



HARBOUR COMMISSION MINUTES

**Thursday, March 23, 2023
Room B8, Lower Level
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

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

COUNCIL LIAISON

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

STAFF

SCOTT HABERLE, Fire Chief
ERIC DIETERMAN, Marine Safety Battalion Chief
BONNIE TO, Principal Administrative Analyst
KEVIN JUSTEN, Senior Administrative Analyst

CALLED TO ORDER

Schauppner called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Vu.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis, Vu, Wood

Commissioner Absent: Larkin

Councilmember Liaisons Present: Burns

Staff Present: Scott Haberle, Eric Dieterman, Kevin Justen, Terry Tintle, Devin Michaelis, Jimmy Hoang, Ashley Wysocki, Jim Merid, Mike Bartlett, Ron West

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

- A) Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2023

MOTION: A motion was made by Milligan, seconded by Schauppner to approve meeting minutes dated February 16, 2023.

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

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis, Vu, Wood
NOES: None

- B) Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2023

MOTION: A motion was made by Vu, seconded by Milligan to approve meeting minutes dated March 23, 2023.

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

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis, Vu, Wood
NOES: None

SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

Report on Trash Capture Projects, Michael Weber, Senior Principal Scientist and Lindsay McDonough, Principal Environmental Planner, Santec

Weber and McDonough provided a detailed overview of the waterborne trash pollution issue and common methods used to address it. Schauppner asked if Santec was involved in the development of the metrics for the Ballona Creek Trash Capture Project Sponsored by Los Angeles County Public Works Department. McDonough said it was a collaborative effort with the vendor, Public Works and area stakeholders. Vu asked about the depth of Ballona Creek at the location of the Interceptor 007. Weber said it varies, based on tidal fluctuations. Bartlett asked how the Interceptor 007 is transported between locations. Weber said it was assembled in Long Beach Harbour and then transported to Ballona Creek, where it will stay while in use. Nielsen asked if the speed of the conveyors varies based on sensor readings. Weber said the conveyors have a set speed that can be adjusted based upon conditions and it does not sync to the sensors. Nielsen asked what percentage of the trash coming down Bollona Creek is picked up. Weber said although he has not seen data on this, he believes that the majority of the trash is picked up. Schauppner asked if the Interceptor 007 is powered by solar batteries and Weber responded that it does. VanVoorhis asked how diversion techniques utilizing this approach impacts water quality. Weber explained that it can be used in tandem with techniques that divert polluted water for treatment. Wood asked about the cost of an Interceptor 007 and Weber said that it is difficult to calculate due to a number of variables and he doesn't know the cost. He also noted that partnerships can be formed to cover costs. VanVoorhis asked which of the three channels in

Huntington Harbour would be best to locate a trash capture project. Weber responded that a feasibility study would have to first identify which channel has the largest volume of trash and where it is coming from. Milligan asked if part of the challenge of this type of project is that a portion of the channel is county jurisdiction. Schauppner said that because of this such a project would require a partnership with the County. Nielsen asked what points should be emphasized if recommendations are made by the Harbour Commission to the City Council for such a project. He also asked what price tag would be associated with this type of cleanup. Weber suggested that identifying a serious waterborne trash problem would be first, followed by a request for a commitment to positive action to reduce and minimize it and finally emphasis should be placed on a feasibility study for a waterborne trash capture project. He did not identify costs. Milligan pointed out that there would be a number of jurisdictional challenges, both with upland cities and in the Harbour. Haberle pointed out that the current Harbour Commission agenda includes an item for the establishment of an ad hoc committee to evaluate trash diversion projects. He also stated that there are potential partners for this, such as the State Fish and Wildlife Department, and from the ad hoc committee can come a recommendation that the Harbour Commission could make to the City Council for a feasibility study. City staff will also assist with this effort. Schauppner complimented Weber and McDonough on their presentation and thanked them on behalf of the Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee

Vu reported that the town hall meeting that was originally planned for April would be postponed one to two months in order to provide additional information to the community. The Orange County District Attorney will be requested to attend and report on related investigations and prosecution of the criminals committing burglaries in the Harbour area. Wood said that the school district has been supportive and the ad hoc committee is hoping to hold the meeting at Harbour View School. Schauppner said that the white paper on the Transnational Organized Crime Group has been submitted to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, who unanimously approved forwarding it to the City Council. He also spoke to representatives of County Supervisor Do, State Senator Nguyen and Assemblywoman Dixon about the issues included in the paper and they were supportive and indicated that the representatives would be willing to sign a letter of support.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Harbour Report

Dieterman presented the water quality report and noted that although there are no water quality closures at this time, although rain advisories are provided after storms. Merid noted that the Orange County Health Care Agency does not test water quality for 72 hours after a storm. Dieterman said that the Marine Safety Division continues to hire and prepare for the upcoming summer season. Schauppner asked if there are an adequate number of applicants for Lifeguard positions. Dieterman said that they have received an adequate number and Haberle noted that the Marine Safety Division has changed how they approach recruitment to use an ongoing monthly testing process. This has resulted in a larger pool of candidates. Justen highlighted the changes to the Harbour Commission website since the last meeting. He mentioned that the upgrade of the entire City website should be completed soon and will include the Harbour Commission website.

