



## Santa Cruz Port District Newsletter - July 2021

# HARBOR NEWS

## Water Taxi

The Port District's free water taxi program resumed operations on Saturday, June 19, 2021, in a new vessel.

Weather permitting, the water taxi will operate summer weekends and holidays through Labor Day between 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM.

Passengers may be picked up and dropped off at the following locations:

- X-1 Gate
- AA Dock
- Launch Ramp

Please [click here](#) for the map of all water taxi pick-up and drop-off locations in the harbor. Visitor parking is available for water taxi passengers in the north harbor near X Dock.



## City of Santa Cruz Seismic Retrofit of Murray Street Bridge

The City of Santa Cruz and its consultants have restarted efforts in earnest to complete a seismic retrofit of the Murray Street Bridge which spans Santa Cruz Harbor. The project is a state-mandated seismic safety program to retrofit vulnerable bridges to meet current seismic standards. The retrofitted bridge will feature new railings and lighting, as well as wider bike lanes and sidewalks. As part of the project, the existing County of Santa Cruz Sanitation District sanitary sewer force main will be relocated from its current location underneath the harbor, to a new location on the north side of the bridge.

The City is striving to commence construction in Spring 2022. The project is anticipated to span 24-30 months and is especially challenging because of the disruptive impacts construction will have on the harbor, its users and businesses which will temporarily require partial closure of some facilities, and temporary relocation of some boats, commercial businesses, docks and facilities. The City is committed to staging work to minimize disruption to the extent possible, and maintaining vessel access to the north harbor at all times during construction, though there will be occasional one-way traffic control. There will also be impacts on vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic, with one-way vehicle traffic on the bridge during some operations, and rerouting of pedestrian and bicycle traffic.

Soon, the City of Santa Cruz will be sending notifications to slip licensees, businesses and others within the construction impact areas. The City's consultants will make themselves available to meet with those impacted by the project one-on-one to discuss the project and relocation process.

For others not directly impacted by construction but interested in learning more about this project, the City will be scheduling a community meeting in the near future to review the project, timing, the various work phases and answer questions. Once scheduled, the Port District will make the City's community meeting notice available on its website.

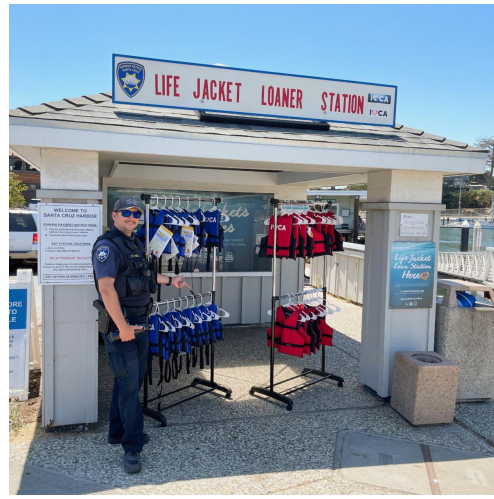
# Borrow a Life Jacket

The District re-launched its Life Jacket Loaner Station on May 28, 2021. The loaner station was created in 2020, but its use was delayed due to COVID-19.

The program was created in partnership with the [California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways](#) to increase boating safety by making life jackets readily available to the public on a loaner basis.

Individuals or families can now borrow a life jacket for the day at the Santa Cruz Harbor's Life Jacket Loaner Station located near the vessel launch ramp.

*Life Jackets Save Lives*



## Looking for a fun & flexible summer job?

Santa Cruz Harbor is seeking seasonal, part-time employees to assist with parking and launch ramp control, fuel sales, water taxi, passenger shuttles, and other customer-service related duties for Summer 2021.

Please visit our [website](#) to view the complete job descriptions and submit an online application.

## 4th of July Holiday

The Fourth of July holiday is expected to draw large crowds to the harbor and nearby beaches, impacting parking and traffic within the area. Road closures are not planned, so vehicle access to the harbor will not be restricted. Fireworks are strictly prohibited. Checkpoints will be established along beach access point areas.

*We hope that everyone enjoys a safe and fun 4th of July!*



## Safe Boating Tips for the Fourth of July

Nearly 14% of all boating related accidents each year occur during the three summer holiday weekends of Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day.

Check out the safety tips below to ensure a safe and fun holiday:

- Acquaint your passengers with the location of safety information and equipment on board, including life jackets.
- Waterways may become crowded and distractions numerous. Designate a person aboard the vessel to help you act as a lookout.
- Ensure a properly fitted life jacket is worn by each passenger. Remember that life jackets meant for adults DO NOT work for children. On recreational vessels underway, children under 13 years old must wear a Coast Guard approved life jacket unless they are below decks or in an enclosed cabin.

### *Want more safe boating information?*

Visit the National Safe Boating Council's [website](#) or check out these educational brochures:



[How to Boat Safely](#)

[How to Choose the Right Life Jacket](#)

[All About VHF Marine Radios](#)

[U.S. Aids to Navigation](#)

[A Boater's Guide to the Federal Requirements for Recreational Boats](#)

## Save Our Shores

July 4, 2021, join Save Our Shores to help create cleaner, safer, more beautiful beaches by distributing trash and recycling bags to the public and encouraging them to take their trash home after their fun day at the beach.

July 5, 2021, join Save Our Shores for the Star Spangled Beach Cleanup to help stop thousands of pounds of trash and debris from entering the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

For more information, visit the Save Our Shores [events calendar](#) or their [Facebook Page](#)!



## Day on the Bay Regatta

The 29th Annual Day on the Bay Regatta is scheduled for Sunday, August 8th. The Santa Cruz Yacht Club hosts this fun event each year to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Santa Cruz County.

Please visit the Santa Cruz Yacht Club's [website](#) or the BBBS [event page](#) for more information. Event and raffle tickets will be on sale soon!

[Visit Our Website](#)

[Port Commission Meeting Information](#)

[Fuel Pricing & Information](#)

