2026

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## BACKGROUND

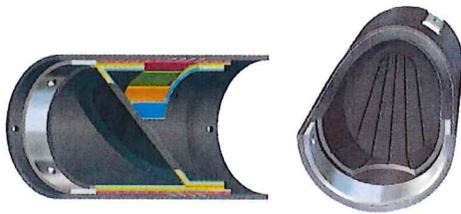
- During king tide events, seawater flows back into the storm drain system, causing localized flooding in the streets
- Existing flap and duckbill valves are no longer effective
- Install new in-line tide check valves at seven locations and remove outdated flap and duckbill gate valves
- Project awarded to Council Harbour Constructors Co.



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# NEEDS/WHY/BENEFITS

- Reduce flooding during king tides
- Remove existing flap gates and duck bill gate valve
- Install check valves at seven different locations
- Install within storm drain system, no modification of the current system
- Lower maintenance needs



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# FUNDING

- Infrastructure Fund \$152,300

# SCHEDULE

- Construction to commence in 2026
- Complete project 60 working days (Pending tide schedule)



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# NEEDS/WHY/BENEFITS

- Caltrans provides Bridge Reporting every two years (34 Bridges throughout the City)
- Prioritize Bridges based on ratings and funding available
  - Most of the bridges in the Harbour have been federally funded
- Bridges that have been identified for construction are Admiralty/Humboldt/Davenport/Gilbert/Trinidad Bridge

Department of Transportation - Division of Maintenance      Structure Maintenance & Construction

**BRIDGE INSPECTION REPORT**  
Routine Inspection

BRIDGE NO. 550238	STRUCTURE NAME SHELTER CHANNEL	INSPECTION DATE May 22, 2022
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**BRIDGE LOCATION INFORMATION**

010 LOCATION	020 GENERAL TYPE	030 FACILITY CARRIED	040 COUNTY
050 POSTMILE	060 FEATURE ADJUSTED	070 SHEET CHANGE#	
080 LATITUDE	090 ELEVATION (FT/IN)	100	
110 LONGITUDE	120 ROAD OR NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM	130	

**STRUCTURAL HEALTH CONDITION SUMMARY INFORMATION**

140 DECK	150 FLOOR	160 DECK AREA (SQ FT)	170
180 SUPERSTRUCTURE	190 FLOOR	200 SUFFICIENCY RATING	210
220 SUBSTRUCTURE	230 BRIDGE	240 PAINT CONDITION	250
260 CULVERT	270 NUMBER	280 STRUCTURALLY DEFICIENT	290 STATUS
300 STRUCTURE EVALUATION	310 NUMBER OF THIS BRIDGE	320 YEAR	330 STABLE

**PHOTOGRAPH IDENTIFICATION**

Roadway View (05/27/2022)

Elevation View (05/27/2022)



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# BACKGROUND

- Caltrans has funding opportunities grants that cover 90-100%
  - Each project cost about \$4-\$4.5M
- For smaller bridges we do maintenance projects in CIP Goldenwest/Graham/Bolsa Bridge in 2024 and 2025
  - Projects costs approximately less that \$600K
- As Park of the Channel improvements the County has made improvements to bridges.
  - Edwards/Springdale/Warner



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# SCHEDULE

- Admiralty Bridge finish Construction early 2026
- Humboldt Bridge Construction to commence in 2026
- Trinidad, Davenport, and Gilbert Bridge Design to complete in 2026
  - Davenport Bridge 2027/28
  - Gilbert Bridge 2028/29
  - Trinidad Bridge TBD (Need to find Construction funding)



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# Questions?