2. Harbour Commission Strategic Plan

Haberle said that the Harbour Commission strategic plan objectives are on track and Justen noted that three (3) of the eleven (11) objectives in the plan have been completed and a fourth objective, Harbour signs, will be finished shortly. Schauppner asked if the strategic plan should be amended to include a trash capture project. Haberle responded that might be a need to reevaluate priorities based on recommendations from the proposed ad hoc committee.

3. Parameters of the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee

Schauppner said that the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee is doing an outstanding job, but there is a need to establish parameters for the Committee. These would include identifying the mission of the Committee and a timeline for its existence. Haberle said that Ad Hoc Committees are usually established for a year and they work on a specific topic. Wysocki noted that Ad Hoc Committees should be considered every calendar year and the term could be extended if there is still a need for it. Wood said that there is still a need for this Committee and would like to see it reinstated for one year.

MOTION: A motion was made by Milligan, seconded by Vu to extend the Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee for one year and its members would be Larkin Vu and Wood.

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

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis, Vu, Wood

NOES: None

4. Consideration of Ad Hoc Committee on Trash Wheel, Interceptor 007 or Other Trash Capture Projects

Schauppner said that this agenda item is to consider the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee to look at the feasibility study of a waterborne trash collection system. Haberle said Justen would set up a meeting with City staff members and the Ad Hoc Committee to work on the scope of a feasibility study and report back at the next meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Schauppner, seconded by Wood to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to consider the feasibility study of a waterborne trash capture projects in Huntington Harbour, with its members including Larkin, Milligan and Nielsen, and the term of the Committee being six (6) months.

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

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis, Vu, Wood

NOES: None

STAFF COMMENTS

There were no staff comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

VanVoorhis pointed out that with the recent winter storms the City was fortunate to avoid flooding problems. Wood said that the promotion of community events by the Harbour Commission is included in the strategic plan and is a good thing. Haberle said that it is

important to find a sponsor for this type of event and the Philharmonic is very involved in the Harbour and has experience with these events. He suggested collaborating with them for a special event. This item could be returned as an item on a future agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Milligan and seconded by Vu at 6:35 p.m. to adjourn to the meeting on April 27, 2023.

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

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis, Vu, Wood

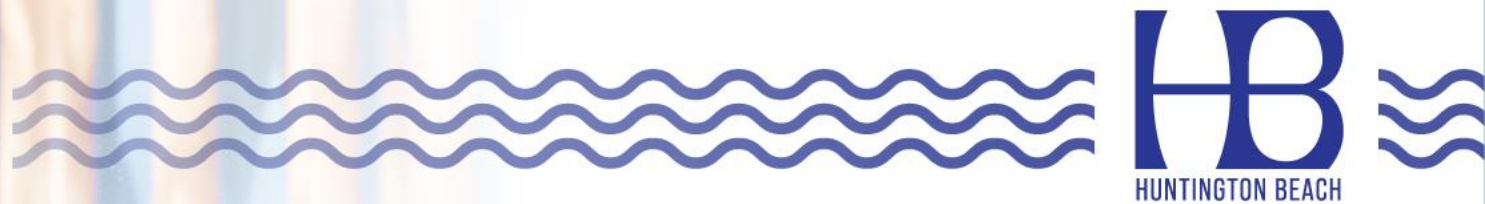
NOES: None

The next regularly meeting of the Harbour Commission will be scheduled for April 27, 2023 and will be held at a location to be announced.



HARBOUR COMMISSION REPORT





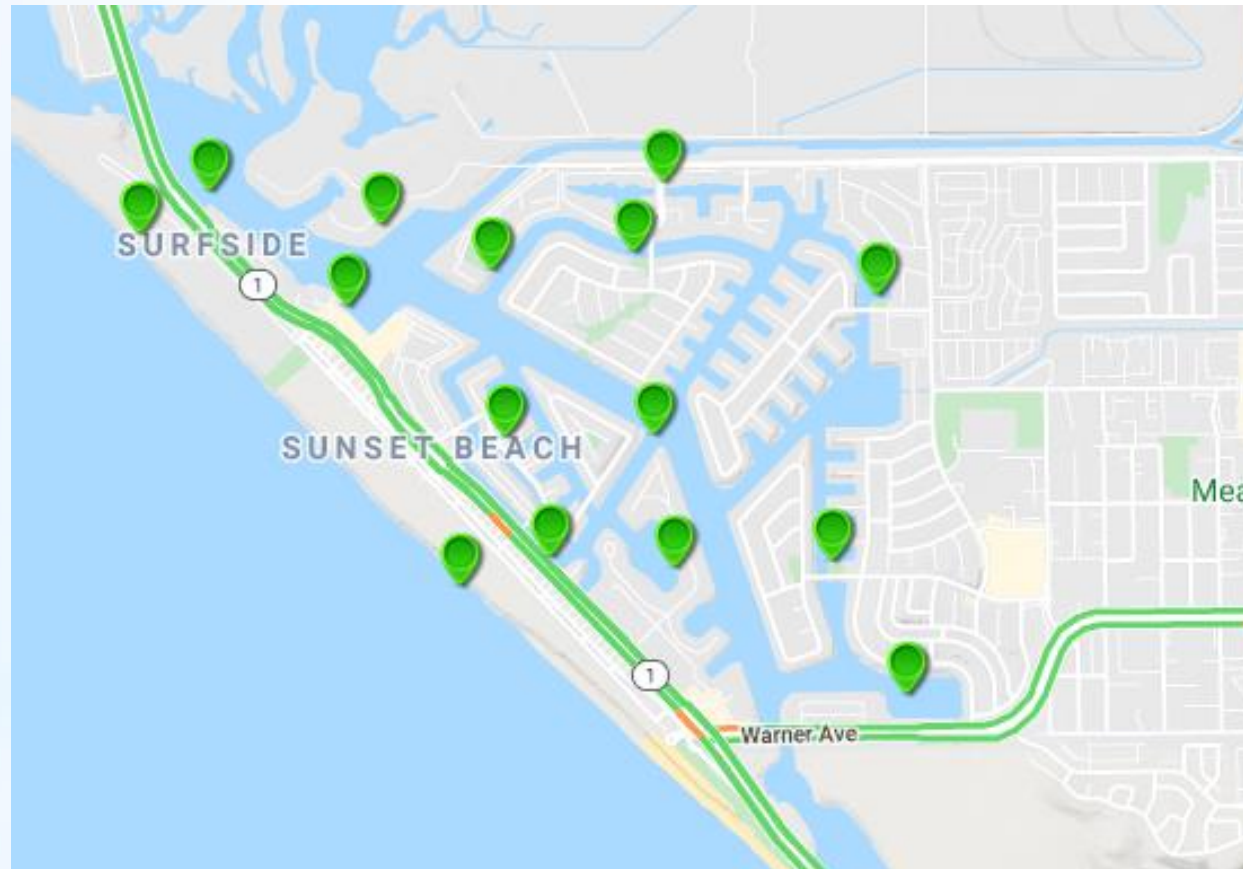
HARBOUR REPORT

March 2023



WATER QUALITY REPORT

Currently no advisories or closures in effect



MARINE SAFETY REPORT

- Currently priorities
- Current projects
- Recent activities

HARBOUR COMMISSION WEBSITE UPDATE

Features Added Since February Meeting:

- Replaced *Harbour Commission Monthly Summary Report* with February version
- Added February minutes to agenda website, including *Harbour Report*
- Added March meeting agenda
- Changed photos at top and bottom of page

Features to be added:

- Additional Information on Harbour Commission Strategic Plan Projects, as they occur
- Upgrade and rebranding of entire City website, including Harbour Commission site

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Harbour Commission 2022/24 Strategic Plan

GOAL: Safety					
DATE DUE	ASSIGNMENT	STATUS			COMMENTS
		DONE	ON TARGET	REVISED	
December 31, 2022	Refine safety protocols for kayaks and stand-up paddleboards.	X			Safety flyer designed and distributed through vendors, website, social media; MS staffing on rental beach; article in City newsletter; PSA complete.
March 31, 2023	Review current Harbor municipal codes and advise on any changes or updates needed in regards to Harbour safety and water quality.		X		All related municipal code sections provided to Harbour Commissioners for review on 8/1/22.
Ongoing	Partner with County, State and Federal agencies to ensure public safety and participate in and provide public safety programming.		X		Police Department continues to collaborate with surrounding and regional agencies and has taken a number of related actions, including extensive coordination with OCSD assigned to Harbour.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Harbour Commission 2022/24 Strategic Plan

GOAL: Infrastructure					
DATE DUE	ASSIGNMENT	STATUS			COMMENTS
		DONE	ON TARGET	REVISED	
June 30, 2024	Explore feasibility of obtaining California State Lands revenue from Harbour residents and businesses with docks and decks over the main and midway channels and report back to the Harbour Commission. In doing so, analyze expanding City of Huntington Beach control of Huntington Harbour and consider steps to enhance revenues dedicated to public safety, public access and infrastructure improvements.		X		
December 31, 2022	Follow-up projects to Harbour Jurisdiction Study.	X			Provided detailed status report on 10 project recommendations at the October 27, 2022 meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Harbour Commission 2022/24 Strategic Plan

GOAL: Usage					
DATE DUE	ASSIGNMENT	STATUS			COMMENTS
		DONE	ON TARGET	REVISED	
September 30, 2022	Add maps to the existing sign posts on harbor beaches.			x	Location maps currently being developed. Will require additional time for design and installation.
December 31, 2022	Improve Harbour security issues (robbery, home invasion, boat damage/theft, etc.) and set up community meetings on home safety.	x			Two community meetings have occurred and Police Department has taken a number of actions to address residential security, as reported at June 2022 meeting; website information added; issue paper presented to Intergovernmental Relations Committee.
March 31, 2023	Create liaisons with surrounding jurisdictions so that everyone involved is informed and moving in the right direction (Orange County, Seal Beach, Bolsa Chica Wetlands, etc.).		x		Outreach to NB Harbor Master and OC Coast Keepers has occurred; will schedule with other organizations.
Ongoing	Promote more community and social events, such as Harbour summer fair, bbq, concerts, etc.		x		Promoted Teamaddi Paddle Out; will promote additional events as they are scheduled.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Harbour Commission 2022/24 Strategic Plan

GOAL: Environmental					
DATE DUE	ASSIGNMENT	STATUS			COMMENTS
		DONE	ON TARGET	REVISED	
June 30, 2023	Recommend to the Huntington Beach City Council to request Orange County Public Works to conduct a feasibility study for a trash collection system for Edinger and Wintersburg Channels.		X		Presentation will be provided at Commission meeting.
June 30, 2024	Working with Orange County Parks and Public Works, City of Huntington Beach Public Works and related agencies, develop and implement a plan to reduce upstream pollution flowing into Huntington Beach watershed from upstream neighbors, thus improving water quality and marine habitat.		X		Bolsa Chica and Huntington Harbor Trash and Debris Task Force has been formed and meets quarterly; trash mitigation plan has been drafted.



Huntington Beach Harbour Commission
March 23, 2023

Waterborne Trash Removal



An aerial photograph showing a blue and white boat at the bottom center, positioned at the tip of a large, triangular pile of waterborne trash. The trash consists of various pieces of plastic, paper, and organic debris floating in dark, murky water. A blue floating barrier is visible along the left side of the trash pile. The boat's bow is pointing towards the trash pile.

Agenda

1. Waterborne Trash Pollution
2. Huntington Beach
3. Common Trash Removal Techniques
4. Recent/Emerging Trash Removal Techniques
5. Recommendations

Presenters



Lindsay McDonough
Principal Environmental Planner
lindsay.mcdonough@stantec.com



Michael Weber
Senior Principal Scientist
michael.weber@stantec.com

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

Designing with Community in Mind

- Multiple business lines
- 26,000 employees
- 400 locations
- ~70-year history
- Top 10 globally for climate action by Corporate Knights
- Southern California waterborne trash removal project experience



Photographic Credits

Caltrans

City of Huntington Beach

Coastkeeper

Los Angeles County Public Works

Ocean Defenders Alliance

Orange County Register

San Francisco Chronicle

Spectrum News

Surfrider Foundation

The Ocean Cleanup



Safety Moment

Waterborne Trash:
Public & Occupational
Safety Considerations



Waterborne Trash Pollution

- Worldwide issue
- High maintenance costs
- Degrades water quality
- Impacts fish/wildlife and habitat
- Reduction in recreation/tourism
- Financial risk to commercial business
- Residential and community interests
- Huntington Beach at bottom of multiple large funnels

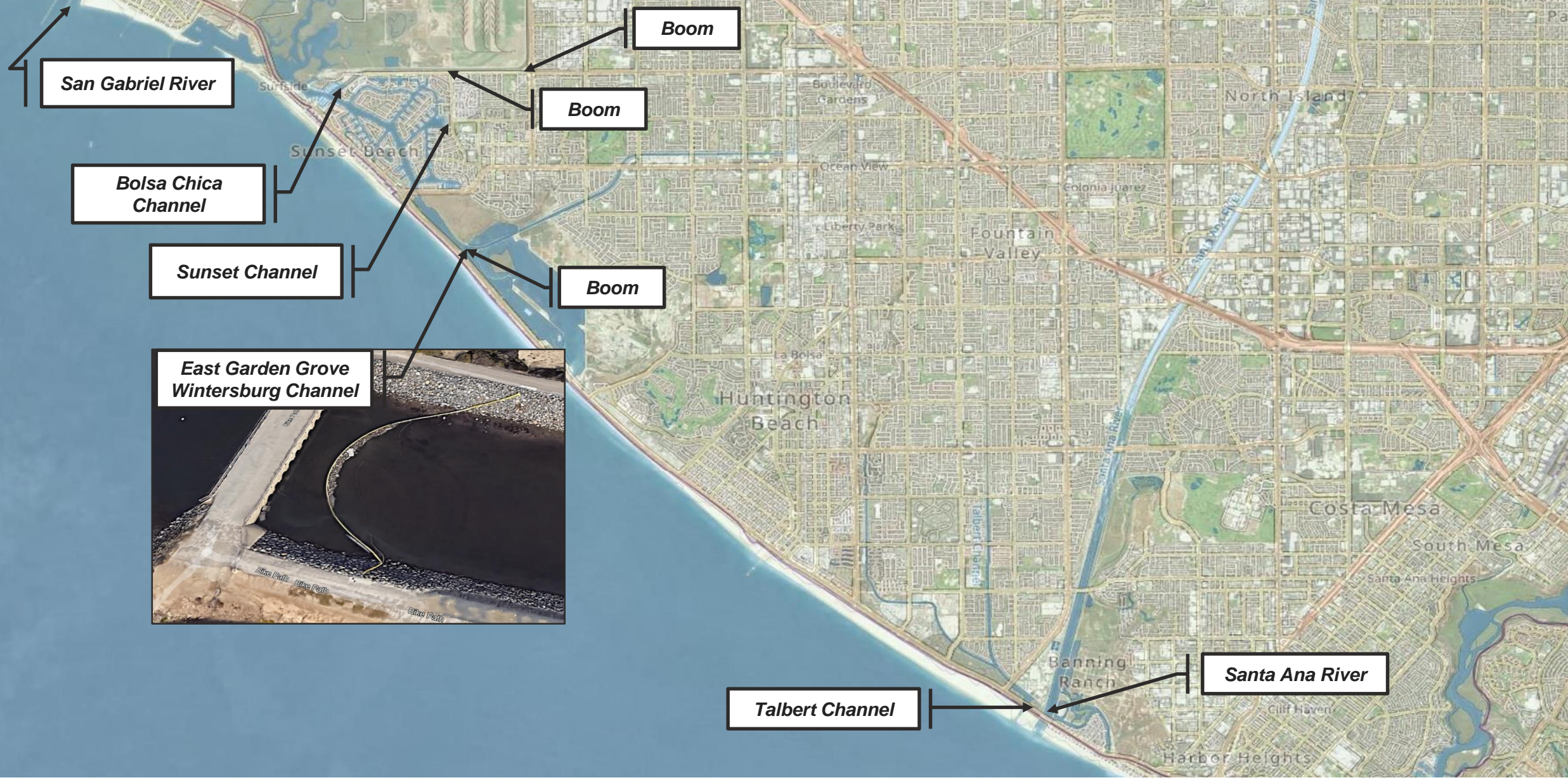


Huntington Beach Coastal Trash Inputs

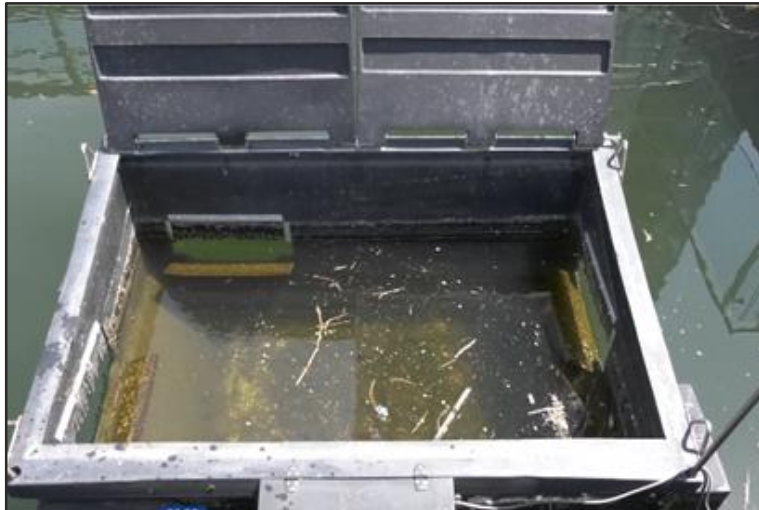
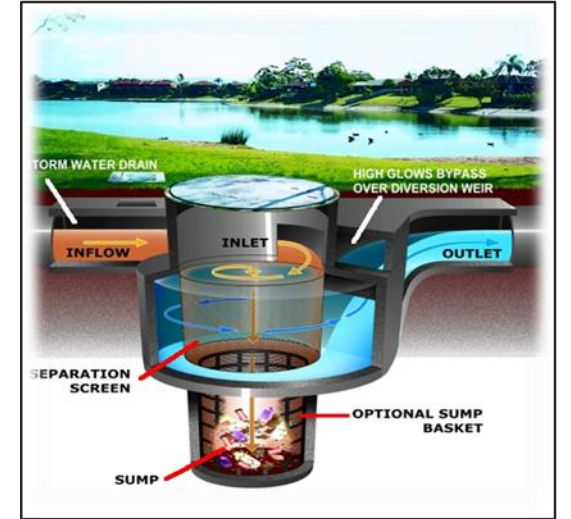
- Adjacent to two large watersheds
- Three primary channels enter Huntington Harbour
- Additional City storm drains/pipes



Huntington Beach Coastal Trash Inputs & Controls

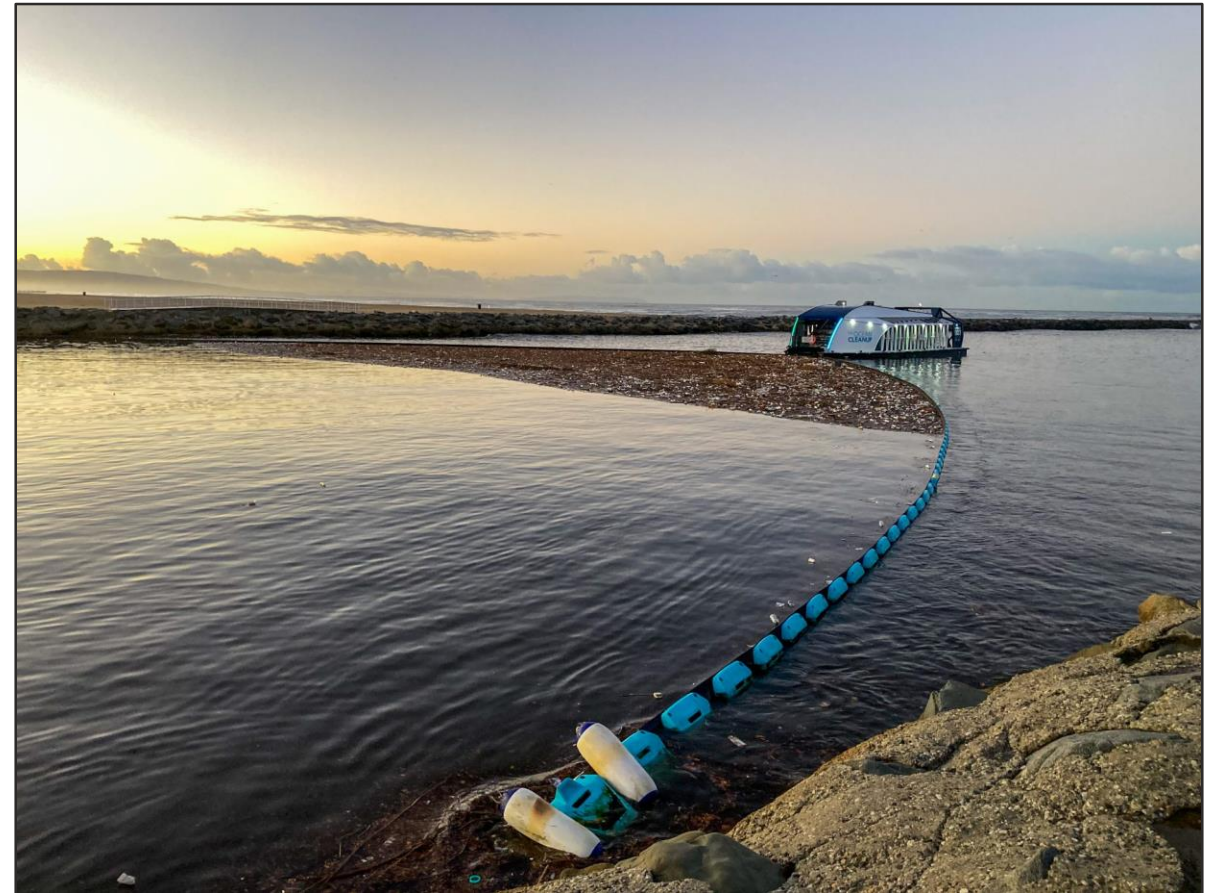


Common Trash Removal Techniques



Recent and Emerging Removal Technologies

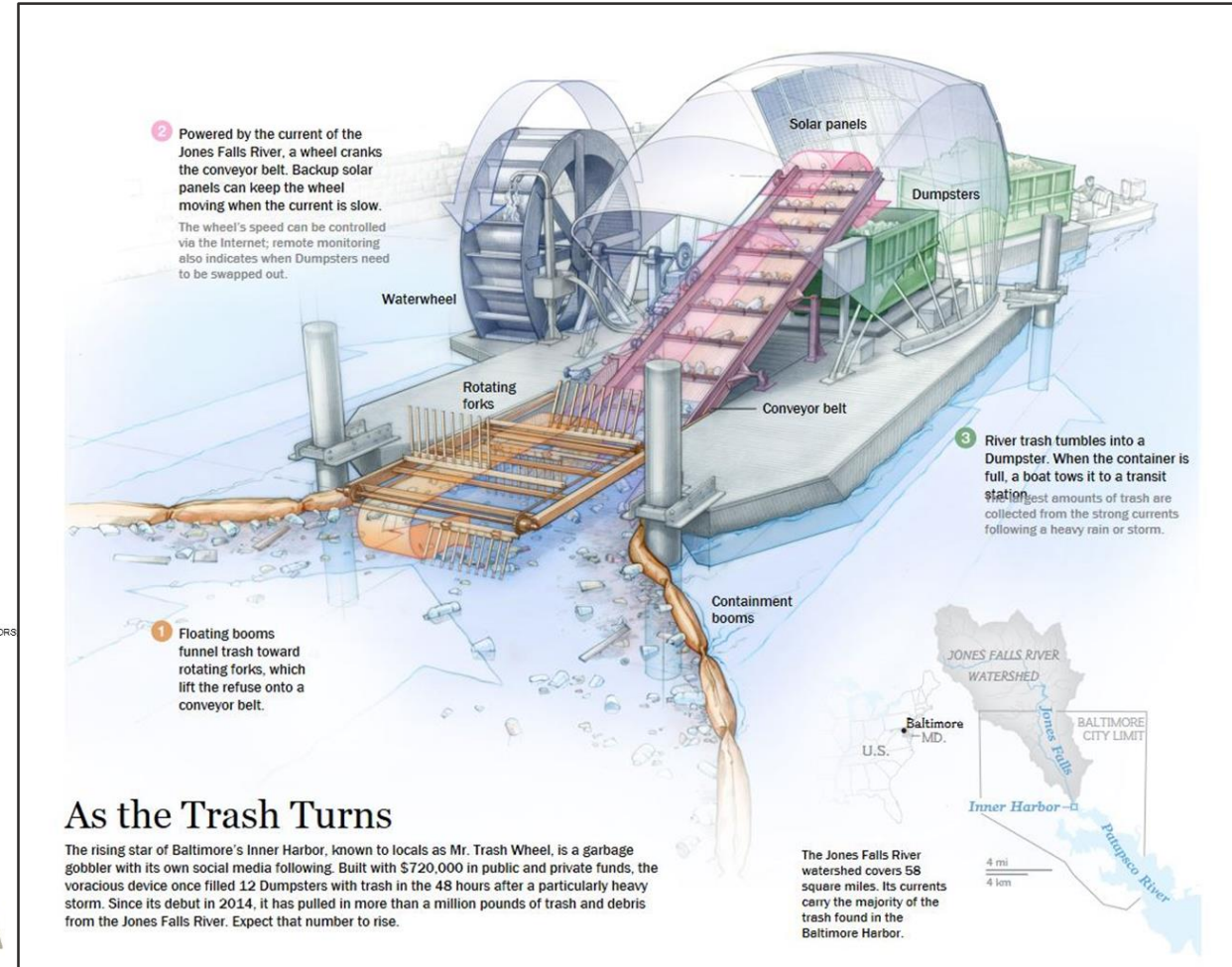
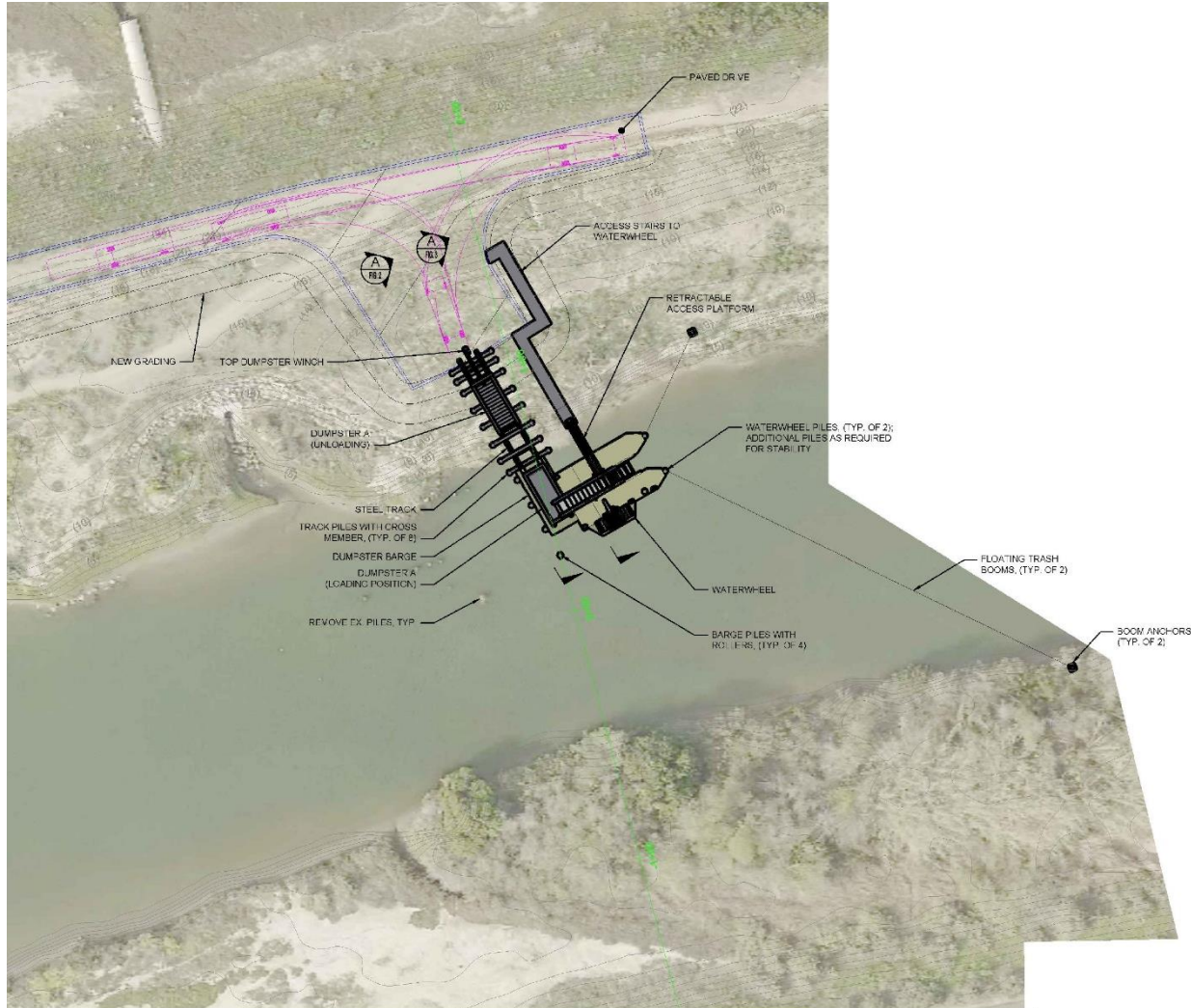
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cfTHWLEXpSc>
- <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/xvedbKU1Sj4>



Recent and Emerging Removal Technologies



Recent and Emerging Removal Technologies



Recent and Emerging Removal Technologies



Recommendations – Initial Planning

- Consider a Feasibility Study to identify:
 - Objective(s)
 - Scale
 - Location
 - Partnerships
 - Design considerations
 - Permitting pathway
 - Environmental review
 - Financial
 - Study alternatives



Recommendations – Advanced Planning

- Engineering and Environmental conducted in parallel
- Understanding and ability to navigate regulatory environment
- Early agency, stakeholder, and public engagement
- Operation and maintenance



Questions?

